

MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF MEETING

8:00 a.m. Thursday, October 8th, 2020

8:00 a.m. CDT – at the Baymont Inn & Suites, Mandan, ND

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Rocky Bateman at 8:00 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Rocky Jon Ryan George Duane Steve Chet
Richard Valerie Jon

III. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Board asked to have the dollar amount removed about the area 4 purchase.

Richard made a motion, second by George to approve the September 2020 minutes with the removal of the amounts.

Motion Carried:

Voting Aye (3)

Voting No (0)

Richard Steve George

IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer's report was not available as the bank statements were not received by board meeting time.

V. **REPORT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES**

- a. District Conservationist – Jon Fettig – report is attached. Also went over EQIP contracts and CSP contracts and possible transferring some to the OMG Grant that do not qualify for EQIP. CSP is to be done by November 6th, 2020.
- b. County Extension Agent – Renae Gress – Unavailable – did not email anything to report
- c. Farm Bill Specialist – Zach Compson – unavailable – Has been doing CRP field checks.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. NRCS electronic folder – Jon did some research and it is up to the state con how they would like the papers to be filed. Our state con would like us to do both electronically and paper copies. Majority of the personnel like the paper copies.
- b. CDU staffing – Jon spoke with Wendy about not being fully staffed and was told we are better off than most CDU's. We will be getting a pathway student. Selfridge also hired a District Tech person. So as for right now we are staffed as well as we can be.
- c. Women's' Ag Theme – looking for ideas. Was able to speak with the MHS Ag teacher and see if they can make us some door prizes, which they said they would be able too. Going to put in a grant request with Dakota Prairie RC&D for \$1,000 to buy supplies for rhte MHS to make the projects. Did some research on the day and it happened to be National Farm Rescue Day. Possibly do a safety theme.
Going to contact Farm Rescue to speak and set up a booth. The board suggested talking to Farm Bureau, farmers union, extension, or other places for farm machinery safety and driving.
- d. County Tour Ideas – Do a saline plot tour. There is a hill out of town by New Salem that would be a good location. Board said to maybe do multiple locations. They also asked to start getting the process going.
- e. Credit Card machine update information on what Richard found. He said he spoke with the ND Stockman's and they also had to use a social security number. Steve said he found a few other options but was not sure if they needed a social security number or not. Steve will email the list to Valerie for her to research them.
- f. Ryan gave an update on purchasing the new pickup. Waiting now for a new price list and vehicle list. We have spoken with the sign company to get the vehicles in and trailer in to get logo added.

VII. REVIEW WORK PLAN/CALENDAR

VIII. NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

- a. Convention – Who is attending to get registration in, and lunch paid for. Rocky – Richard – George – Steve.
- b. Video with BCSCD – BCSCD is making a video to get out there to non-agriculture people what agriculture is about. The board said that they would be good with us sponsoring that and having our logo on the video.

There is a Netflix film out there called “Kiss the Ground” that features Gabe Brown.

IX. REPORT OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS

- a. Chet has taken a job with the NRCS in Center and his last day will be October 22nd.
- b. Chet has been visiting with Ryan on a few contracts to help when Chet leaves. Has 2 contracts that are active now and going forward. OMG –Some confusion on what money is left and what contracts are left to be covered. So, at the meeting it was discovered that they have more money than was thought. So, they are going to get another year extension. There are 3 new contracts as of now. Original batching contracts are still required to get them completed by November 1st of 2020.
- c. Board suggested to start the hiring process for Chet’s position and use all resources we can to the word out.

X. REPORT OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

- a. District Secretary
 - i. Working on paying quarterly taxes and Women’s ag stuff.
 - ii. Direct deposit – wondering if any board members that don’t have would like to sign up for it.
- b. District Technician
 - i. Renting equipment, placed an order for some trees, ordered replacement parts for drill. Manure spreader has been busy. Being doing tree planting plans they are going but they are going kind of slow for confirmations. None of the food apple trees are available. We are getting free choke cherry for the bad stock from last year.
 - ii. Fabric orders placed early get better rates and discounts. Ryan will bring bids with to the next meeting for board approval.
- c. 319 Watershed Coordinator
 - i. Greg said nothing is affected by Chet leaving with contracts. Finished up the first 319 contract this month and will be done before Chet leaves.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

XII. APPROVE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

XIII. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING


Next board meeting on November 12th, 2020. Valerie will contact a few places and email the board for a location and time.

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

XV. ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:35am by Richard

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Frohlich
Recording Secretary

Approved:



Aaron Steckler – Chairman / Rocky Bateman – Vice Chairman