

Minutes for March 3, 2009 Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the Iola Service Center by Craig Mentzer, Chairman.

Also Present:

Donna Beebe, Member
 Ryan Garrett, Treasurer
 Juanita Tolle, Member
 Kelli Kramer, District Manager
 Matt Powe, NRCS SDC

Approval of minutes of previous meeting:

The motion was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Fund	Expenses	Balance
Operations	\$2758.65	\$22849.27
Enterprise	\$4295.18	\$10593.95
Petty Cash	\$0.00	\$6.51
Buffer	\$905.73	\$3690.12
The motion was made to accept the treasurer's report and to pay all bills as presented by Juanita and seconded by Donna.		

Communications

- 2/03/09 - 2008 Annual Report from NACD.
- 2/04/09 - Stevens Co. Cons. Dist. Banquet Invitation.
- 2/04/09 - Forestry Note from NACD.
- 2/06/09 - Is SE KS going to host an Envirothon? - from the state Envirothon coordinator.
- 2/06/09 - Marion County will not be hosting an Envirothon, need another county.
- 2/09/09 - Update on Senate Bill 231 (consolidation) and Spring Workshop Update.
- 2/09/09 - Pat Lehman's update on Senate Bill 231.
- 2/10/09 - Recycling, Composting, and Household Waste conference March 24-26.
- 2/11/09 - Spring Workshop Update and Senate Bill 231 update (bill has been introduced, finalization of budget recession, and FY2010 budget debates to begin soon.)
- 2/13/09 - Kansas Environmental News from the KDHE.
- 2/13/09 - Pat Lehman updates on SB231. Now in the Ways and Means Committee.
- 2/16/09 - Workshop on new KPERS benefits coming up.
- 2/16/09 - KPERS Pre-Retirement Seminars have been scheduled.
- 2/17/09 - Forestry Notes from NACD
- 2/18/09 - The legislature has passed it's 2009 recession bill, we only took a 30% reduction in cost share. I included a breakdown in your packet.
- 2/19/09 - The hearing for SB231 will be on Feb 25.
- 2/20/09 - Schedule and final workshop agenda.
- 2/23/09 - Moratorium on Death & Disability Contributions. No payments until November of 09.
- 2/26/09 - Conservation District Directory Updates
- 2/27/09 - There is openings on the Basin Advisory Committee. I included a list of open positions in your packet.
- 2/27/09 - The hearing for SB231 went well, there will be more testimony on March 3.
- 3/2/09 - 11th National Watershed Conference will be May 17-20 in Wichita.

Matt's NRCS - Report attached.

Bill's Buffer Report is attached

Conservation/Modifications signed: Three conservation plans and six CPO's to be signed.

District Report – Kelli Kramer

1. The annual meeting was a success, with 20 more producers attending than last year. All award winners were happy with what they received. The website has been updated with pictures and an overview. I have sent Thank You cards to Steve Traw, Marilyn Kipp, and Tom Strickler for their help with the meeting.
2. I have continued doing updates to the website. As I figure out how to do more, I will update the page.
3. I attended a WRAPS meeting on February 20. We are applying for a grant to do some cost-share.
4. An email that I sent to the senate Ways and Means Committee stating that I am against the consolidation of the SCC into the KDA was used as written testimony when the Senate Bill came up in front of the senate Ag Committee. I sent 3 emails to various legislators stating my opinion.

Important Dates

March 4 – SCC meeting in Iola

New Business

- Election of positions. We need to elect chairman, vice-chairman, and treasurer.
The positions did not change this year. The motion was made by Donna and seconded by Juanita for a unanimous slate. The motion passed unanimously.
- We had 12 out of 13 producers who signed up for cost-share for the No-Till on the Plains conference use the funds requested. After signing the remaining forms, producers should receive payment from the state.
- On January 21st, the state pulled whatever unspent cost-share was in our accounts. This was due to the governor's proposed budget. After the budget passed on February 19, all funds were reinstated with a 30% reduction. We now have \$6000 remaining in the NPS account to be used up by April 1st.
- Districts can now sign up for LincPass enrollment. I am trying to combine travel with other area districts because we have to travel to either Kansas City or Manhattan. We are still trying to figure out where we will have to go.
- We received a bid by Schlotterbeck and Burns to do the Audit for 2008. There will be a \$25 increase in fees to \$575. Though we have heard from another about doing the audit, we have heard nothing in the past couple months. Do we want to go with S&B?
The motion was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan to contract with Schlotterbeck and Burns to do the Audit.
- The local WRAPS group will be hosting a streambank stabilization workshop this summer in Allen County. They want us to pay for the meal at the meeting. The WRAPS group is also looking for some individuals to do "ground-truthing". Can I do this on district time? Would anyone like to volunteer to help?
The motion was made by Ryan and seconded by Juanita to pay for the meal at the event, and to potentially work with other districts if the cost gets too high. Kelli was instructed to spend time working with WRAPS if time is allowed in the schedule. The motion passed unanimously.
- The SCC meeting is in Iola tomorrow, would we be willing to cover the costs of snacks? Normally we get paid back from the state, but I'm not sure of the budget with the funds going away. Cost will be no more than \$30.
The motion was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan to donate the cost of snacks to the meeting because Kelli did not have to drive to attend the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ Date
_____ DISTRICT MANAGER _____ Date