

State Conservation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
July 20, 2017  
Matthew Training Center, Foss Building, Pierre

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

**Absent:** Aaron Kiesz, Alan Vedvei and Wayne Bunge.

**Others Present:** Peggy Loomis, Hamlin Conservation District; Angela Ehlers, SDACD; Barry McLaury, SD DENR; Kyle Holt, SDDA; Brian Scott, SDDA; Tiffany Shannon, SDDA; Bill Smith, SDDA; and Linda Gaudette, SDDA.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Fischbach at 8:02 a.m. CDT

**Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Tom Glover and seconded to correct the Reversions Section in May 18, 2017 minutes as follows:

- Grant #2016-CSW-004 (Brule-Buffalo CD Project): Correct reverted amount from \$5,181.25 to \$8,818.75
- Grant # 2016-CSW-011 (East Pennington Livestock Protection): Undo the reversion \$8,176.51 to the grant, due to 6 month extension
- Grant # 2016-CSW-012 (Gregory Cedar Removal): Undo the reversion of \$8,225.00 to the grant, due to 6 month extension

**Motion carried.**

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the May 18, 2017 minutes as amended. **Motion carried.**

**Corrections/Approvals for Upcoming Travel & Upcoming Meetings:**

*Upcoming Meetings*

August: None

September:

- 7 – State Technical Committee Meeting, Huron 10:00 am (Doug Hansen will be attending)
- 17-19 SDACD Convention, Sioux Falls
- 18 – Commission Meeting, Sioux Falls

**Request for New Business to be placed on Agenda:**

None

**Correspondence:**

None

**Revolving Loan Report:**

No loan applications received. All payments are current. Balance Available \$81,502.76.

**Grant Report:**

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve a one-year extension on Grant #2016-CSW-034 (Lawrence County Aspen Regeneration and Restoration). **Motion carried.**

Motion by Tom Wolles and seconded to reobligate funds to the grants that were inadvertently reverted at the May 18, 2017 meeting:

- Grant #2016-CSW-004 (Brule-Buffalo CD Project): Correct reverted amount from \$5,181.25 to \$8,818.75;
- Grant # 2016-CSW-011 (East Pennington Livestock Protection): Undo the reversion \$8,176.51 to the grant, due to 6 month extension of the grant; and
- Grant # 2016-CSW-012 (Gregory Cedar Removal): Undo the reversion of \$8,225.00 to the grant, due to 6 month extension of the grant.

**Motion carried.**

**Development of New Commission Guidelines and Priorities:**

The intent of the document is to assist in the application, evaluation, selection and administration of grants to facilitate the most effective use of the Fund in accomplishing the goals and objectives of the South Dakota Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation.

Doug Hansen updated the Commission on the status of the draft guidelines and priorities. Discussion ensued resulting in:

Motion by Tom Wolles and seconded to adopt the New Commission Guidelines and Priorities as is, to be amended (if necessary) at the convention in September. **Motion carried.**

David thanked Doug Hansen, Tom Glover, Tom Wolles and Alan Vedvei for their efforts on this project.

**Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Follow-up:**

Bill Smith provided the Commission with an overview of the July 18, 2017 conference call with the conservation districts. The purpose of the call was to discuss and answer questions regarding the possibility of setting aside Commission grant funds to pursue a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Grant. The Commission discussed the topic and will further discuss the topic at the September Commission meeting. The Commission will be sent a website where detailed RCPP information can be found. The Commission asked that PowerPoint presentation on this topic be given at the September Commission meeting. The Commission also asked that the conservation districts be sent a website link on RCPP so they will have more information on RCPP prior to the September Commission meeting.

**MOU Regarding Coordination between DOT, NRCS and the Conservation Commission:**

SD DOT is requesting that the MOU between NRCS, DOT and the Conservation Commission be discontinued. DOT has a public comment process that is duplicative of the processes outlined in the MOU. Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to discontinue the MOU. **Motion carried.**

**District Supervisor Orientation Manual:**

Motion by Tom Glover and seconded to adopt the revised District Supervisor Orientation Manual. **Motion carried.**

**Division Report:**

Bill Smith presented an oral Division Report to the Commission.

**Commission Member Reports:**

Oral reports were given by Commission members in attendance.

**Advisory Board Member Reports:**

Angela Ehlers, SDACD, gave an oral report. Kyle Holt, Deputy Secretary, South Dakota Department of Agriculture, gave an oral report.

**Next Meeting:** September 18, 7:00 a.m. CDT at Convention in Sioux Falls (Angela Ehlers working on Convention agenda).

**Meeting adjourned** by Chairman David Fischbach at 11:00 a.m. CDT

Minutes by: Linda Gaudette, Recording Secretary

APPROVED