

# **NORTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

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## **MINUTES of the STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Bismarck, North Dakota  
July 9, 2018

A meeting of the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee was held at NDSU Extension Office Burleigh Co. Bismarck. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Dennis Renner presiding. The following persons attended all or a portion of the meeting.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Donna Grann, Supervisor, Area I  
Warren Solberg, Supervisor, Area II  
Bruce Knudson, Supervisor, Area III  
Jack Spah, Supervisor, Area IV  
Wesley Frederick, Area V  
Barton Schott, Appointee  
Dennis Renner, Appointee

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Bruce Schmidt, Soil Conservation & Watershed Program Leader, NDSU Extension  
Sarah Tunge, NDCDEA Director  
Mary Podoll, NRCS State Conservationist  
Jesse Pfaff, ND Ag. Dept.  
Kelly Klosterman, Past Area II SSCC

### **MINUTE APPROVAL**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SCHOTT, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SPAH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> SSCC MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

New SSCC member – Warren Solberg  
New NDSU Administrative Assistant – Sandy Schwede

### **ADVISOR REPORTS**

Mary Podoll, NRCS State Conservationist – NRCS is hiring 16 employees over the next three months. USDA Restructure / Staffing. Mary stated there are many rumors and requested SSCC help in addressing the SCD concerns and the rumors.

Jesse Pfaff, Dept. of Ag – thanked the SSCC for invitation to attend meeting.

### **BUSINESS:**

NDASCD Area V Report / Resolutions – Beach ND on June 8th presented by Wesley Frederick. Good turnout at the meeting. Discussion on the Association decision to NOT hold 2019 Area Meetings but hold them during the State meeting was discussed. Two resolutions presented- one regarding NRCS restructure and other relating to soil compaction regulations for trenching utility lines.

## **AG COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

The SSCC recommendation to the Ag Committee Legislative Review to update NDCC 4.1-20-19 hearing was held June 15<sup>th</sup>. And is moving forward as the following:

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 4.1-20-19 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to mandatory training for soil conservation district supervisors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA: SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.

Section 4.1-20-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

### **4.1-20-19. Soil conservation district supervisors - Training.**

As soon as practicable after an individual is elected or appointed to the position of a soil conservation district supervisor, the individual shall attend a training session delivered by the state soil conservation committee, and the individual shall attend or participate in annual training as determined by the state soil conservation committee.

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FIRST DRAFT:

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the Agriculture Committee  
June 2018

## **REVIEW OF SSCC PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

Soil Conservation Watershed Academy Training – Update by Bruce Schmidt Soil Conservation & Watershed Program Leader, NDSU Extension

NRCS –CCG Grant proposal – approved for 3 additional years for Supervisor training

EPA 319 – Grant proposal – due Sept.

Dickinson Training set for July 16<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> 20 pre-registered

SCDAP – District allocation update (See Attached Report)

On-line Training website and Supervisor Handbook Updating has been started, schedule to present in November.

## **REVIEW OF SCDAP ALLOCATION FOR 2017-19 BIENNIUM**

The State Soil Conservation Committee reviewed funding allocations to Soil Conservation Districts for the 2017-19 Biennium Soil Conservation District Assistance Program.

Discussion was held regarding the 2019-2021 SCDAP Application and Fund request process. Sarah Tunge member of the revision committee was in attendance and reported on reporting software that other state SCD are using and that might address our application and funding process. Discussion was held in regards to the objective and end result the SSCC is looking for in regards to the reporting from the SCD and the use of assistance funds.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SCHOTT, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KNUDSON FOR THE SSCC TO BUDGET TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP A UNIFIED PAPERLESS REPORTING SCD SOFTWARE SYSTEM. MOTION AMENDED TO BUDGET UP TO \$10,000 BY KNUDSON SECOND BY SPAH AMENDMENT CARRIED.**

**AMENDED MOTION FOR THE SSCC TO BUDGET UP TO \$10,000 TO EXPLORE AND DEVELOP A UNIFIED PAPERLESS REPORTING SCD SOFTWARE SYSTEM CARRIED.**

Bruce Schmidt will work on the funding source, a timeline for the project and have a model of the software for the SSCC to review before the next scheduled meeting - November.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

NDASCD Annual meeting – Nov 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Question was asked by Bruce Schmidt for clarifying the reimbursement for the NDASCD Annual meeting. **IT WAS MOVED BY SCHOTT FOR THE SSCC TO REIMBURSE THE REGISTRATION, MILEAGE AND LODGING FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE SSCC, SECOND BY SPAH. MOTION CARRIED.**

NDASCD Committee appointments were discussed, Warren Solberg will be named to the Legislative/Research Committee.

**NEXT STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next State Soil Conservation Committee meeting will be November 18, 2018.

There being no further business to come before the State Soil Conservation Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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Bruce Schmidt  
Soil Conservation & Watershed Program Leader  
Recording Secretary