

MORTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF MEETING

9:00 a.m. Thursday, January 5, 2023

9:00 a.m. CDT – USDA Service Center, 2540 Overlook Lane, Mandan, ND 58554

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chance called the meeting to order at 9:00

II. **ROLL CALL**

Staff: Landon Weiser, Ethan Gress, Chance Porsborg

Board Members: Aaron Steckler, Richard Tokach, George Ferderer, Steve Tomac, Tom Osterbauer

Others:

Absent: Rocky Bateman, Malissa McKee

III. **REORGANIZATION OF MORTON COUNTY SCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES**

a. Appointed Supervisors (Richard & Steve)

-George made the motion to accept, Aaron seconded. **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

b. Chair (Aaron)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

c. Vice- Chair (George)

-Richard made the motion to accept, Steve seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

d. Official Secretary (Malissa)

-George made the motion to accept, Richard seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

e. Recording Secretary & Treasurer (Malissa)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

f. Advisory supervisor

-George made the motion for Thomas as advisory supervisor, Steve seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

g. RC&D Representative & Back Up (Rocky)

-ended 12/31/22

-George made the motion to accept Rocky, Richard seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

h. RDC Repetitive (Steve)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded. **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

i. Area IV Representative & Back Up (Rocky, Steve)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

j. Personnel Committee (George, Richard, Aaron, Mandan DC)

-Steve made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (2) No – (0)**

k. Financial (Aaron, Richard, Malissa)

-Steve made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (2) No – (0)**

l. Equipment Committee (Aaron, George, Thomas and SCD Staff)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

m. OMG Board Member

-ended, dissolved

n. Team Member Safety Committee (Board Members & Staff)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

o. Soil Health Representative (Rocky, Steve & SCD Staff)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

p. Handbook Committee (Rocky, Steve & SCD Staff)

-Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

q. Multi-County Soil Health Workshop (Rocky, Steve & SCD Staff)

-George made the motion to dissolve, Richard seconded. **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

- r. Women's Ag Night (Aaron, Thomas & SCD Staff)
 - Richard made the motion to accept, George seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**
- s. Scholarship Committee (Richard & SCD Staff)
 - George made the motion to accept, Steve seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**
- t. Tree Pricing Committee (George, Thomas & SCD Staff)
 - Richard made the motion to accept, Steve seconded **Aye – (3) No – (0)**

IV. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. Review of minutes, as submitted by district secretary
 - tabled, will review at next month's meeting

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. Review of financials, as submitted by district secretary
 - Richard made the motion to accept, Steve seconded **Aye – (4) No – (0)**

V. REPORT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES

- a. District Conservationist – Landon Weiser
 - Landon gave a report on 2022 practices NRCS completed.
 - *91 acres irrigation water management
 - *1057 acres nutrient management
 - *1 high tunnel
 - *152.3 acres grassland conservation initiative
 - *5 watering facilities
 - *16,788 feet of fencing
 - *22,254 feet of livestock pipeline
 - *1 water well
 - *1,472 acres of no till
 - *683 acres of cover crop
 - *940 acres of prescribed grazing
 - *99 acres crop rotation
 - *2 acres brush management
- b. County Extension Agent – Renae Gress, report submitted
 - *currently traveling with group of 4Hers to National Western Roundup in Denver to compete at the Meats Contest
 - *Upcoming dates & programs:
 - Annie's Project: Sundays Jan 8-29
 - BSC Ag Marketing Club Jan 17, 31, Feb 21; Contact Renae for zoom link
 - Pesticide Trainings
 - **Jan 24, Mandan 6 pm
 - **Feb 7, New Salem 9:30 – Fumigation
 - **Feb 7, New Salem 12:30
 - **Mar 14, virtual 1 pm
 - January 20, Morton Co Agricultural Improvement Assoc Annual Meeting, Glen Ullin
 - January 24, Morton co Producer Day, Mandan
 - February 1, Farm Residence Exemption Tax Due

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Record Retention policy - categories
 - Trees: SCD machine planting – minimum 20 years, scan to flash drive
 - Hand plant purchases – 1 yr, 3 yr, 7 yr
 - Staff: onboarding/employment papers – 7 years
 - HR files

- SCD general files: Charter/Origin paperwork
 - Board meetings (agenda, minutes, associated documentation)
 - Deposits/Checks
 - Tax documentation/audits
 - Insurance documentation/Titles

- 319 Watershed: Plannings
 - Cost Shares

- b. Nelson land proposal for area IV research farm, Rocky
 - tabled as Rocky is not present at meeting
- c. Internet provider
 - discussed not wanting a router in New Salem and in Mandan office
 - * board would like to use hot spot in New Salem and prioritize better service for office
 - * get data pricing for district phone in order to do hot spot for New Salem for tree sales

VII. REVIEW WORK PLAN/CALENDAR

- a. 1/8, 15, 22, 29, 2023 Annie’s Project – Morton & Grant Counties, 120 S Main Street, Flasher
- b. 1/10 – rescheduled 319 proposal presentation
- c. 1/16 – Martin Luther King Jr Day, office closed
- d. 1/24 – Private General Pesticide Training & Morton County Producer Day, Mandan
- e. 1-25-27 KMOT Ag Expo, Minot
- f. 2/7 – Private Fumigation Training
- g. 2/7-8 Advanced Crop Advisers Workshop, Fargo
- h. 2/14-15 KFYR Agri International
- i. 2/20 – Presidents Day, office closed

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Annual work plan, new document for ND SCDs
 - board would like strategic planning for the work plan next meeting, stated should be on file
- b. Mandan Community Garden
 - Kelsey Deckert is contact
 - Richard motioned to get in contact to find out how Morton SCD can be involved, Steve seconded.

Aye – (4) No – (0)
- c. Women’s Ag Night
 - Malissa has been working with Aaron regarding date, location, and speakers
 - sponsor letters sent out to community businesses end of December
 - date possibly in April

IX. REPORT OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

- a. District Secretary
 - Secretary was not present at meeting to give report, monthly update provided
 - board recommended to sell wildlife escape ramps purchased from Cammack Ranch Supply at \$40/each
- b. District Technician
 - not accepting any further tree orders by 1/6/23
- c. 319 Watershed Coordinator
 - Richard motioned for Chance and Ethan to go to Leadership Academy in Watford City, Steve seconded.

Aye – (4) No – (0)

X. CORRESPONDENCE – none to report

XI. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- a. employee reviews – tabled due to time constraints. Committee will reschedule later in January.

XII. APPROVE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS – none at this time

XIII. PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING – February 9 at 9:00

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

XV. ADJOURN – meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30

Respectfully Submitted,

Malissa McKee

Recording Secretary

**transcribed from notes by Chance Porsborg

Approved:

Aaron Steckler - Chairman