

Minutes
State Conservation Commission
Spring Grant Round Meeting
May 20-21, 2015
Pierre Chamber of Commerce, Pierre SD

Members Present: David Fischbach, Tom Glover, Charlie Moe, Gerald Thaden, Alan Vedvei, Tom Wolles and Doug Hansen.

Absent: Wayne Bunge- May 20, Aaron Kiesz

Others Present: See attached list.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Fischbach at 1:00 PM

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve the March 12, 2015 minutes.

Motion carried.

Upcoming Travel & Meetings:

Conservation District area meeting schedule:

June 3 – Northwest Area-McIntosh (David Fischbach)

June 4 –Hills Area – Rapid City (Wayne Bunge)

June 15 – Vermillion Big Sioux Area – Sioux Falls (Tom Wolles, Alan Vedvei)

June 17 – Prairie Area – Kadoka (Charlie Moe)

June 22 – North Missouri Area – Mobridge (Aaron Kiesz)

June 23 – Coteau Area – Webster (Gerald Thaden, Doug Hansen)

June 25 – South James Missouri Area – Tyndall (Tom Glover)

New Business:

Review how the selection of grants is made.

Sanborn soil erosion report with photos.

Revolving Loan Report: Report was given by division staff. There were no new applications.

Grant Report:

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Lawrence Conservation District's request for a 1 year extension for grant #2013-CSW-027 (Lawrence Livestock Water) grant with the condition this will be the final extension. An amended motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to extend grant #2013-CSW-027 (Lawrence Livestock Water) for 6 months and this being the final extension. **Amended motion carried. The motion as amended carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for #2013-CSW-019 (NW Area Tree Planting) grant. **Motion carried.**

The commission decided to defer action on the Todd Conservation District extension requests until Thursday May 21, 2015 for grants #2014-CSW-030 (2014-2015 Pipeline Project) and #2013-CSW-021 (Pond Clean-out) to get more information from Todd Conservation District.

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve Jones Conservation District request to cost-share fabric installations on the trees and shrubs funds from the shelterbelt renovation grant for a project under EQIP as long as it meets the commission fund specifications. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny the Stanley Conservation District request for approval authorizing the use of remaining grant funds allocated to grant #2012-CSW-031 (Stanley/Hughes Pond Project) be directed for use to assist landowners with the costs of installing pipelines, tanks, and cross fencing that will develop rotational grazing systems. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei –No. Reason denied as the requests falls outside the scope of the original grant.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve an extension of 6 months for the Stanley Conservation District grant #2012-CSW-031 (Stanley/Hughes Pond Project) to allow time to complete the current projects that are in progress. **Motion carried.**

Bennett County:

(LaCreek National Wildlife Refuge) discussion.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to have the Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry staff draft a letter to LaCreek National Wildlife Refuge with concerns as to why LaCreek National Refuge did not come to the meeting and support for Bennett Conservation District, with copies to SD Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Interior, Federal Legislative delegates, and Governor's Office. **Motion carried.**
Tom Glover –No.

Reversions of Funds:

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to revert the following funds: Lawrence Conservation District (Thinning for Forest Health) grant #2011-CSW-019 in the amount of \$19,584.02; Brookings Conservation District (Tree Restoration and Planting) grant #2011-CSW-015 in the amount of \$27,502.91; Brown-Marshall Conservation District (Multi-District Shelterbelts) grant #2012-CSW-007 in the amount of \$44,714.27; Beadle Conservation District (Shelterbelt Program) grant #2012-CSW-003 in the amount of \$18,858.76; Beadle Conservation District (Resource Technician) grant #2012-CSW-004 in the amount of \$52,613.04; Brule/Buffalo Conservation District (Missouri Coteau Water Development) grant #2013-CSW-004 in the amount of \$4,194.31; Butte Conservation District (Envirothon) grant #2013-CSW-006 in the amount of \$2,266.46; Gregory Conservation District (Gregory Projects) grant #2013-CSW-010 in the amount of \$9,692.15; Perkins Conservation District (Natural Resource Specialist) grant #2013-CSW-018 in the amount of \$5,685.11; Yankton Conservation District (Yankton CD CNRC Project) grant #2013-CSW-031 in the amount of \$3,192.08; Miner Conservation District (Resource Technician) grant #2014-CSW-019 in the amount of \$2,246.32; Moody Conservation District (Resource Technician) grant # 2014-CSW-022 in the amount of \$13,126.45; Hamlin Conservation District (Hamlin/Codington Tree & Shrub) grant #2014-CSW-010 in the amount of \$435.46; Butte Conservation District (Belle Fourche Weed Rehabilitation) grant #2014-CSW-004 in the amount of \$18.50; Haakon Conservation District (HJEP Multi-Practice) grant #2014-CSW-009 in the amount of \$8,954.02 for a total of \$213,083.86. **Motion carried.**

