

BROOKINGS CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 – 8:15 AM **BCCD DISTRICT BUILDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Darrell DeBoer, John Heylens, Rick Kerr, Jerry Oines, Brad Hanson, Mark Stime – District Advisor; Larry Jensen – District Advisor; Mike Bjerke – District Advisor

ABSENT: Stephne Miller – Advisor

OTHERS PRESENT: Joan Crooks; Jon Finnegan, Deron Ruesch, NRCS Resource Conservationist; Emily Knutson, Brookings FO Soil Conservation Technician; Lucas Zilverberg, SD GFP Private lands Habitat Biologist; Harvey Shafer (retired Moody CD Manager); Adam McClary, newly hired Moody CD Manager

Chairman Kerr called the meeting to order at 8:17 am.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Hanson moved to approve the agenda, second by DeBoer. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the February 2, 2022 meeting were sent to the supervisors prior to this meeting. Oines moved to approve the minutes, second by Heylens. Motion carried.

NRCS OFFICE REPORT – Deron Ruesch, NRCS Resource Conservationist reported on NRCS activities (see attached).

CONSERVATION PLANS – DeBoer moved, seconded by Hanson to approve one EQIP Cover Crop Plan. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

General Fund Balance (2/28/2022)	\$ 15,872.46
Money Market II	\$ 50,796.77
Big Sioux Water Festival (<i>non-conservation district funds</i>)	\$ 17,227.75
Accounts Receivable (as of 3/1/2022)	\$ 128,641.23

Accounts Payable:

• BankStar – JD 1590 No-till drill loan - Principal	\$ 29,000.00
(<i>5 pmts. Of \$6,432.03</i>)	
<i>Paid on acct – JD Loan</i>	<u>\$ 18,500.00</u>
<i>Loan Balance</i>	<u>\$ 10,500.00</u>

Oines moved to accept the treasurer’s report, second by Heylens. Motion carried.

RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS AND BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:

DeBoer moved, second by Oines, to approve the receipts and disbursements and the bills presented for payment, including invoice from Rykhus Financial Services for the FY2021 Financial Review. Motion carried.

REPORT ON DISTRICT SERVICES & CORRESPONDENCE :

Joan Crooks, District Manager and Jon Finnegan, Conservation Resource Specialist

Vehicles/Equipment:

- Ford pickup repairs –EGR valve replaced. The pickup is still running rough. The board instructed Finnegan to take it to Volga get it checked out.
- Discussion on lease tractors – Oines and Kerr reported that lease tractors may not be available for spring work. They will follow up for next meeting. The District may need to look at renting tractors or other avenues if the lease tractor agreements fall through.
- Finnegan reported all equipment will be ready to go come spring. No major repairs to do, only general maintenance.
- Filled the diesel tank with 250 gallons @ \$2.909 on 2/4/22. Kerr purchased another 1000 gallons at \$3.159 on 2/24/22.

Building/Office/Landscape: DVL Fire and Safety inspected all the fire extinguishers the end of February. Finnegan will contact Hill Refrigeration to do a tree cooler inspection. This needs to be done for insurance purposes.

2022 District Services: Fabric – 133,026 LF (25.2 mi.), Machine Planting Est. Acres – 51.1 ac (*approx. 14,000 trees/shrubs*), Hand Plants – approx. 15,000 trees/shrubs/plants, Drill Rental Est. Acres – 355 ac.

- Tree Fabric Inventory – 550 rolls – Finnegan has been in contact with Agassiz for any extra rolls of fabric available to purchase.
- Big Sioux Nursery will offer a 2% discount if all or a portion of our bill is paid by April 1, 2022.
- Depending on the spring, we have scheduled pick up times with the nurseries the week of April 11-15.

WRP Easement Monitoring – Finnegan reported all of these are done. Crooks will send invoice to SDACD.

Tree Research Plot – Crooks reported that she has been visiting with Edward Bahm, ND Plant Materials Center about cleaning up the White Poplar this spring and adding new species to the tree plot – Bitternut Hickory, Shagbark Hickory and Magyar Ginkgo Biloba.

FY 2021 Financial Review – Robb Rykhus Financial Service has completed the f/y 2021 financial review. Robb was unable to attend the meeting today. Crooks provided the board copies of his report which included an updated depreciation schedule, formal review checklist of financial records, profit/loss, and balance sheet. Heylens moved, second by Oines to approve the financial review and the signing of the checklist. Motion carried.

SEASONAL EMPLOYEES - Finnegan and Crooks will put together information to advertise for seasonal employment. Emily Knutson said she has an email contact for advertising at SDSU. Will also send to high school Ag Instructors. Next meeting the board will discuss wages for Harvey Shafer and Chuck Miller.

EMPLOYEE/SUPERVISOR REPORT ON MEETINGS/EVENTS ATTENDED:

- 2/14/22 – BankStar sponsored Ag Seminar held at CC's in Volga. Heylens, DeBoer, Finnegan and Crooks attended.
- 2/15/22 – Crooks attended a Tree Pruning Workshop in DeSmet, sponsored by the Kingsbury CD. Dr. John Ball was the presenter and put on a very informative program.
- 2/28/22 – Crooks attended the PF Conservation Programs Workshop at the Brookings Co. Outdoor Adventure Center. Only 2 producers attended this event. Discussed options for next year to increase attendance (*i.e.: holding earlier in the year, morning meeting vs. middle of the afternoon, possibly a soup/sandwich lunch*).

SUPERVISOR ELECTIONS – Terms expiring 12/31/22 – Jerry Oines and Brad Hanson. Crooks will publish a “Notice of Vacancy” in the local newspapers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: DeBoer moved to enter into executive session at 9:46 am for the purpose of discussing personnel. Second by Hanson. Motion carried. The board came out of executive session at 10:15 am.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS:

- The board discussed putting together a working agreement between the BCCD and Moody CD.
- The board would like to meet with Crooks and Finnegan for an open discussion on thoughts, ideas, plans etc.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- 3/16/22 – E. SD Soil and Water Research Farm Annual Mtg. – location TBD – Oines – BCCD Director
- 3/22/22 – Brookings Co. Pheasants Forever Annual Banquet
- 3/22/22 – Big Sioux Project Meeting – Dell Rapids – 9:00 am – 11:00 am
- 5/10/22 – Big Sioux Water Festival – Virtual Event
- June 27-28, 2022 – Leadership Conference – Pierre, SD
- 2022 SDACD Convention – Sep. 18-20, 2022 – Oacoma Arrowwood Cedar Shores

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 8:15 AM - BCCD Building at 130 42nd Street.

Being no further business to come before the meeting, Chairman Kerr declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

Joan Crooks, Recording Secretary