

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
AUGUST 22, 2013
MINUTES

Tim Reich called the meeting to order at 10:05am

Present: Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD, Sarah Eggebo-NRCS, Matt Stoltenberg, Steve Fairbairn-USFWS, Bill Anderson-BFID, Nate Jagim-Meade Co W&P, Tim Reich-Butte CD, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS, Dale Lundgren-Elk Creek CD, David Holland-Northwater and Jeff Boeckler-Northwater

Minutes were made available, Karl moved to approve, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Karl presented the treasurer's report, 5 cost-share payments for projects were dispersed and the first installment from Segment 6 was received, Dale moved to approve the treasurer's report, Karl seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

319 Update – Segment V is near completion, as soon as SRF funds are made available the final payouts will be made and then final reports can be submitted. Segment VI - \$273,657 has been invested and \$96,343 remains, the completion date for Segment VI is July 2015, goals for funding and pivots (20) will be met and we are on track for acres as well.

\$15k remains to be invested in riparian projects, following some discussion on whether to invest now or wait until next season and making some additions, Karl moved to approve the additions and invest where appropriate, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

The Grasslands Coalition contract deadline is July of 2015 but the plan is going to be complete this fall.

NRCS stated that they have approximately 80+ applications for EQIP and it was decided that the group would wait to see how funding shakes out before doing another funding round in the spring.

Segment VI Amendments are due Oct. 15th – following discussion adjustments were made in the dollars allocated for Irrigation and Range Riparian projects, Karl moved to approve, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Groundwater Study – Crystal is using available useful data and a final report will be available sometime in October.

Envirothon – A request has been made to extend the Envirothon Pilot Project thru December 2014 and to transfer the remaining dollars to Travel for the International Competition to be held in Georgia late summer 2014.

Anne Lewis will be presenting to the SDACD Annual Convention in Aberdeen, it is an opportunity to get her face out there and hopefully get some buy in from conservation districts in the form of activity rather than funding. Canon has reduced its funding support to scholarships only which means the Envirothon will have depleted its funds by September and they are looking for private funding sources to get through year end. Tim proposed \$1000 support to help bridge the gap. Karl moved to approve, pending fund availability, Dale seconded

Weed Management Group – spring planting of bare root trees and poles, those species with the tree tubes had the best success rate but Whitewood Creek showed 100% mortality on those planted 2 seasons ago. Belle Fourche River looks good and the planting of Prairie Cordgrass appears to be successful and the possibility of being able to transplant may be an option. The group will definitely continue the use of the tree tubes on the cottonwoods. Nate Jagim secured \$8k from the NWTF for supplies (tree tubes and plants) but still need to secure funding for labor. The Marsh Master is in use and the group will re-apply with the W&P Commission for treatment funding in November.

Weather Station – DENR disallowed the \$3k toward funding the weather station, but BOR had funded the weather station in the past and Jared Oswald is looking into that further.

Hills Area CD's nominated Dale Lundgren as their Endowment Honoree, Karl moved to contribute \$200 in support, Tim seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

In other announcements, SDSU has hired an agronomist/entomologist and they will be available Sept/Oct

Northwater Consulting was on hand to present their software model.

SISMA Conference will be held at Oacoma, Cedar Shores, Nov. 18-19
Booth space is available, the group is also looking for sponsors and speakers, Nate Jagim will email the registration and info packet to Yvette.

Adjourned: 12:05

Next meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 3 @ 1pm