

State Conservation Commission
Grant Round Minutes
USDA/NRCS Building, Pierre SD
November 18, 2010

Members Present: John Gross, Alan Vedvei, Tom Wolles, David Fischbach, Charlie Moe, Gerald Thaden, Aaron Kiesz

Members Absent: Wayne Bunge, Tom Glover

Others Present: See attached list

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman David Fischbach.

A motion was made by John Gross and seconded to approve the September 2010 minutes as mailed. **Motion Carried.**

Revolving Loan Report was given by Division staff.

Grant Program:

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Bon Homme Conservation District request for a six month extension to 6/30/2011 for grant #2009-CSW-025 (BHCD Conservation Enhancement). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Gerald Thaden and seconded to approve Douglas Conservation District request for a one year extension to 12/31/2011 and a transfer of funds of \$2,012.24 from fabric into trees for grant #2010-CSW-009 (Shelterbelt Planting & Maintenance). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Dewey Conservation District request for a one year extension to 12/31/2011 for grant #2008-CSW-005 (Dewey County Well Grant). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Marshall Conservation District request for a one year extension to 12/31/2011 for grant #2010-CSW-010 (Technical Assistance). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Gerald Thaden and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District request for a one year extension to 12/31/2011 for grant #2009-CSW-008 (2009 Ponds). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Butte Conservation District request for an amendment of a reduction in grant funds to \$20,000 and partner contribution to \$15,000. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Douglas Conservation District request for a one year extension to 12/31/2011 for grant #2009-CSW-014 (Resource Technician). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Jackson Conservation District request for replacement cost of damaged trees planted under current commission grant and a

transfer of \$1387.00 from renovation to trees for grant # 2009-CSW-010 (Shelterbelt Establishment). It was approved because of the extenuating circumstances caused by grasshoppers and hail damage. The Commission will pay 50% of the cost of hand plants for replacement plantings. Similar requests by any districts will be determined on a case by case basis. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District request to transfer funds of \$1,166.25 from wells & pumps into tanks for grant #2009-CSW-007 (Grazing Distribution). **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe abstained

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District request of a one year extension to 12/31/2011 for grant #2008-CSW-010 (Mellette/Todd pipeline). **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe abstained

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District request for a six month extension to 6/30/2011 for grant #2008-CSW-025 (Prairie Area Technician). **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe abstained

Grant Review by State Conservation Commission, Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry Staff and Conservation District representatives.

Grant Selection:

Because the Grant Review and Selection were in differing order, the below listing is alphabetical.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Beadle Conservation District (North Missouri Coteau Grassland Management) grant application in the amount of \$52,000 for 3 years with the condition that grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with each landowner. **Motion Carried.** Aaron Kiesz abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Brookings Conservation District (Resource Technician) grant application in the amount of \$27,400 for 1 year. The following conditions apply: the district cannot use the grant funds to perform normal district duties. The funds must be used for activities beyond the normal work activities of district employees; the district must submit an annual activity report for the technician's work activities; this report should show landowner contacts made by the technician, miles driven, number of plans written, acres treated or any other measures to show the conservation benefit provided by the employee; and, this report should be provided to SDACD and the Conservation Commission by no later than January 12 of each year. The Conservation Commission suggested that the Brookings Conservation District check with the Moody Conservation District regarding the possibility of one technician handling the duties for both districts. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Brookings Conservation District (Tree Restoration and Planting) grant application in the amount of \$61,880 for 3 years with the condition that all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA foresters. Farmstead and homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Conservation Commission. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Butte Conservation District (Belle Fourche River Ground Water) grant application in the amount of \$46,780 for eighteen months. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Corson Conservation District (Resource Conservation Technician) grant application in the amount of \$17,500 for one year. The following conditions apply: the district cannot use the grant funds to perform normal district duties. The funds must be used for activities beyond the normal work activities of district employees; the district must submit an annual activity report for the technician's work activities; this report should show landowner contacts made by the technician, miles driven number of plan written, acres treated or any other measures to show the conservation benefit provided by the employee; and, this report should be provided to SDACD and the Conservation Commission by no later than January 12 of each year. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to deny Custer Conservation District (Pine Beetle Education) grant application as other associations already have the information out there for the public. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Custer Conservation District (Bio-Weed Control) grant application in the amount of \$4,600 for two years. After discussion a substitute motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to wait until the May grant round to consider this application with the request the Custer Conservation District apply for a grant through Custer County Weed and Pest first. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Day Conservation District (Northeast Glacial Lakes) grant application in the amount of \$28,253 for one year. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Elk Creek Conservation District (Livestock Dam Project) grant application in the amount of \$70,500 for three years with the condition that grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with each landowner. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Hamlin Conservation District (Prairie Coteau Grassland Management) grant application in the amount of \$53,000 for 3 years. **Motion Carried.** Tom Wolles abstained.

