

State Conservation Commission  
Fall Grant Round Meeting  
November 29, 2017  
Capitol Lake Visitor Center, Pierre

Call to Order: 8:15 am by Chairman David Fischbach.

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

**Absent:** Wayne Bunge

**Others Present:** See sign-in sheet with the Commission minutes file.

**Minutes:** Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the September 18, 2017 minutes as submitted. **Motion carried.**

**Requests for New Business to be placed on Agenda:** None

**Past or Upcoming Travel:**

Doug Hanson attended the NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting in Huron on September 27, 2017. Doug Hanson will attend the NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting in Fort Pierre on January 9, 2018.

**Revolving Loan Report / Applications:**

*Loan Report:* Presented to the Commission by Tiffany Shannon.

*Application(s):*

A motion was made by Doug Hanson and seconded to approve the Grant County Conservation District Revolving Loan Application for \$45,585 over five (5) years to refinance current loan for a lower interest rate and extend the life of the loan. Charlie Moe voted nay and Gerald Thaden abstained. **Motion carried.**

**Grant Program/Updates/Changes/Amendments/Final Reports:**

Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District a 12-month extension for the Beadle Conservation District Grant 2017-CSW-002 (Soil Health). **Motion carried.**

Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve a six month extension due to weather delays for the Charles Mix Conservation District Grant 2016-CSW-027 (Brush Management). **Motion carried**

Division Staff reported to Conservation Commission that a transfer of \$6,000 from Wages & Benefits into BMP's Category for Grassed Waterways was done in-house for the Day Conservation District Grant 2017-CSW-013 (Northeast Glacial Lakes Project).

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve adding tree tubes and stakes and to transfer \$1,000.00 from Tree Removal to Tree Protectors for the Jones Conservation District Grant 2016-CSW-019 (Shelterbelt Renovation). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve a one year extension to demonstrate a late seeded cover crop mixes in 2018 and complete soil testing, as well as hosting a field day showcasing findings for the Mellette Conservation District Grant 2017-CSW-021 (Cover Crop). Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve a six month extension due to the facilitator (Ray Ledgewood) not being available to assist the Edmunds and Turner conservation districts until the first part of 2018 under the Miner Conservation District Grant 2016-CSW-037 (Develop a Customized Success Plan). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the addition of Shelterbelt Renovation Practice to the Todd Conservation District Grant 2017-CSW-027 (Tree Grant). Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover to approve a six month extension to be able to use the remaining funds for projects that have been delayed for the Todd Conservation District Grant 2017-CSW-028. Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion Carried.**

### **Grant Reports:**

*Final Reports:* Final reports were received for the following conservation districts: the Day Conservation District 2016-CSW-009; the Gregory Conservation District 2016-CSW-012; the Miner County Conservation District 2014-CSW-018; and the Miner County Conservation District 2016-CSW-036.

*Grant Status Report:* A Grant Status Report was presented to the Commission by Brian Scott.

*Reversions Report:* Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to revert the following funds: the Miner County Conservation District #2014-CSW-018 (Shelterbelt Renovation) in the amount of \$10,528.55; the Hamlin Conservation District #2015-CSW-030 (Shelterbelt Renovation) in the amount of \$11,127.97; the Kingsbury Conservation District #2015-CSW-038 (Tree Renovation) in the amount of \$4,075.62; the Bon Homme Conservation District #2016-CSW-003 (Conservation Enhancements) in the amount of \$5.92; the Brule-Buffalo #2016-CSW-005 (Multi-County Project) in the amount of \$8,645.80; the Davison Conservation District #2016-CSW-008 (Grazing Management) in the amount of \$14,500.00; the Day Conservation District #2016-CSW-009 (NE Glacial Lakes) in the amount of \$12,267.09; the Deuel Conservation District #2016-CSW-010 (Shelterbelts) in the amount \$6,900.88; the East Pennington Conservation District #2016-CSW-011 (Livestock Protection) in the amount of \$5,135.28; the Gregory Conservation District #2016-CSW-012 (Cedar Removal) in the amount of \$3,725.00; the Hanson Conservation District #2016-CSW-015 (Shelterbelts) in the amount of \$7,383.54; the Hyde Conservation District #2016-CSW-016 (Hyde/Hand Enhancements) in the amount of \$38.01; the Minnehaha Conservation District #2016-CSW-022 (Shelterbelt Renovations) in the amount of \$12,924.30; the Perkins Conservation District #2016-CSW-023 (NW Area Natural Resources Specialist) in the amount of \$10,374.52; the Custer Conservation District #2016-CSW-028 (Thinning for Health Forests 3) in the amount of \$341.25; the Davison Conservation District #2016-CSW-029 (Brush Management) in the amount of \$4,108.75; the Yankton Conservation District #2016-CSW-039 (Natural Resources) in the amount of \$9,807.62; the Bennett Conservation District #2017-CSW-004 (Bennett-Badlands Tree Planting) in the amount of \$7,550.86; and the Codington Conservation District #2017-CSW-011 (Tree Planting) in the amount of \$2,165.63 for a total amount of \$131,606.59. **Motion carried.**

