

Brookings Conservation District Board Meeting
NRCS Monthly Board Report
April 6, 2022

Assistance/Progress

- CRP
 - The CRP General sign-up ended on 3/11. We are awaiting word of which offers have been selected for funding.
 - The Grassland CRP sign-up began on 4/4 and continue thru 5/13.
 - Work continues on reviewing expiring contracts and getting them ready for renewal.

- CSP
 - FY22 CSP Classic sign-up ended on 1/21.
 - We had 3 applications.
 - 1 application screened high and was assessed/ranked and is pre-approved.
 - CSP Renewals
 - A bulletin was recently released announcing the opportunity for 2018 CSP contracts that expire this fall to apply for the CSP Renewal sign-up.
 - The deadline to apply is 4/15.
 - Brookings has 13 expiring contracts that could be eligible for the sign-up. So far 6 participants have submitted applications for the renewal sign-up.

- EQIP
 - EQIP Cover Crop Initiative
 - Our one pre-approved application has now been contracted.
 - EQIP Conservation Incentives Contract
 - We had 1 application which has been pre-approved. Work continues on wrapping up the planning/contracting.
 - EQIP Classic
 - 2 preapproved applications
 - Wrapping up planning/contracting for 1 application.
 - The other preapproval has indicated they wish to cancel their application at this time, awaiting their formal cancellation letter.

- Big Sioux RCPP
 - Batching date was Dec 3rd.
 - We have 2 applications in Brookings Co.
 - We are waiting for training on how to move forward with these applications.

- WRP/WRE/FPE
 - David has returned to work.
 - FY22 Easement Monitoring.
 - Offsite monitoring was due 3/11. All Brookings Co. easements on the list were completed by 3/11.
 - Onsite monitoring is due 8/1.

- HEL/Wetland Determinations
 - 8 HEL AD-1026 requests, all received in the last week.
 - 9 Wetland AD-126 requests, 6 received in the last 2 weeks, 2 that are questionable (possibly already done in Kingsbury Co.)
 - Craig has started to assemble folders for the FSA compliance check that he will be completing this summer.

- CIS Proposal
 - We were informed on Monday that our pre-proposal was selected to submit a full proposal. Deadline for submission of proposals is July 1.

Other Items of Interest

- We are at 75% staffing levels in the office, which means we can have 6 people at a time. The office doors are now open!!! Employees have a return-to-work date of May 2.
 - Jeremy's Work Cell – 605-633-0527
 - Megan's Work Cell – 605-220-4716
 - David's Work Cell – 605-680-3996
 - Emily's Work Cell – 605-318-1805

Plans for Board review & approval - none