



## NORTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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MINUTES of the  
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
Governor's Room at Ramkota Conference Center  
March 09, 2021 – 1:00p – 3:50p

A meeting of the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee was via Zoom teleconference meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:00p by Barton Schott, Chairman.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Donna Grann – Area I Supervisor  
Warren Solberg – Area II Supervisor  
David Hill – Area III Supervisor  
Jack Spah – Area IV Supervisor  
Wes Frederick – Area V Supervisor, Vice Chair  
Barton Schott – Governor Appointee, Chair  
Kelly Klosterman – Governor Appointee  
Aaron Field – NDSU Extension/ND State Soil Conservation Committee Program Leader  
Sandra Schwede – ND State Soil Conservation Committee Administrative Assistant  
Morgan Hochsprung – NDASCD Program Manager  
Matt Lindsay – ND State Water Commission

### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GRANN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> SSCC MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Matt Lindsay, ND State Water Commission gave an overview of their role as an advisory member in relation the NDSSCC. The water commission works on water management issues. They also work with the bulk of the budgets for water projects. They are in the agency for water quantity. They work alongside with the ND State Office of the State Engineer. The board discussed current water related bills being considered by the legislature. They work in the regulatory division, work closely with counties, deals with landowner complaints and also, currently work with dam safety (4000 currently) and can work up to 8000 dams across the State of North Dakota. Matt also spoke about water appropriations with surface and ground water monitoring. Matt gave an overview of current water-related legislation being considered.

Matt also spoke about the atmospheric division that works with counties in western ND as part of the state cloud seeding program. They work with the UND Flight Program for seeding in Bowman, Mountrail and Williams counties.

Morgan Hochsprung, NDASCD Program Manager gave an update on the changes that have taken place at the office located in Lincoln-Oakes. Gina Fracassi is the new administrative assistant and Kristi Fettig is the office manager. Morgan works on legislative updates, the conservation spotlight, social media and meetings with partners. They have updated the facilities and invited the NDSSCC to visit once COVID precautions are less needed.

Aaron discussed the soil training modules for the SCD's and asked for members to be on a sub-committee to review and finalize the content for the modules. Donna and Warren were asked to assist Aaron.

The board discussed travel reimbursement in relation to SSCC meetings and visiting districts in each area. No clear guidelines exist, and the ability for reimbursement for additional meetings was unsure. Chairman Schott asked that Aaron work with NDSU Extension to provide clear guidelines for travel reimbursement. These guidelines are needed to plan future meetings.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SPAH, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO APPROVE THE OPERATING BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **OTHER**

Committee member Klosterman asked for information regarding human resources management support for SCDs. Aaron has also been contacted by some of the SCDs regarding human resources. After much investigation, Aaron stated that each individual SCD is responsible for human resources management in their district office. Aaron asked board members to share this information with their SCD board members.

Donna asked Sandy to update the ND State Soil website regarding COVID-19 to reflect the NRCS guidelines dated January 2021.

Aaron Field requested the committee's approval for Warren Solberg, appointed supervisor Cass County. **IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SPAH, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO APPROVE WARREN SOLBERG AS APPOINTED SUPERVISOR FOR CASS COUNTY SCD. MOTION CARRIED.**

Aaron Field requested the committee's approval for a supervisor change for Steele County – Brady Palmer to replace Reggie Lafrombois. **IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER FREDERICK, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SOLBERG TO APPROVE BRADY PALMER AS SUPERVISOR FOR STEELE COUNTY SCD. MOTION CARRIED.**

Aaron Field requested the committee's approval for a supervisor change for Rolette County – Brian Mothershead to replace Allen Schlenvogt. **IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER HILL, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER FREDERICK TO APPROVE BRIAN MOTHERSHEAD AS SUPERVISOR FOR ROLETTE COUNTY SCD. MOTION CARRIED.**

Aaron was asked by committee members to clarify the requirements for replacing an elected supervisor in the online training supervisor's handbook.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting ended at 3:50 pm.

**NEXT STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING** – TBD