

MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF MEETING

8:30 a.m. Thursday June 13th, 2019

8:30 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 8:45 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Aaron	George	Duane	Val H.	Valerie F.	Don	Chet
Ryan	Andi H.	Rod S.	Richard	Travis		

Adjusted the agenda to have Rod Skytland speak

III. **INSURANCE** - Rod Skytland from State Farm Insurance spoke about our insurance coverage for the vehicles and building. See attachment for more details on coverage and cost.

Rod left meeting.

IV. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – Richard made a motion, seconded by Travis to approve the May 9th, 2019 meeting minutes.

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (4)

Voting No (0)

George Richard Travis Aaron

V. **TREASURE’S REPORT** – Explained why Haag Signs owed \$200 (they forgot to sign their check)

The check for Burleigh County SCD to help with workshops is a go for \$8,000

Travis 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)

George Richard Travis Aaron

Val H. Introduced NRCS’s intern Andi Harrelson. Andi told us she is interning through NRCS at New Mexico State University. She started here after Memorial Day and will be here through July 26th, 2019.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Garden Tour – Need a count on who is coming. Don Tanaka & Kathy Tokach.

b. Cover Crop Tour July 23rd. Chet asked if anyone knew a place close by to do a social the day before the tour and show a cover crop planting. Travis Wolf said that they could do it at his place. He may be hayed by then, but he will leave some standing. Chet will speak with Jay and others and let Travis know.

Rocky arrived at the meeting 9:20 am

VII. **REVIEW WORK PLAN/CALENDAR**

a. Budget Process – the numbers and coming along and getting filled in. We may possible still have to do a hearing before the commissioners. Valerie will set up a meeting with Dawn Rhone to discuss the budget and if we need to present our budget before the commissioners.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Surplus Sale: had the 1st day on the 8th and it was busy in the morning but got slow in the afternoon. Discussion on what to do with the left-over trees after the sale today. There is more tree left than normal because of all 3 district employees being new and ordered a few more than needed.

There was discussion on doing another half price sale or a bundle sale to get rid of the left-over trees. Rocky made a motion, second by George to have one more sale day for a bundle sale for a dollar amount based on how many and then throw the rest of the trees. The board would like to advertise for this sale again.(Facebook, website, Newspapers)

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (5)

Voting No (0)

George Richard Travis Aaron Rocky

After the second day of the surplus sale with sales being low Valerie sent out the numbers from the sale and the cost to do another one day sale in two weeks and asked the board if we should rethink the bundle sale.

It was decided to contact those who expressed some interest in getting more trees and offer them trees for a dollar and then throw the rest and not do another sale because the cost to do it would be more than the sales would be.

- b. Rocky made a motion, second by Richard to approve the budget as presented.

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (5)

Voting No (0)

George Richard Travis Aaron Rocky

- c. Soil Conservation District Assistance Program – need signature if we want to participate in the program. Aaron signed the contract.

IX. REPORT OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS

- a. OMG – Has been making phone calls to producers. Waiting for receipts. Uploading practices to tool kit. Getting information together for Connie, she wants to do a quarterly report.

X. REPORT OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

- a. District Technician
 - i. All trees where planted by June 3rd and started laying fabric after that.
 - ii. Maxed out comp hours – what to do when on a job work till done or stop. Board agreed to just work till complete and get paid for the hours over maximum.
 - iii. Tim Kuntz's last day is June 21st. Will have Jacob practice driving while Tim is still here to supervise.
 - iv. Archie Wanner credit was lost found it written in the minutes.
 - v. Had to have the refrigeration people come out for the cooler was warm – found a capacitor went out. Service man mentioned it may need an overhaul on the unit.
 - vi. Items to look at repairing or replacing:
 - 1. Compressor
 - 2. Enclosed trailer wiring
 - 3. Flat bed – lights/wiring
 - 4. Tractor – park position not engaging
 - 5. Dodge – exhaust leak
- b. District Secretary
 - i. Received paper work from Bain Insurance for Governance Liability
 - ii. Worked up some numbers for dental and vision insurance. The board asked that it be moved to the personnel committees and bring back to the board for approval.
- c. 319 Watershed Coordinator
 - i. Achievement Winner Paul Govig & Julie Krenz have accepted the award.

- ii. Drill rental is going well. Few things that have been taking time are the calibrating the drill. The producer sometimes has problems. Suggestions from the board to solve the problems is: get a scale to go along with the drill, write direction with photos, Possible charge a fee to calibrate.
- iii. Is going to attend the ND Stockmen's Association feed lot tour.

XI. PERSONAL COMMITTEE

- a. Meet with Ryan for his 3-month review and all is going well and happy with his work. Travis made a motion, second by Richard to take Ryan off probation and increase his pay.

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (5)

Voting No (0)

George Richard Travis Aaron Rocky

XII. SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- a. Soil Health – Will bring back up this fall.

XIII. REPORT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES

- a. District Conservationist – Val Hartman -- report is attached
This will be her last report as the District Conservationist.
Rocky asked about the Almont flood control – wondering if it will be corrected?
- b. County Extension Agent – has been filled the new agent starts July 1st and is Renae Gress
- c. Farm Bill Specialist – Nothing new to report.

XIV. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Friends and Neighbors day is July 18th, 2019.

XV. APPROVE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

- a. Nothing currently

XVI. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Thursday July 11th, 2019 at ~~9:30~~ 8:30am at the USDA Service Center Mandan, ND

- a. Travis made a motion, second by George to move the meeting to 8 o'clock am CDT to ensure enough time before the garden workshop.

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (5)

Voting No (0)

George Richard Travis Aaron Rocky

XVII. SIGN EXPENSE VOUCHERS, PAYROLL, AND CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS

XVIII. **ADJOURN** – George made motion to adjourn meeting at 10:40

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Frohlich
Recording Secretary

Approved: _____
Aaron Steckler - Chariman