

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
DECEMBER 4, 2015
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD

Jerry Boyer-Spearfish Canyon Society

Paul Lepisto-Isaak Walton League

Dennie Mann-Black Hills RC&D

John Carreiro-SD GF&P

Dale Lundgren-Elk Creek CD

Tanse Herrmann-NRCS Sturgis

Tim Reich-Butte CD

Bill Anderson-BFID

Matt Stoltenberg

Tim Olson-SD GF&P

Tom Berdan-SD GF&P

Ron Koth-Barr Engineering

Joe Nichols-USFWS

Dave Ollila-SDSU Ext.

Anitha Chirumamilla-SDSU Ext.

Rutendo Nyamusamba-SDSU Ext.

Phil Kissack-Bowman Ditch

John Rehorst-SD DOT

Spike Jorgensen-Spearfish Creek

Frank Ward-Spearfish Creek

Joe Jorgensen-Spearfish Creek

Michael McGuigan-Cook Ditch

Rick Furnish-Spearfish Creek

Jake Davis-SD GF&P

Joe Neeb-City of Spearfish

Tonya Vig-City of Spearfish

Nate Jagim-Meade W&P

Jared Oswald-RESPEC

Zindie Meyers-Lawrence CD

Sarah Eggebo-NRCS Belle Fourche

Ellen Reddick-Lawrence CD

Due to the large number of new faces in attendance, introductions were made around the table. The minutes were sent out and copies made available, Karl Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Karl Jensen presented the treasurer's report, copies also available, Dale Lundgren moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented, Bill Anderson seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Tim Reich, presented a brief overview of the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership, how it began and how it has progressed to date and list of accomplishments. Tim opened the floor to discussion of the following:

Spearfish Creek Restoration Discussion – Ron Koth-Barr Engineering with assistance from Jared Oswald-RESPEC, gave a brief presentation of the issues concerning landowners, irrigators and other agencies with interest in Spearfish Creek. Over time there have been changes in land usage, transportation infrastructure, irrigation infrastructure, routing of water and ice, wildlife habitat, and water quality and quantity on both public and private lands.

Following the presentation, several parties were given the opportunity to speak for their particular group or operation.

SD DOT – supports efforts to keep the normal flow, in the past have struggled with water and ice events, sediment and freezing

Irrigation Ditch Companies –infrastructure, seeping, need for a new head gate, some folks would like to see additional pipe buried and some diversion work
Fish/Wildlife agencies- the Longnose Sucker has been listed as threatened in SD, habitat is a concern and would like to see cooperative management on public and private lands

City of Spearfish-monitoring property directly on Spearfish Creek w/in city limits
Preservation of Spearfish Creek is the common denominator with all of the groups and finding a way to work together for the common goal is the idea.

The BFRWP is available to provide some guidance and advised forming a group and getting organized in order proceed and emphasized that the partnership did not happen overnight nor did all of the success.

Tim and Karl jointly spoke on the Watershed Legislative Committee Work, the proposal to create 9 watershed districts across the state, 4 west river and 5 east river. The idea of having conservation districts on these boards, as these are direct links to the projects being put on the ground, would be beneficial.

Matt Stoltenberg updated the group on the Segment VI budget and \$70k is left to invest in projects and this will be addressed in early spring. Matt also mentioned a successful tour at the Monte Reichert operation this past fall.

A request to attend the Vale Ag Show was presented, Karl moved to approve the \$135 expenditure, Bill seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Vale Ag Show will be held Jan. 14th. Finally, Matt reviewed the presentation for Segment 7 to the Non-point Source Task Force scheduled for December 9th in Pierre.

Russian Olive Demo – funding has been set aside via the Dept. of Ag to develop a demo site for Russian Olive Control in lieu of grant funding. Nate Jagim, Meade W&P will address this with the weed management group to assist in developing the project.

West River No-Till Council approached with a request for sponsorship of their next meeting slated for Dec. 15th, Bill moved to approve \$150 toward the event, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Next meeting scheduled for March 5, 2015, First Interstate Bank, BF