

State Conservation Commission
Grant Round Meeting
May 18, 2017
Capitol Lake Visitor's Center, Pierre

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

Absent: Wayne Bunge.

Others Present: See Attached

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Fischbach at 8:15 a.m.

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the February 22, 2017 minutes as submitted.
Motion carried.

Revolving Loan Report:

A report was presented by division staff.

Grant Report:

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Deuel County Conservation District request to add the Northwest Area Conservation Districts to grant #2016-CSW-010 (Shelterbelts) with the concern that the Commission will not allow this to be a common procedure. Roll call vote: Vedvei – nay, Hansen – aye, Thaden – nay, Glover – aye, Kiesz – aye, Wolles – aye, Moe – nay. Fischbach – abstained. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Tom Glover to approve the Jones County Conservation district for a 6-month extension to December 31, 2017 for grant #2016-CSW-018 (Multi-Practice IV). **Motion carried.**

Motion by Alan Vedvei and seconded to deny Roberts Conservation District for a 12-month extension for grant #2016-CSW-024 (Roberts Shelterbelts). Reason: the district is encouraged to come back in the fall with the request. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Haakon County Conservation District for a 6-month extension to December 31, 2017 for grant #2016-CSW-030 (Water Quality). **Motion carried.**

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District for a 6-month extension to December 31, 2017 for grant #2016-CSW-037 (Assisting Conservation Districts to Develop a Customized Success Plan). **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Todd County Conservation District request to add Bennett County to grant #2017-CSW-027 (2017 TC Trees). Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion carried.**

Reversions:

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to revert the following funds:
Minnehaha County Conservation District grant #2014-CSW-021 (Wildlife Habitat) in the amount of \$7,099.14; Perkins Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-023 (NorthWest Area Tree Planting) in the amount of \$11,742.99; Miner Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-032

(Livestock Water Quality) in the amount of \$1,627.64; Davison Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-035 (Cover Crops/Grazing) in the amount of \$4,036.13; Aurora Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-036 (Conservation Awareness) in the amount of \$2,700.42; Bon Homme Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-040 (Cover Crop/Tree Renovation) in the amount of \$3.04; Aurora Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-041 (Cover Crop/Pipeline) in the amount of \$11,404.66; Gregory Conservation District grant #2015-CSW-046 (Gregory Projects 2) in the amount of \$2,955.08; Beadle Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-002 (Water Quality for Livestock) in the amount of \$20,768.40; Brule-Buffalo Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-004 (Brule-Buffalo CD Project) in the amount of \$8,818.75; Davison Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-007 (Shelterbelts) in the amount of \$13,907.81; Gregory Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-013 (Gregory Projects) in the amount of \$5,091.15; Miner Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-021 (Conservation Education & Public Awareness) in the amount of \$107.90; Hamlin Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-031 (Pasture Pipe for Water Quality) in the amount of \$11,927.10; Kingsbury Conservation District grant #2016-CSW-033 (Cover Crops) in the amount of \$150.00; for a total amount of \$102,340.21. **Motion carried.**

Grant Review:

A review of the grant applications was made by division staff, the State Conservation Commission, and district representatives.

Grant Selection:

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Tri-County Conservation District grant application (Fabricated Windbreaks) in the amount of \$24,384. Charlie Moe – nay; Tom Wolles – aye; Aaron Kiesz – aye; Tom Glover – nay; Gerald Thaden – nay; Doug Hansen – nay; Alan Vedvei – nay. **Motion failed for lack of majority.** Reason – low conservation benefit.

The Commission discussed the possibility of requiring future fabricated windbreak applications be aware that the district may need to produce to-scale site plans and show what the windbreak is protecting. These plans would need to be submitted prior to installation. No action taken at this time.

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Union Conservation District grant application (Outreach I&E) in the amount of \$7,540.00. Charlie Moe – nay; Tom Wolles – aye; Aaron Kiesz – nay; Tom Glover – nay; Gerald Thaden – nay; Doug Hansen – aye; Alan Vedvei – nay.