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to approve Jackson Conservation District (Jackson County CD Ponds Project) grant application in the amount of \$63,500 for 3 years with the condition that grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with each landowner. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Lawrence Conservation District (Thinning for Forest Health) grant application in the amount of \$52,000 for 3 years with the condition each thinning project will have to follow a prescription prepared by a Resource Conservation & Forestry forester and landowners. Forest Stewardship Plans should be given priority (but a plan is not required). **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Marshall Conservation District (NE SD Wetlands) grant application in the amount of \$32,000 for three years with the condition grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with each landowner. **Motion Carried.** Gerald Thaden abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District (Pre-Approved Practices) grant application in the amount \$21,000 for eighteen months with the condition that all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA foresters. Farmstead and homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Conservation Commission, and grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with each landowner. **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Aaron Kiesz and seconded to approve Mellette Conservation District (Todd/Mellette Wind & Erosion) grant application in the amount of \$15,183 for eighteen months with the condition that all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA foresters. Farmstead and homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Conservation Commission. **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District (Shelterbelt Grant for Miner County) grant application in the amount of \$24,903 for two years with condition that all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA foresters. Farmstead and homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Conservation Commission. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by John Gross and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District (Replacement Cedar 2010 Project) grant application in the amount of \$3,745 for one year. **Motion Carried.** Charlie Moe –No

A motion was made by John Gross and seconded to approve Miner Conservation District (Outreach & Conservation) grant application in the amount of \$9,150 for two years. **Motion Carried.** Alan Vedvei abstained.

A motion was made by Alan Vedvei and seconded to approve Moody Conservation District (Resource Conservation Technician) grant application in the amount of \$30,062 for 1 year. The following conditions apply: the district cannot use the grant funds to perform normal district duties. The funds must be used for activities beyond the normal work activities of district employees; the district must submit an annual activity report for the technician's work activities; this report should show landowner contacts made by the technician, miles driven, number of plans written, acres treated or any other measures to show the conservation benefit provided by the employee, and, this report should be provided to SDACD and the Conservation Commission by no later than January 12 of each year. The Conservation Commission suggested that the Moody Conservation District check with the Brookings Conservation District regarding the possibility of one technician handling the duties for both districts. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Perkins Conservation District (Natural Resource Specialist) grant application in the amount of \$76,426 for thirty months ending 6/30/2013. **Motion Carried.** David Fischbach abstained.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Yankton Conservation District (Yankton Conservation Project) grant application in the amount of \$13,420 for eighteen months with the condition that all tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDA foresters. Farmstead and homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Conservation Commission, and grazing plans be required as part of the agreement with landowners. **Motion Carried.**

2011 Docket:

A motion was made by Tom Wolles and seconded to standardize the Minimum Landowner Cash to 25% for the Cost-Share Percentages. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the suggested changes for the Approved Practices Cost. **Motion Carried.**

Reports:

Commission Member reports were given by the commissioners.

DENR provided a written report.

SDACD provided a verbal report.

Division report was given by division staff.

A certificate of appreciation was given to John Gross for his years of being on the Commission.

Next Meeting: March- date is to be determined (after session) in Pierre.

Adjourned: 2:59 PM