

# MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF MEETING

9:30 a.m. Thursday February 14, 2019

9:30 a.m. CDT - USDA Service Center – 2540 Overlook Lane Mandan, ND 58554

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Aaron Steckler at 9:30 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Aaron	Rocky	Duane	George	Don	Chet
Ryan	Val H.	Travis W.	Valerie F.		
Absent					
Tavis R.	Richard				

III. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - Rocky made a motion, seconded by Travis to approve the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

IV. **TREASURE’S REPORT** – Check for outstanding checks. Discussed AR report and decided to start charging interest in March, after we send their second notice to pay in February.

Rocky made a motion, second by George to approve the district & 319 financial reports as submitted by Valerie Frohlich.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

V. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Hire Intern – Have some applications but none in State. Will repost and look at it in a couple weeks. Intern’s duties are to first help with trees and fabric and then to help others around the office.
- b. Scholarship – Board would like us to send to High Schools career counselors and Ag teachers.
- c. Handbook – Nothing new to add to our hand book per Wendy from Human resources Dept./Morton County. Safety Book – Ryan and Rocky will discuss and will get things started.
- d. Board Advisors – Richard spoke with Steph Hille and she is not interested at this time. Aaron has not reached Greg Wanner at this time. Bring new people to next meeting to contact about sitting on our board. (Travis Wilkens)
- e. KFYR Ag in the class room – Went well for Chet & Ryan’s first time attending. We borrowed watershed display from Grant County, they did a six-minute presentation to 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Chet will look into investing into a display of our own. We could use more items for on the table for next year.

VI. **REVIEW WORK PLAN/CALENDAR**

- a. Soil Health Work Shop – (donated \$150 for poster contest) Recap of event.
- b. Tree Promotion Workshop – March 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- c. Women’s Ag Night – Board discussed having one meat for the meal, and to look into the option of gluten free if possible. We will buy plastic cups and plates for the wine and cheese sampling. Travis made a motion, second by Rocky to order 350 cutting boards with our logo on them.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

Rocky made a motion, second by Travis to use \$600 for table decorations.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

- d. Water Fest – April 16<sup>th</sup> - 5 Classes signed up so far.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Personnel Report – Hired District Technician.

Yearly reviews have been done with all employees.

Will go over applications for intern in the next couple of weeks.

- b. Lewis & Clark Envirothon – Val H. spoke about attending it last year and how well it was being attended.

Rocky made a motion, second by George to donate the gold level with \$500 dollars.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

- c. Gateway to Science – Looking for donation – Board decided not to donate this year.

- d. Dakota Prairies RC&D – Discussed that dues went to a straight fee of \$100.

George made a motion, second by Travis to pay the dues of \$100.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

- e. 2019 Soil Conservation Achievement Program – possibly go to the west of the county. Bring names to next meeting to discuss. Valerie F. to bring a list of past winners.

Brent Gustafson joined meeting at 10:40 am.

- f. Tree Promotion Workshop – Rocky made a motion, second by Travis to send all three district employees to the defensive driving class which employees pay on their own and the district to pay for the Tree Promotion Workshop put on by NDCDEA

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye (4)**

**Voting No (0)**

Aaron Rocky George Travis

**VIII. REPORT OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

- a. OMG – Chet to get the BMP tracker for OMG Contracts done by 2019 – new grant starts in July.

**IX. REPORT OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES**

- a. District Technician

- i. Ryan Kobilansky introduced himself.

Placed order for fabric and stopped taking tree orders. Started a list for surplus sale.

Will pick up trees for other districts.

Have the tractor taking in for a 2<sup>nd</sup> valve to operate drill.

- b. District Secretary

- i. Was covered under the treasures report about AR aging.

Discussed Women's Ag Night under Review Work Report

- c. 319 Watershed Coordinator

- i. Scheduled training with Greg Sandness on BMP Tracker on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February.

Will send out list for interest in the Danzig Dam project along with the mentor program to producers in the area.

There is a water sampling course in May. Will discuss who will attend when there is more information available.

**X. SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

**XI. REPORT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES**

- a. District Conservationist – Val Hartman  
Attached is her report  
She will be out of the office March 4<sup>th</sup> – 8th.
- b. County Extension Agent – Vacant
- c. Farm Bill Specialist – Nothing new to report.

**XII. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Thrive magazine to go to Selfridge office for Area IV

**XIII. APPROVE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS**

- a. Nothing currently

**XIV. Locally Led Conservation**

Val H. gave a run down on how the meeting will go for the afternoon. Brent will be there to moderate it and make sure things go smoothly.

**XV. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:30 am at the USDA Service Center Mandan, ND

**XVI. SIGN EXPENSE VOUCHERS, PAYROLL, AND CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS**

XVII. **ADJOURN** – George made motion to adjourn meeting at 11:50 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Frohlich  
Recording Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chariman