

HAMLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING
October 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

Jared Namken, Chairman
James Anderson, Vice Chairman
Larry Brusse, Supervisor
Dorene Lemme, Supervisor
Danny Limmer, Supervisor
Lenny Saathoff, Advisor

OTHERS PRESENT

Peggy Loomis, District Manager
Kelsey Ramerth, NRCS District Conservationist
Eli Little, Landowner

ABSENT

Burton Tesch

The Hamlin County Conservation District Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Office Conference Room. Chairman Namken opened the meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment. None.

Approve the Agenda. On a motion by Lemme, with a second by Brusse, the agenda was approved as written. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was opened for the August Regular Board Minutes. On a motion by Anderson, with a second by Lemme, the minutes were approved as read. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts Receivable were approved as written on a motion by Anderson, with a second by Limmer. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS Report- Report given by Kelsey Ramerth, District Conservationist. Please see attached report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Services. Fall sales of potted conifers have gone well. Facebook posts continue. Survival checks were completed. Tough year for trees, especially if not watered immediately and continuously. Overall county survival is 75%. Preordering trees since July. Waitlisted on many fruit and tall trees. Fabric delivery on hold. Tree acres for 2024 is 17; with 8 or more plans being processed.

Drill and Land Roller Totals. No Till Drill 770 acres; Great Plains Drill 222 acres; Land Rollers 7568 acres. Saathoff has been paid for 26 of 30 contacts. Additional check is processed. Great Plains drill needs 4 tires and wheel bearing work. Anderson will begin.

SDACD Convention Review. Dale Tesch nomination was successful. His family was at the Awards Dinner to accept the award. Only 26 of 64 districts were represented at the General Meeting. IRA Funding will increase substantially each year for programs. A new RCPP project was discussed. Loomis will inquire about. Contour Lines was completed for all employees. Health insurance continues to be the biggest reason for the large district turnover. New Officers: President Josh Wagner, Day; Vice President Yvette Kirkman, Butte and Secretary / Treasurer Tami Moore, Miner. Big Sioux meeting revealed a shortage of 10 common shrub species, all spruce and Rocky Mountain Juniper. Schumacher has cut the 5 gal BHS to 50. No 5 gal. CBS or Norway.

Truck Loan. Loan from DANR was received. Balance at bank was paid. Loan payments to begin 2024.

Late Fees. Several customers continue to receive finance charges due to late payments. Small claims action will begin next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Advisor Positions. Burton Tesch stepped down from the Advisor position. He had been on the Board as a Supervisor from 1999 to 2014. He became an Advisor in March 2018. Burton has been a great asset to this board, as his passion for conservation has no limits. Always has great ideas of what the future should look like and how conservation can serve its purpose. Burton's presence will be missed at our Board meetings. Chairman Namken appointed Eli Little to the District Board as an Advisor.

Tree Care Award. Loomis presented names worthy of the Tree Care Award. On a motion by Brusse, with a second by Lemme, Harold Koistinen was chosen to receive the 2023 Award. All voted in favor. Motion passed. Award will be presented at the Appreciation Dinner in January.

Northern Plains Training. To be held in Deadwood, SD. Loomis will attend Oct. 31 – Nov. 3.

Grants. Loomis wrote another Employee Outreach Promo Grant for funding in 2024; for the Employees Association. Tami Moore, Miner CD will administer this project. Reimbursement was recently completed for the 2023 grant. Work continues on the NRCS/SDACDE Contribution Agreement. Reimbursement #14: \$16,225 cost share, with an employee match of \$32,000 was submitted. This project has \$120,000 to fund 2024 Leadership, 2024 Convention along with several additional trainings.

NACD Annual Meeting. This meeting will be held 2/10/24 – 2/14/24 in San Diego. Namken made a motion to fund Loomis' expenses to attend this conference, with a second by Brusse. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Joint Powers Agreement. Day CD requested Hamlin CD sign new Joint Powers Agreements. On a motion by Anderson, with a second by Lemme, the agreements were signed by the Chairman. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Legislative Dinner. Dinner is scheduled for Monday, October 16th, at Roots in Webster. Invitations had been received by all.

Executive Session. None necessary.

Other District Business.

- October – Legislative Dinner, Oct. 16 - Webster
NCDEA, Oct. 31 – Nov. 3 – Deadwood
- November – Veteran's Day, Nov. 11th – Office Closed
Thanksgiving, Nov. 23rd & 24th – Office Closed
- December - Christmas, Dec. 25th – Office Closed

On a motion by Lemme, with a second by Anderson, the meeting was adjourned. Namken declared the meeting ended at 8:43 p.m.

Respectively, *Peggy Loomis*, District Manager