

# MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF MEETING

8:00 a.m. Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

8:00 a.m. CDT –Comfort Inn, Mandan, ND 58554

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Aaron called the meeting to order at 8:00 o'clock

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present for the Meeting – George, Thomas, Rocky, Richard, Aaron, Valerie, Ryan, Duane  
Jon - NRCS

III. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Rocky made a motion, second by George to accept the minutes for May as submitted.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye:**

George, Rocky, Richard, Aaron

**Voting No:**

IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Richard made a motion, second by George to approve the May report for the district and the 319 financials that were submitted by Valerie Frohlich.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye:**

George, Rocky, Richard, Aaron

**Voting No:**

V. **REPORT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES**

- a. District Conservationist – Jon Fettig –Report attached - Working on FY22. Been getting lots of calls for water help, most are being directed to the ND Water Department. Trying to get the new employees Jake & Bryce knowledgeable to do planning on their own. Going to have a QAR review next week June 21<sup>st</sup>. Will need a board member to do and interview. NRI is coming through Morton County for data collection to help with programs. Need 3 contracts signed after the meeting. There was discussion on water pipelines, on the pro's and cons of shallow and deep lines. CSP is open in the county.
- b. County Extension Agent – Renae Gress – Unavailable
- c. Farm Bill Specialist – Alee Boelter – Working with Burleigh and do field visits

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Surplus Sale recap – went well. Sold a lot the first day. Sold over 1000 lilacs the first couple hours. Not many on the second day. May have to look at only one day next year. Only threw about 1000 trees away.
- b. Safety Manual – Bring to next meeting for review and make any additions or changes.
- c. Board wanted to know how the credit card machine worked at the hand plant pick up and the surplus sale. Told them the money was deposited into our account a day or two after the transaction. It went well. There is a service charge of 2.6% & 10 cents on every time we swipe a card. The board discussed options to cover this charge. There was discussion about being able to use the card for equipment rentals.

Richard made a motion, second by Rocky that we will not allow credit cards payments on equipment rental (drill, Manure spreader, etc.).

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye:**

**Voting No:**

George, Rocky, Richard, Aaron

- d. Duane's Retirement. – postponed as he showed up for the meeting.
- e. The 3 scholarship winners sent in their transcripts to receive their scholarship award.
- f. All the books were delivered to the school's in Morton County – still need to stop at the library to drop off books for them and the book mobile.

**VII. REVIEW WORK PLAN/CALENDAR**

- a. Garden Tour with Burleigh County is June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Need to register by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Also did radio ads for the event.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion was had on contributing to a memorial for Kenny Miller former board member and conservation winner for Morton County, who was killed in a traffic accident. George made a motion, second by Rocky to donate \$250 to the ND Grazing Land Coalition for the Kenny Miller Memorial.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye:**

**Voting No:**

George, Rocky, Richard, Aaron

- b. Shallow Water Line Plow – discussion on the benefits of doing shallow trenching over deep. Shallow you will have to blow out the lines before they freeze. Would we run it or let the producer run it? Would we get the pipe? What size tractor would we need. How much are they to purchase and their availability. Check with other counties on what they do and how much they charge. Would 319 be able to help purchase? Is there a water commission grant to help for funding? Richard made a motion, second by Rocky to look into purchasing a shallow water line plow and bring any information to the next board meeting.

**Motion Carried:**

**Voting Aye:**

**Voting No:**

George, Rocky, Richard, Aaron

**IX. REPORT OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

- a. OMG - 2 contracts signed – wrapping up an existing one. Will see what money is left after that. Will visit with counties to see who will go forth with another OMG contract.

**X. REPORT OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES**

- a. District Secretary
  - i. Working on State Farm audit
  - ii. Visit high tunnel site for NRCS and have 2 more to contact and possibly visit.
  - iii. Started to look at the budget for 2022
- b. District Technician
  - i. Dusty Weinreis asked us to plant trees, but once the developer put in his trees there was no more room to plant Dusty's trees, so we returned his 40% down payment.
  - ii. Have 2 days left to lay fabric.
- c. 319 Watershed Coordinator
  - i. Updated all paperwork for the 319-project plan to extend to the Big Muddy. It has been approved and is ready to start planning with producers. The contract would like to see

something in the newsletter every time. It is contracted through 2022. Hope to spread the word about the program by word of mouth for now. Talked to a few producers while out water sampling, that are interested in programs.

- ii. There are a few trainings that might like to attend, ND Stockman's association feed lot tour – Richard said it is on hoop barns. No need to attend.  
Grazing land tour in Ellendale. Possibly attend that one.

**XI. CORRESPONDENCE –**

- a. 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Towner Nursery holding demonstrations planned for July 21. Staff to attend

**XII. APPROVE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS – 3 NRCS contracts to sign**

**XIII. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING – July 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 am o'clock at the Comfort Inn in Mandan**

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

**XV. ADJOURN – George made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00**

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Frohlich  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

  
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Aaron Steckler - Chairman

