

State Conservation Commission Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 21, 2014
NRCS Building, Pierre

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

Absent: Tom Wolles

Others Present: Cec Johnson-RC&F, Brian Scott-RC&F, Marjy Gregg-RC&F, Angela Ehlers-SDACD, Bill Smith-RC&F, Aaron Wang-RC&F, Pete Jahraus-DENR, Jeff Zimprich-NRCS, Lucas Lentsch-SDDA, and Ray Sowers-RC&F.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Fischbach at 9:00 AM.

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve the January 29, 2014 minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

A report on the Commission's revolving loan program was provided by division staff.

Grant Program Report:

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Aurora Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2013-CSW-002 (Shelterbelt Windbreaks). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny Day Conservation District request to amend the budget of grant #2012-CSW-010 (Northeast Glacial Lakes Watershed Improvement & Protection Project). Request was to change the percentage of Commission grant funds from 30% to 50% with matching grant funds of 50% from their EPA 319 Clean Water grant and eliminating the Day Conservation match contribution of 20%. Their request was denied because the commission felt that the district must furnish cost-share. **Motion carried.** Doug Hansen abstained.

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Hanson County Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2014-CSW-012 (Hanson County Shelterbelts). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe to deny Butte Conservation District request for extension and transfer \$10,181.09 of unobligated funds from travel to scholarships and travel for state competition or travel for a possible regional competition in Kansas for grant #2013-CSW-006 (SD Envirothon Pilot Project). The request was denied as the commission felt there was a need for clarification of the events and a new budget explaining how the funds would be used. The commission suggested that the district come back at the May meeting with a new request. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Edmunds Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2013-CSW-033 (North Missouri Area Grassland Enhancement Project Phase I). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Haakon County Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for grant #2013-CSW-035 (Multi-Practice Grant). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Harding Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant # 2012-CSW-023 (Harding County Multi-purpose Ponds). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve Lawrence Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2013-CSW-027 (Lawrence Livestock Water). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Wayne and seconded to approve Lawrence Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for grant #2011-CSW-019 (Thinning for Forest Health). **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to approve Mellette/Todd Conservation District(s) request to use funds from grant #2014-CSW-015 (Shelterbelt/Windbreaks) in the Hamill Conservation District and Bennett County Conservation District. **Motion carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to deny Jones County Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2012-CSW-025 (Shelterbelt Renovation) as the request came in after the March 7, 2014 deadline and they don't have enough sites ready. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Doug Hansen and seconded to deny Perkins Conservation District request for a 6 month extension for grant #2013-CSW-018 (Natural Resource Specialist) as the request came in after the March 7, 2014 deadline. Commission suggests the district come back at the May meeting either with an extension or new grant. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to deny Pennington Conservation District request for a 1 year extension for grant #2013-CSW-026 (Thinning for Forest Health) as the request came in after the March 7, 2014 deadline. Commission suggests they come back at the May meeting with a new extension request. **Motion carried.** Wayne Bunge abstained.

Committee Appointments:

Natural Resource Stewardship Committee: David Fischbach and Gerald Thaden were re-appointed.

District Capacity Committee: Alan Vedvei, Aaron Kiesz were re-appointed and Wayne Bunge was appointed.

Public Relations Committee: Doug Hansen and Charlie Moe were re-appointed.

Missouri River Committee: Tom Glover was re-appointed.

Speech Contest: Doug Hansen volunteered to be a judge at the April 5, 2014 Speech Contest.

Legislative Updates

Reports were given by SDACD and Division Staff

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Reports were provided by NRCS, DENR and SDACD.

Lucas Lentsch, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture, entered the meeting at 11:25 AM and provided a report to the commissioners.

Division Report:

A written and oral report was provided by the Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry.

Next Meeting:

May 22, 2014

Meeting Adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Marjorie Gregg
Recording Secretary