

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES

Monday, March 14, 2016 – 4:00 P.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the USDA Service Center on Monday, March 14, 2016. Chairman Thoennes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Rutten, Schneider and Thoennes. Members absent: Wolf. Also in attendance were: Commissioner Johnson, Douglas, County Lake Association Board Member, Linda Dokken-McFann, Haggemiller, Dybdal, Henry, Rice and Arceneau.

Pledge was recited

Minutes of the regular February 8, 2016, meeting was discussed. Motion by Barsness to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Rutten to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Barsness. Motion carried.

Reports

- A. **Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. **Pomme De Terre-** Barsness gave a report on the February 12, 2016 meeting. Election of Officers and Committees were held, grants were updated, 2016 monitoring scheduled reviewed, possible removal of a dam on Dry Wood Creek and their next meeting is scheduled for April 8th.
- C. **Douglas County Commissioner Report-** Commissioner Johnson reviewed they turned down the abatement for a new hotel, bids for construction, and reviewed the potential sale of the hospital. .
- D. **Water Plan Update – Steve Henry** – Andy Rice will take over Henry's position on the Pomme De Terre TEC position and reviewed that he has finished and submitted the grant for Lake Ida Sub Watershed District for \$906,000 to The Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Old Business

- A. **Tree Open House** – Over a hundred people attended the February 18th Tree Open House.
- B. **Annual Plan of Work Update** – Motion by Barsness to approve the Annual Plan of Work for 2016, seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.
- C. **Drill Sale**–Rutten will advertise on Craigslist for \$6,200.
- D. **Financial Report/Annual Report** – Arceneau reviewed the Financial Reports that have been submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for approval.

- E. **Water Plan Technician Position** – Advertisement for the position has been closed. Haggemiller is reviewing the applicants.
- F. **District Technician Position** – Ben Branson will start work on April 1, 2016. Haggemiller is working with NRCS to get approval for access to another computer seat.
- G. **Township Testing Agreement Amendment** - Motion by Schneider to add the three Townships to the Agreement, seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.

New Business

- A. **Field Office Update**—Dybdal reported that they received five drainage requests requiring wetland determination, two appeals, fourteen EQIP application screening deadline was February 12, CSP signup is March 31st, and Meissner is working on twenty-five CRP signups that are due the end of February. No news on filling the Soil Conservationist position.
- B. **NRCS Conservation Client Gateway** – Online service to landowners that they can access all their information.
- C. **Native Grass Seeding Selling** – Rice reviewed an option for the District to sell premix seed to landowners for the staff to bring out with the drill. Motion by Barsness to have Rice pursue the selling of the Native Grass Seed, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried. Haggemiller also suggested developing an out of County rate for the use of the drill. Motion by Rutten to charge a \$25 transport fee and \$11per acre for out of County use of the drill, seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.
- D. **Area II Meeting** – Scheduled for April 13th in Foley.
- E. **Water Planner/Technician** – Steve Henry’s Resignation. Motion by Rutten to regretfully accept Henry’s resignation, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.
- F. **Well Sealing Cost Share Amendment** – Jeffty Schmidt amend to increase total cost by \$535 and increase cost share \$267.50. Motion by Barsness to approve Jeffty Schmidt Well Sealing Cost Share Amendment, Seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.
- G. **Well Sealing Cost Share Applications** – Motion by Barsness to approve Thoen, Strickler, Merten and Wyffels Total Cost \$1,000 Cost Share 50% \$500, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- H. **State Cost Share Application** – Rod Froemming Sed Blk Total Cost \$3,500 Cost Share \$2,625.00. Motion by Barsness to approve Rod Froemming Sed Blk Total Cost \$3,500 Cost Share \$2,625.00 application, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- I. **Well Sealing Cost Share Payment** – Jeffty Schmidt total cost \$1,535 Cost Share \$767.50, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- J. **2016 Election of SWCD Supervisors** – Wolf, Rutten and Schneider due by May 31, 2016.
- K. **Computer Equipment** – Motion by Rutten to purchase 5 screens, seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.

L. State of Waters – Scheduled for April 14 &15 at Arrowwood.

Bills to Pay. During the month of March, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks 8060-8102 for a total of \$83,551.72 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Barsness to pay the bills, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Rutten to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barsness. Motion carried.

Secretary,

Jon Schneider, Secretary