



ROBERTS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING
June 15, 2017 at 8:30 am

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Calvin Thompson, Chairman
Tim Gleason, Vice Chairman
Cody Hanson, Treasurer
Duane Schneider, Supervisor
Lee Solberg, Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT

Kent Duerre, DC-NRCS
Jodi Hook, District Manager
Kylee Shotkoski, District Resource Mgr.
Lorne Aadland, NRCS-Tribal Liaison
Susan Priest, NRCS- Wetland Specialist
Dennis Skadsen, Day Co.-Project
Coordinator
Absent: Ben Hanson, Advisor
Bob Osborne, Advisor

The Roberts Conservation District: Board of Supervisors met Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the USDA Service Center. Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Schneider moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Gleason. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting were mailed and reviewed. Hanson moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Schneider. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer's and P&L report was given by Hook. Schneider moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Gleason. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

NRCS Reports by Kent Duerre:

- CRP - FSA has announced that the nationwide cap of 24 million acres has been nearly reached and is at approximately 23.5 million acres. Sign-up ended on May 3rd. The CD is done seeding CRP this spring and the FO will be field checking all the new seedings this summer for stand and weed pressure.
- CSP - South Dakota will likely receive additional acres to fund more 2017 applications thus this new allocation of acres will fund new contracts in Roberts County. We should hear by July 1st on who and how many will be funded.
- EQIP - The Soil Health Initiative EQIP contract has been obligated. Will be working on all the scheduled practices that need to be implemented this summer.
- WRE - Wetland Reserve Easement Program update: Midwest Land Surveyors are in the county today finishing surveys for the 2016 funded easements. We will begin working on the 2017 monitoring assignments in early July. Kylee will be looking at many of the easements in the field.
- DU/NRCS/RCD Contribution agreement and the 2018 Contribution agreement are at the state office for approval. Both are expected to be funded and should hear very soon about the status of each agreement.

Tribal Liaison Reports by Lorne Aadland:

- Received the go ahead on Strike Force application for Enemy Swim Buffalo farm.
- Tribal member EQIP in Marshall County is being deleted.
- Continue to work towards vegetable production as enterprise for Tribe and Tribal members.
- ES water development (pipeline and 2 tanks) should be completed by end of next week. Tire tanks are on site.

NRCS, Wetlands Report by Susan Priest:

- I have about 10- 1026's pre-2017 to complete, and 13- 569's to complete. Most of them will be completed by August 1, 2017, with the exception of a few that are working on mitigation.

Report by Dennis Skadsen:

- Skadsen reported on 319 projects and has monies for stream crossings, streambank stabilization and riparian buffers.
- Skadsen requested signature for the current MOU. Chairman Thompson signed the paperwork.

District Report by Jodi Hook/Kylee Shotkoski:

- Seeding is finished at 1,548 acres and planting 15.31 acres of trees.
- We currently have approximately 944 acres to seed this Fall and/or Spring 2018.
- The Tree Foreman position has been posted on the website and Facebook.
- The DU/NRCS/RCD position will be submitted to the local newspapers for position starting July 1st.
- Master Gardener classes report was given. Classes are going well and have many applicable lessons.
- R.O.K.S. (Roberts Outside Kids' Safety) Day with GROW South Dakota and SDSU Extension for community outreach and education is June 20th afternoon. 22 kids, ages 8-11, are registered to attend. There will be 20 minute sessions on multiple outdoor safety facets for kids and a bag of take-home items including information from the guest speakers.
Topics included are:
 - Water/Boat safety by GF&P
 - Fire safety by Sisseton Volunteer Dept.
 - Small engine safety by Brett Hanson, Tri-State Building Center
 - Animal (large & small) safety by Dr. Nate Iliff
 - First Aid by Coteau Des Prairie Clinic staff
 - 911 information by Grant-Roberts Ambulance
 - Electrical Safety by Mark Weber, Whetstone Valley Electric

SDACD: Duane Schneider-Vice President

- Discussion on the recent SDACD board meeting.

Unfinished Business:

- **Audit-**

Collette Hull entered the meeting at 9:30 am to discuss the recent audit and proposed the following recommendations:

- To implement a policy to charge interest on A/R accounts after so many days and when to take to small claims.
- To establish and put in minutes resolutions regarding
 - Reimbursement of cell phones.
 - Per Diem rate for the board, wages, and other per diems for employees.
 - Proper reporting of 1099 misc. forms.

- **District Pickup-**

A NRCS pick-up was won at GSA auction Wednesday for \$13,678. This will be used for RCD employee use instead of personal vehicles for work purposes. Schneider moved to approve of funds being dispersed to Hook to reimburse for the pick-up purchase. Hanson seconded. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

New Business:

- **Debit card with the Dacotah Bank account.**

Hanson moved to approve. Gleason seconded. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

- **Policy to be written for interest charged and pick-up use.**

- **Resource Concerns:**

Roberts Conservation District mailed out in March with our newsletter a survey sheet for the resource concerns for residents of Roberts County. We received 12 responses.

The results are following from most to least concerned of the Top 5:

- 1. Runoff, flooding, or ponding: Surface water or poor subsurface drainage restricts land use and management goals. Runoff likely leads to soil erosion, while flooding and ponding will lead to loss of crop productivity.
- 2. Excess Sediment in Surface Water: Offsite transport of sediment from sheet, rill, gully, and wind erosion into surface water that threatens to degrade surface water quality and limit use for intended purposes.
- 3. Habitat Degradation: Quantity, quality or connectivity of food, cover, space, shelter, and/or water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife, or invertebrate species.
- 4. Classic or Ephemeral Gully Erosion: Untreated classic gullies may enlarge progressively by head cutting and/or lateral widening. Ephemeral gullies occur in the same flow area and are obscured by tillage. This includes concentrated flow erosion caused by runoff from rainfall, snowmelt, or irrigation water.
- 5. Organic Matter Depletion: Soil organic matter is not adequate to provide suitable medium for plant growth, animal habitat, and soil biological activity. Lower organic matter levels impact rainfall infiltration, water holding capacity, and fertility.

These concerns will be provided to NRCS. They will utilize the data to seek funding for various conservation programs that will directly impact the major issues and concerns that you all have identified through this process. We thank everyone that provided their feedback.

Correspondence: None

Upcoming Events:

- **Master Gardening Training Aberdeen Kylee & Jodi continue to attend**
- **Tuesday June 27th at 9am –Coteau Area Meeting-Webster**

Next Meeting Date and Time: Tuesday July 18, 2017 at 8:30 AM.

Adjournment with no further business to address before the board. Gleason moved to adjourn. Seconded by Schneider. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by

Approved by

Jodi Hook

Jodi Hook- District Manager

Supervisor