Division staff gave a report on the history of the Resource Technician grants.

The State Conservation Commission and Division Staff discussed the history of how to make the selection for grant applications and if there is a better way.

Advisory Reports:

Oral reports were given by DENR and SDACD.

The Soil Conservation Award review was presented by division staff. A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to award a sign and certificate to all four nominees. **Motion carried.**

Division Report was presented by division staff.

Chairman David Fischbach declared a recess at 4:55 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 8:15 AM May 21, 2015

Wayne Bunge entered the meeting at 8:15 AM.

Deferred Extensions:

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Todd Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for grant #2014-CSW-030 (2014-2015 Pipeline Project). **Motion carried.** Abstained-Charlie Moe.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Todd Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for grant #2013-CSW-021 (Pond Clean-out). **Motion carried.** Abstained-Charlie Moe.

Grant Review:

Commissioners, division staff and conservation district representatives reviewed all the submitted grant applications.

Grant Selection:

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to defer Gregory Conservation (Gregory Count Projects 2) grant application until later. **Motion carried.** Tom Glover abstained. Alan Vedvei-No.

A motion was made by Wayne Bunge and seconded to approve Sanborn Conservation District (Shelterbelt Program) grant application in the amount of \$20,000.00 for 6 months. **Motion failed** for lack of a majority vote. Wayne Bunge-Aye, Alan Vedvei-Aye, Doug Hansen-Aye, Tom Glover-Nay, Gerald Thaden-Nay, Tom Wolles-Nay, Charlie Moe-Nay.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to deny Sanborn Conservation District (Shelterbelt Program) grant application and encourage them to come back for the fall grant round. Project doesn't begin until January 2016 and the commissioners want to fund projects that are starting this season. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Aurora Conservation District (Conservation Awareness/Community Education) grant application in the amount of \$3,000.00 for 6 months with the conditions the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the Conservation Districts involved. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Hanson Conservation District (Cover Crop) grant application in the amount of \$4,635.00 for 6 months with the conditions the district provides timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crops. Cover crops will be limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny Roberts Conservation District (2016 Roberts CD Tree/Shrub) grant application in the amount of \$10,997.00 for 1 year. The district is encouraged to re-submit a grant application in the fall grant round. This project doesn't start until January 2016 and the commissioners want to fund projects that are starting this season. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to defer Day Conservation District (Multi-County Tree) grant application until later. **Motion carried.** Doug Hansen abstained.

A motion was made by Doug Hansen to approve Kingsbury Conservation District (Tree Renovation) grant application in the amount of \$14,000.00 for 1 year with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. All tree & shrub plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

A motion was made by Wayne Bunge to approve Kingsbury Conservation District (Cover Crop) grant application in the amount of \$8,350.00 for 6 month with the conditions the district provides timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crops. Cover crops will be limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to defer Tri-County Conservation District (Windbreaks 2015) grant applications until later. **Motion carried.** David Fischbach abstained.

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to defer Aurora Conservation District (Cover Crop/Pipeline) grant application until later. **Motion carried.**

A Motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve Bennett Conservation District (Bennett/Shannon Tree & Shrub Plantings) grant application in the amount of \$10,000.00 for 1 year with the conditions the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. All tree & shrub plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny Brule/Buffalo Conservation District (Shelterbelt Windbreaks) grant application and encourage them to come back for the fall grant round. Project doesn't begin until January 2016 and the commissioners want to fund projects that are starting this season. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to deny Todd Conservation District (Fabricated Windbreak) grant application for lack of funds and a lower priority project. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District (Livestock Water Quality & Wind Protection) grant application in the amount of \$16,135.00 for 18 months. **Motion failed for lack of a majority.** Roll call vote: Wayne Bunge-Aye, Doug Hansen-Aye, David Fischbach-Aye, Tom Glover- Nay, Gerald Thaden-Nay, Tom Wolles-Nay, Charlie Moe-Nay. Alan Vedvei abstained.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the water development portion of Miner Conservation District (Livestock Water Quality & Wind Protection) grant application in the amount of \$8,450.00 for 18 months with a 50% budget for Technical Assistance. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. Grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Moody Conservation District (Resource Technician) grant application in the amount of \$10,000.00 for 1 year with the conditions district match and grant funds are to be used to perform resource technician duties over and above what has been normally completed by the district. The district must submit two semi-annual reports for the technician's work activities. These reports should show landowner contacts made by the technician, miles driven, number of plans written, acres treated or any other measure to show the conservation benefit provided by the technician. These reports should be provided to the conservation commission and SDACD no later than January 12 and July 12 of each year. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to deny Mellette Conservation District (2015-16 Pond Clean-out) grant application as the current pond clean-out grant was extended. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Bon Homme Conservation District (BHCD Cover Crop/Tree Renovation) grant application in the amount of \$17,000.00 for 18 months with the condition funding is for the 2015 cover crop year only. The district must have a contract with the tree removal landowners that they will replant trees on the acres the trees were removed from. Cover crops are limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crop. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Gregory Conservation District (Gregory County Cover Crops) grant application in the amount of \$6,975.00 for 6 months with the conditions the cover crops are limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crop. **Motion carried.** Tom Glover abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District (MC/TC Multi-practice) grant application in the amount of \$18,500.00 for 1 year with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual

time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District (SDACDE SD public Awareness of Conservation) grant application in the amount of \$7,400.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Hamlin Conservation District (Hamlin Shelterbelt Renovations) grant application in the amount of \$17,594.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. All tree & shrub plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to deny Kingsbury Conservation District (Resource Technician) in the amount of \$15,000 for 18 months for lack of a manager and lack of funds available. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Davison Conservation District (Cover Crop/Grazing Project) grant application in the amount of \$24,000.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The cover crops are limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crop. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Marshall Conservation District (Technical Assistance) in the amount of \$4,144.00 for 2 years with the conditions district match and grant funds are to be used to perform resource technician duties over and above what has been normally completed by the district. The district must submit two semi-annual reports for the technician's work activities. These reports should show landowner contacts made by the technician, miles driven, number of plans written, acres treated or any other measure to show the conservation benefit provided by the technician. These reports should be provided to the conservation commission and SDACD no later than January 12 and July 12 of each year. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

Brought back the deferred grants:

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Gregory Conservation District (Gregory County Projects 2) grant application in the amount of \$35,000.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. **Motion carried.** Tom Glover abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Day Conservation District (Multi-county Tree) grant application in the amount of \$75,000.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do

not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all of the conservation district involved. **Motion carried.** Doug Hansen abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Tri-County Conservation District (Windbreaks 2015) grant application in the amount of \$36,000 for 1 year with the conditions the district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the Conservation Districts involved. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.** David Fischbach abstained. Tom Glover-No.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Aurora Conservation District (Cover Crop/Pipeline) grant application in the amount of \$23,000.00 for 18 months with the conditions the district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans will be part of the agreement with the landowners (also if grazing the cover crops). Cover crops are limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit. **Motion carried.** Roll call vote: Wayne Bunge-Aye; Allan Vedvei-Aye; Doug Hansen-Aye; Tom Glover-Nay; Gerald Thaden-Nay; Tom Wolles-Nay; Charlie Moe-Aye; David Fischbach-Aye.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to reconsider the Todd Conservation District (Fabricated Windbreak) grant application in the amount of \$24,890.00 for 1 year. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained. Tom Glover-No.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Todd Conservation District (Fabricated Windbreak) grant application in the amount of \$5,000.00 for 1 year as a demonstration project with the conditions the district will bring back a report with pictures to the State Conservation Commissioners. The district will provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the Conservation Districts involved. The district will provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained. Tom Glover-No.

A report was presented by Sanborn Conservation District regarding the erosion that is happening in Sanborn County.

Next meeting to be determined.

Meeting adjourned by Chairman David Fischbach at 12:30 PM