### **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP):**

Bill Smith mentioned the RCPP program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). Bill Smith said the RCF staff will work with NRCS send letters to grant recipients to consider applying for RCPP funds directly through NRCS.

### **Fall Grant Application Review / Selections:**

Prior to review of the 2017 Fall Grant Selections, Chairman David Fischbach asked the Commission how much to retain for the Spring Grants. Motion by Charlie Moe and seconded to reserve \$150,000 for a spring grant round. **Motion carried.**

(The following are in alphabetical order by district rather than chronologically as they were taken up.)

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt) in the amount of \$14,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District grant application (Soil Health) in the amount of \$3,125.00 for one year. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District grant application (Water Quality for Livestock) in the amount of \$22,000.00 for one year. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Bennett Conservation District grant application (Bennett & Badlands Tree Planting) in the amount of \$30,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation

to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall 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 approve the Butte Conservation District grant application (Belle Fourche Weed Rehab Phase 6) in the amount of \$5,000.00 for one year. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Butte Conservation District grant application (Envirothon) in the amount of \$20,000.00 for one year. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district is requested to provide a report of event attendance and feedback from attendees. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Butte Conservation District grant application (Livestock Water Development) in the amount of \$20,000.00 for one year. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement request. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to deny Charles Mix Conservation District grant application (Brush Management) in the amount of \$36,500.00 for 1.5 years. Tom Glover abstained. Reason for denial was because the start date is not until July and grant funds are getting low for this round. The Conservation Commission encourages Charles Mix reapply in the spring. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Charles Mix Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt) in the amount of \$15,000.000 for 2 years. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District grant application (Cover Crop/Grazing) in the amount of \$16,000.00 for 1.5 years. Grazing plans must be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing the cover crops. Cover crops be limited to 80 acre per landowner, for only one time per land unit, and only for the short term period between annual crops. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District grant application (Tree Planting) in the amount of \$10,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District grant application (Watershed Grazing Mgmt James River) in the amount of \$52,500.00 for one year. Grazing plans must be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. 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 shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all other conservation districts involved in the project. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve the Day Conservation District grant application (Northeast Glacial Lakes) in the amount of \$25,000.00 for one year. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. Grazing plans must be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. Doug Hansen and Gerald Thaden abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Douglas Conservation District grant application (Tree & Fabric Project) in the amount of \$12,319.98 for 1.5 years. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A Motion to Reconsider was moved by Tom Glover and seconded to reconsider the amount set-aside for the spring grant round from \$150,000 to \$100,000 to have more funds available for the current grant applications. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Gregory Conservation District grant application (Gregory County Projects 4) in the amount of \$55,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting.

Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. Tom Glover abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made Doug Hansen to approve the Hamlin Conservation District grant application (2018 SDACDE Conservation Promotion) in the amount of \$6,200.00 for one year. The district shall 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 approve the Hamlin Conservation District grant application (Prairie Coteau Watershed Enhancement) in the amount of \$40,000.00 for one year. Grazing plans must be required as part of the agreements with the landowners. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all other conservation districts involved in the project. Doug Hansen, Aaron Kiesz and Gerald Thaden abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the Hamlin Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt Renovations) in the amount of \$14,477.00 for 1.5 years. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Hanson Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt) in the amount of \$9,000.00 for 6 months. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Jones Conservation District grant application (Multi-Practice VI) in the amount of \$20,000.00 for 1.5 years. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. All tree

and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall 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 approve the Marshall Conservation District grant application (Multi-Purpose Multi-County) in the amount of \$75,000.00 for one year. **Motion carried.** A substitute motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve grant in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the original two years. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Mellette Conservation District grant application (MC Tree Grant) in the amount of \$15,000.00 for 1.5 years. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. Charlie Moe abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District grant application (Conservation Practices) in the amount of \$10,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. Grazing plans shall be required as part of the agreement with the landowners if grazing cover crops. Cover crops will be limited to 80 acres per landowner and for only one time per land unit, and only for the short term period between annual crops. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District grant application (Conservation Workshop & Education) in the amount of \$1,000.00 for one year. The district shall 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 the Moody Conservation District grant application (Shelterbelt Renovation) in the amount of \$14,875.00 for two years. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District grant application (NWA Tree Planting) in the amount of \$30,000.00 for one year. All tree and shrub planting plans must be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA RCF foresters prior to planting. Stand-alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission. The district must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share and a copy to be provided with reimbursement requests. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. The district shall provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved. Dave Fischbach abstained. **Motion carried**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Roberts Conservation District grant application (Conservation Education) in the amount of \$2,500.00 for one year. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve the Sanborn Conservation District grant application (Conservation Education) in the amount of \$2,000.00 for one year. The district shall provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded deny the Yankton Conservation District grant application (NRC Project) in the amount of \$18,020.00 for one year. **Motion carried.** Reasons for denial were due to overlap with other grant applications and Yankton had a large reversion from last year's grant.

**2018 Docket:**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Jerauld Conservation District's request for the cost of Tree Protectors be increase to \$6.50 per tube. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Lawrence Conservation District's request to add Exclusion Fencing for Wildlife under Forest Stand Improvement to the 2018 Cost-Share Docket to go to six foot woven fence and seven foot posts due to elk in the area. **Motion carried.**



A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve the Mellette Conservation District's request for the unit cost for the Rural Water Hookup to be increased to NTE \$3,500 per hookup. Amount would be 30% or 50% of the \$3,500 depending on resource targeted. **Motion carried.**

**Current Priorities:**

The Commission reviewed the draft State Conservation Commission Guidelines & Priorities 2018 in the binders. The binder copy was an old draft. Motion by Doug Hansen and seconded to defer to January 2018 meeting. **Motion carried.**

**Conservation District Name Changes:**

A motion was made by Gerald Thaden and seconded to approve the Jerauld County Conservation District's petition for a name change to the "Jerauld Conservation District" and Miner County Conservation District's petition for a name change to the "Miner Conservation District." **Motion carried.**

**Commission Reports:**

Doug Hansen & Gerald Thaden reported on attending the Coteau Area Legislative Banquet in October.

**Partner Reports:**

US Fish and Wildlife Service – Verbal report given to the Commission.

US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service – Verbal report given to the Commission.

South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts – Written and verbal report given to the Commission.

South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts Employees – Verbal report given to the Commission.

Division Report – Bill Smith gave a verbal report to commission. Tiffany Shannon requested a commission member to volunteer to be a judge for the April 28, 2018 speech contest. Doug Hansen volunteered to be a judge. Aaron Kiesz volunteered to be the backup judge.

**New Business:**

South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture Mike Jaspers presented Alan Vedvei and David Fischbach with certificates of appreciation and cards recognizing for their years of service on the Commission. Alan and David will be stepping off the Commission at the end of this calendar year.

Alan thanked everyone for allowing him to serve. He ended with "It has been a pleasure".

**Next Meeting:** January meeting will be by teleconference and includes selection of officers. Date/Time to be determined.

**Ending remarks:**

David took the opportunity to reminisce about his years on the Commission along with a few anecdotes that brought laughter from the audience and the Commission. David ended by thanking everyone.

**Adjourn:**

12:34 pm