

Lincoln Conservation District
220 N Howard
Canton, SD 57013

Present:

Gene Thormodsgaard, Chairman
Nancy Bitterman, Treasurer
Lorin Brass
Merlyn Rennich

Others Present:

Lynda Johnson, District Manager
Curt Elke, NRCS BFSO
Nyle Herbener, NRCS

February 17, 2015

Thormodsgaard called the meeting to order.

Motion by Brass and seconded by Rennich to approve minutes from January 22, 2015 meeting. All approved.

Curt Elke attended our meeting, he discussed adding a soil conservationist and an agronomist to the Canton office, the agronomist will be a multi county position. NRCS is now looking at planning for conservation, getting the people out in the field more. Additional funds will be coming to South Dakota to do more planning and follow up with producers. They want to have public outreach to everyone in the county. Wants to keep the partnership strong with the district. The state will be caught up with wetland determinations by this summer. We got 5 CSP applications for 2015; EQIP for the lower big Sioux has 103 applications. South Dakota has more stewardship participation than nationwide. NRCS has an online service for producers to view their programs.

NRCS Report-A handout out was given to the board to review it. NRCS current outstanding backlog of certified wetland determination requests is 20. CRP we currently have 12 new applications and 34 re-enrolls. CSP we have 5 applications on file. EQIP applications being processed are: 1 Ag waste, 15 terraces, 2 for cover crops, 1 organic and 1 dam. ECP finishing touches need to be done on CPA-52; FSA has received requests for debris removal, grading, shaping and re-leveling, restoring fences and restore conservation structures. No new updates for ACEP.

Conservation Plan Report –We have 2 plans to be signed. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Rennich to approve plans signed. All approved.

Board of Supervisors Report- nothing to report at this time.

Financial Report-Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Brass to pay all bills but NACD and SDACD. All approved.

Office Report-Johnson discussed job applications; she is to get a hold of a supervisor to help do interviews for grass drill operator. We will approve our financial reports at our next meeting. Johnson is to send a draft to South Dakota Department of Ag. Discussed the conference call Johnson was on, it was way over her head. A gentleman will attend our next meeting to discuss the conference call and project. We went over that we only have 3.49 acres of trees confirmed which total 1, 979 trees, hand plant orders total 4, 614 trees for 115 orders. We have 2.5 acres not confirmed and 1 large one yet to draw. We have 270 acres lined up for our grass drill. Johnson is to have the measurements of the Brillion drill at our next meeting.

We will work on the NACD evaluation at next month's meeting. Talked about the Sioux Empire Water Festival, Thormodsgaard will volunteer to work. Johnson informed the board that the Pattee Creek Watershed meeting will be March 23rd. Miner Conservation District requests that we have a joint powers agreement signed with them for participating in their grant program. The agreement was signed by Chairman Thormodsgaard. We will be having our area meeting June 15th in Sioux Falls; Kingsbury Conservation District will be the host.

Johnson informed the board that Leadership is March 3rd and 4th.

Our next board meeting will be March 24, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Brass to adjourn the meeting. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lynda Johnson
District Manager