



## NORTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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### MINUTES of the STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Radisson Inn (Hudson Room), 6<sup>th</sup> St & Broadway Ave, Bismarck ND 58501

March 15, 2022 – 1:05p – 5:25p

A meeting of the North Dakota State Soil Conservation Committee was called to order at 1:05p by Wes Frederick, Vice Chairman.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND GUESTS PRESENT**

Donna Grann – Area I Supervisor  
Warren Solberg – Area II Supervisor  
David Hill – Area III Supervisor  
Jack Spah – Area IV Supervisor (*termed*)  
Bob Martin – Area IV Supervisor (*current*)  
Wes Frederick – Area V Supervisor, Vice Chair  
Kelly Klosterman – Governor Appointee  
Aaron Field – NDSU Extension Program Coordinator  
Sandra Schwede – ND State Soil Conservation Committee Administrative Assistant  
Lindsay Maddock – NDSU Extension Program Coordinator, Area I  
Jodi Delozier – NDSU Extension Program Coordinator, Area II  
Mary Podoll – USDA-NRCS North Dakota State Conservationist  
Dustin Krueger – NDCDEA President  
Kevin Kading – ND Game & Fish Department  
Matt Lindsay – ND Department of Water Resources  
Greg Sandness – ND Department of Environmental Quality  
Jesse Thompson – Lincoln-Oakes Nursery  
Lynette Flage, PhD – NDSU Extension Director, Virtually

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Barton Schott – Governor Appointee, Chairman

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GRANN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> SSCC MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Aaron introduced Bob Martin, the new Area IV committee board representative. He also introduced two grant-funded Program Coordinators, Conservation Leadership and Planning. Lindsay Maddock – Area I and Jodi Delozier – Area II, will provide education and support SCDs in planning and leadership development. Aaron also reported potential for grant funding to support the remaining three areas (Area III, Area IV & Area V).

Dustin Krueger, NDCDEA President reported they held a director's meeting in conjunction with the Tree Promotion Workshop. They have started a mentorship program and are holding an Urban Conservation Workshop in fall of 2022 in Bismarck. Also, working on a wind-break technology course and on a collaborative web portal to help SCDs to highlight and clarify available programs for producers. More information will be made available as the program progresses.

Kevin Kading, ND Game & Fish spoke about the Meadowlark Initiative. He also spoke about 2021 habitat conditions which is currently very poor. Also mentioned potential conservation funding sources for SCDs (Recovery America's Wildlife Act, Audubon Forage Program, OHF & EPA 319).

Lynette Flage, PhD, NDSU Extension Director spoke about the two new positions for the Livestock Initiative (*Fargo, Minot REC*). She shared that SBARE (*State Board of Agricultural Research and Education*) has finished prioritization process that will be presented to legislators. SBARE ranked requests including; cropping systems initiatives, livestock development initiatives, more funding for farm/ranch safety and health, more support for 4-H, increased SSCC funding for District Assistance Program & food security initiative. The next SBARE meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2022 in Carrington. Also, SBARE is conducting interviews for two members leaving the board; one in the southeast and one northeast of the state.

Also, there is a \$1 billion funding available (*nationwide*) for the 5-yr project for carbon capture called the Partnership for Climate Smart Commodities with a May 6, 2022 deadline. Extension will be requesting a letter of support for their proposal from the SSCC.

Mary Podoll, USDA-NRCS spoke about EQIP, CRS, CRP, CEP funds available. CEAP is a multi-agency effort to quantify the environmental effects of conservation practices and programs and develop the science base for managing the agricultural landscape for environmental quality (concentrating on areas of prescribed burning, edible beans, sugar beets, salinity).

Matt Lindsay, ND Dept of Water Resources reported that the department is working on drainage permits and flood control projects. He also spoke about the Water Drainage Committee working to clarify drainage laws. Their next meeting is April 11, 2022.

Greg Sandness, NDDEQ relayed that the DEQ is longer within the ND State Health Dept. Greg expressed he was excited to have Lindsay & Jodi on-board to buildup partnerships between the DEQ and the SCDs. Greg also discussed opportunities for SCDs to seek grant funding to support staffing and best management practice installation.

Jesse Thompson, Lincoln-Oakes Nursery spoke reported that all nursery buildings have been updated; humidity systems (*new digital thermostats*) have been installed tree rooms; irrigation system has also been upgraded. He also spoke about the Fish Bowl Program that is designed to track locations, customer orders and deliveries; also in the process of working on a website integration which is slated to be ready in 2023. He reported 600-800 bee hives are being delivered to the Nursery. Currently, the Nursery is battling demand issues and working on prioritizing shipping.

#### **OTHER**

The committee reviewed the operating budget.

The board thanked Jack Spah for his service to the board.

Sandy reported she received a late batch of surface mining reports which have been added to the 2021 report; will be sending to NDSU for publication. She also reported she worked with the ND State Archives and NDIT Records Management in sending 25 boxes of NDSSCC files to the State Archives.

Aaron reported on annual supervisor training – fewer trainees, but outside of an election year; Jodi & Lindsay are working on the Soil Academy Level III training. Aaron asked the committee to give some thought regarding the NDSSCC's membership status with ND Ag Coalition; committee decided to re-visit when Barton is present. Aaron also reported that the quarterly DART reporting was overall good, some counties were late. Aaron asked the board members to reach out to their areas.

Donna questioned the process of how the SCDs are allocated district funds. The committee decided to gather more information about the individual counties. Will be more discussion at future meetings.

**ELECTIONS**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GRANN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO CAST AN UNANIMOUS BALLOT ELECTING WES FREDERICK AS CHAIR OF THE ND STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER GRANN, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER HILL TO CAST AN UNANIMOUS BALLOT ELECTING KELLY KLOSTERMAN AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE ND STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT – IT WAS MOVED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER SOLBERG, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER KLOSTERMAN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:25p. MOTION CARRIED.**

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