Motion failed. Reason – no local match.

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Brule-Buffalo Conservation District grant application (Brush Management III) in the amount of \$15,000, the district to provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant; the district to provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved, grazing management plans required, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request. Tom Glover abstained. **Motion Carried.**

Motion by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Hyde Conservation District grant application (Hyde-Hand Enhancement) in the amount of \$25,000 for one year. Motion by Tom Glover and seconded to amend the motion for \$25,000 for a two-year grant. **Motion carried to amend.** Conditions: all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of SDDA RC&F foresters prior to planting, stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share funds from the Commission, the district to provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant; the district to provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved; district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request. **Motion carried as amended.**

Motion by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve the Mellette Conservation District grant application (Multi-Practice) in the amount of \$28,000, to remove fabricated windbreaks and technical assistance from funding, , the district to provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant; the district to provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved; district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District grant application (Northwest Area Specialist) for \$34,888, the district match and grant funds are to be used to perform resource technician duties over and above what has been normally completed by the districts, 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 State Conservation Commission and SDACD no later than January 12 and July 12 of each year, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant, the district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. David Fischbach abstained. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Kiesz and seconded to approve the Custer Conservation District grant application (Thinning for a Healthier Forest) in the amount of \$20,000 for one year, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant, each thinning project will have to follow a prescription prepared by an SDDA RC&F Forester, landowners with Forest Stewardship Plans should be given priority, but a plan is not required, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Gerald Thaden and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District grant application (Multi-county Brush Management) in the amount of \$11,500.00, grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with the landowners, the district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved, the district provide timesheets or

other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant, grazing management plans required, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the Hamlin Conservation District grant application (Pasture Pipe for Water Quality 2) in the amount of \$12,846.00, grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with the landowners, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, the district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. Aaron Kiesz, Doug Hansen, and Gerald Thaden abstained. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve the Gregory Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt Renovation) in the amount of \$15,000 for two years, all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of SDDA RC&F foresters prior to planting, stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share funds from the Commission, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request. Tom Glover abstained. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Hamlin Conservation District grant application (Outreach & Promotion of SD Conservation Districts) in the amount of \$6,200.00, the district to provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Kingsbury Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt Renovation) in the amount of \$20,000, all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of SDDA RC&F foresters prior to planting, stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share funds from the Commission, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

Motion by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the Kingsbury Conservation District grant application (Conservation Education) in the amount of \$1,170, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Union Conservation District grant application (Cover Crops) in the amount of \$10,000, the district to 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, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with

reimbursement request, cover crops to be limited to 80 acres per landowner (first time user) and for only one time per land unit. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the McCook Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt Project) in the amount of \$10,000, with a waiver of the financial report requirement, all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of SDDA RC&F foresters prior to planting, stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share funds from the Commission, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Union Conservation District grant application (Trees/Fabric) in the amount of \$5589.44, all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of SDDA RC&F foresters prior to planting, stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share funds from the Commission, district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request, the district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to deny the Union Conservation District grant application (Grass seeding) due to lack of funds. **Motion carried.**

Soil Conservation Award Review & Selection:

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the soil award applications of Currence Brothers (Michael and Kenneth Currence) – Roberts Conservation District; Davis Ranch – Sanborn County Conservation District; David and Derick Hofer – Beadle Conservation District; Jeff and Drew Hemmer – Moody County Conservation District. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the two district name changes submitted: Moody County Conservation District change to Moody Conservation District; Davison County Conservation District to Davison Conservation District. **Motion carried.**

The name changes will become official upon notification from the Secretary of State's Office.

Commission members discussed the Guidelines and Priorities.

Division report was given by staff.

Advisory member reports were given.

Next Meeting will be July 20, 2017, time and location to be determined.

Meeting adjourned by Chairman at 1:20 p.m.