

NORTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

2718 Gateway Ave – Suite 304, Bismarck ND 58503-0585

Phone: 701-328-9715 – Fax: 701-328-9721

MINUTES of the STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Bismarck, North Dakota

May 3, 2019 - 10:00 am

A meeting of the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee was held at 2718 Gateway Ave, Suite 304, Bismarck. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am, with Barton Schott, Chairman presiding. The following persons attended all of the meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Barton Schott – Chairman-Appointee
Donna Grann – Area I Supervisor
Warren Solberg – Area II Supervisor
Bruce Knudson – Area III Supervisor
Jack Spah – Area IV Supervisor
Wes Frederick – Area V Supervisor
Dennis Renner – Appointee
Bruce Schmidt, NDSU Soil Conservation Program Leader
Sandra Schwede, NDSU Administrative Assistant

MINUTES APPROVAL

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GRANN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SPAH TO APPROVE THE MARCH 3RD SSCC MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS

There was discussion regarding the operating budget from NDSU for the ND State Soil Committee. Currently, \$23,000 is the yearly allocation. Bruce Schmidt suggested to increase the funding by \$7000 to bring the yearly budget to \$30,000. Reasons for the increase, 1.) The \$3000 membership dues for the National Association of Soil Conservation Agencies (NASCA), 2.) Program Leader travel to SCD's monthly meetings. 3.) SSCC Board is meeting quarterly, so reimbursement compensation has increased. The NASCA National Meeting will be held September 30, October 1 & October 2 of 2019 in Louisville, KY.

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER RENNER, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER FREDERICK TO APPROVE THE YEARLY BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion on HB 1020 SCDAP Appropriations District Supervisor Training Bill – \$1,090,000 (same as last biennium) was allocated to the soil conservation districts. Overall, it was positive session for the SCD districts. It was discussed that the State Soil Committee needs to continue to build the SBARE relationship. A list of the SBARE board members and upcoming meetings will be sent to the SSCC members.

Discussion on HB 1026 Supervisor Training Bill – yearly training for all SCD supervisors. The Annual Supervisor Training goes into effect August 1, 2019. Bruce Schmidt recommended to the State Soil Committee the following yearly training: Leadership Academy Level One training will be required for any newly elected or newly appointed supervisors the cost of travel and hotel accommodations is on the supervisor and/or their prospective county.

For all other supervisors, training will be provided at the NDASCD Convention, Level Two Leadership Academy, or YouTube Videos/Modules and attending District Events (shop talk, crop tours, etc.) would count as their yearly training requirements
IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER FREDERICK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KNUDSON. MOTION CARRIED.

2019 – 2021 SCDAP Fund Allocations were approved by the Committee based on the District Activity Reporting Tool and Committee members input. (See Attached). The SSCC also reviewed and approved the SCDAP Fund Dispersal Notice to be sent to the Districts **IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER DENNIS RENNER, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JACK SPAH. MOTION CARRIED**

Request from Farm Service Agency for SSCC input on the Declining Grassland Bird SAFE Project was reviewed and consensus to change 100 contiguous acres to 55 was approved. Bruce Schmidt will send a reply to FSA State Office.

Bruce Schmidt presented the letter received from Rolette County SCD. The letter brings attention to proposed Federal Budget cuts. It was decided that letter should be revised and sent to Chairmen Schott and forwarded onto Senator John Hoeven, Senator Kevin Kramer and Representative Kelly Armstrong. **IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER RENNER, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SPAH TO SEND THE LETTERS. MOTION CARRIED.**

NEXT STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING – There was discussion on the meeting before the NDASCD Convention in November 2019. It was decided to meet on Sunday, November 24 time & location to be determined.

THANK YOU – DENNIS RENNER – The SSCC Board expressed thanks and appreciation to Dennis Renner for his 6 ½ years as SSCC Board member and Committee Chairmen.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the State Soil Conservation Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Bruce Schmidt
NDSU Soil Conservation Program Leader
Recording Secretary