

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
JUNE 18, 2009
FIRST WESTERN BANK – 1:00PM
BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717

Call meeting order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Tim Reich-Butte CD, Tom Quinn-NRCS, Bill Anderson-BFID, Thad Berrett-BLM, Yvette King-Butte CD, Ted Parsons-CCNRD, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS, Gary Lemme-SDSU, Sarah Barton-CCNRD, Rod Baumberger-Range Consultant, Matt Stoltenberg-RESPEC and Clint Pitts-BFID.

Absent: Karl Jensen and Dale Lundgren

Tim called the meeting to order and had everyone go around the room and introduce themselves. Tim asked for discussion on the previous meetings minutes, Clint moved to approve, Tim seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

In Karl Jensen's absence, Matt Stoltenberg gave a treasurer's report and no discussion or questions were addressed. Clint moved to approve, Tim seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Jared Oswald was not in attendance so Matt Stoltenberg gave the field report. (See handout on BFRWP Project Summary) The 319 budget is on track. The Segment IV EPA funding has arrived and now the new irrigation applications can be discussed and hopefully funded. CIG Grant – Jared was hoping to get at least 20 producers involved but right now, he has 14 irrigators who are participating in the program. Tanse asked how deep the sensors are placed and Matt answered that it depends on the crop, but a lot of them are set at either 1' or 2'. Some are set at 1' and 3' depending on the rooting depth.

Tim gave a summary on the soil quality/water quality trailer and the demonstrations included in it. He also gave a report on its activity since it arrived on May 20th. Tom Quinn reviewed the email that he received from the NRCS State Office regarding the use of the watershed's trailer by NRCS personnel and the use of NRCS vehicles to pull the trailer.

Tim brought up the upcoming deadline for completion of 2010 proposals for 319 funding. He stated that DENR may be softening their stance on rangeland improvements being funded with 319 funds. Matt stated that DENR seems to be very receptive to any range improvement practices that may have positive impact on riparian areas.

Other Business

Gary Lemme, Soil Scientist, SDSU, reported that he and Roger Gates are working on a "conservation effects on grazing lands" project. They are

working with Scott at the School of Mines and also with NRCS and Conservation Districts as well. In this area, they are looking at one or two reaches of the Redwater River Watershed. This project intends to use data that is already on file. The only new data to be gathered is to be done by a sociologist. Gary asked if the BFRWP would be willing to write a letter of cooperation for inclusion into their project proposal which is scheduled to go in this summer.

Sarah Barton, CCNRD, reported that the TMDL project is getting started but DEQ hasn't held any meetings yet, but are planning to have some soon.

Matt Stoltenberg gave a report on the Riparian Workshop held at Western Dakota Vo-Tech in Sturgis. The workshop was conducted by the National Riparian team. The weather didn't cooperate very well, but the workshop was still very good. Some of the ranchers enrolled, did not show up and because of the weather, field time was very limited.

The next meeting will be held on 8/20/09 at the First Western Bank in Belle Fourche.