

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
JANUARY 19, 2023, MEETING @ 1:00PM
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK, BELLE FOURCHE
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Cliff Conry-Butte CD, Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD, Connie McPherson-Elk Creek CD, Valeria Riter-NRCS, Dave Ollila-SDSHC, Jo Knutson-NRCS, Olivia Lappin-BCR, Steve Fuller-USGS, Joe Nichols-USFWS, Lori Brown-TNC, Justin Boerboom-RUC NRCS, Tristan Clements-BFID, Tyler Swan-NRCS, Justin Krajewski-RESPEC, Tim Reich-Butte CD, and Yvette Kirkman-Butte CD/BFRWP

Approval of Agenda/Minutes – Karl moved to approve the agenda & September minutes, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Approval of Treasurer’s Report – Connie moved to approve the financial report and pay bills as presented, Tristan second, all in favor, motion carried

Grants Update

SDDANR 319 Segment 10

Segment 10 Budget Summary – Handout #3

-1 contract obligated

Audit Services

-estimated investment of \$20k, following discussion, board unanimously agree to retain CPA Ltd. Services

2023 BFRWP Cost Docket

-review of the docket, matching funds from BFID project, contract supplement updated, Connie moved to approve the docket, Karl second, all in favor, motion carried

Segment 10 Contracts

-1 additional contract and an amendment to previously obligated contract to use the current docket, Karl moved to approve, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Comments for SD DANR 2022 319 Guidelines Manual

-Justin reviewed and commented (Procurement, Rotational Grazing, Riparian Grazing, Shade, Project Payments to Producers, Fencing/Water, Priority Area)

NRCS Update

RCPP Applications/Contracts – Batching Dec 15, eligibility letter deadline Feb. 3, fall contracts EQIP/CIS – Butte Pipeline grant and Lawrence Forestry

BFID Update

2023 Irrigation Water Supply – dam currently at 71%, allotments start March/April @ 18”

Pipeline Projects – 6000 ft installed and 5 more fall projects

PPD’s – constant flow of projects

Partner Reports

- Lawrence CD – hosting water meeting in Spearfish Jan 26
- Elk Creek CD – no employee, dealing with new solar farm on Alkali Rd., Commission reading on Jan 24th, addressing impact on county roads and section line closures, solar goes to BH Energy but residents are on WRE
- Sturgis NRCS – Valerie reported on CIS
- Dave Ollila, SDSHC – 2023 Conference in Sioux Falls, 2024 in Rapid City, searching for topics
- Olivia Lappin, BCR – meeting with Matt and Mitch learning the ropes, Mandi and Jessica had been working on a CIS with bird focus
- Steve Fuller, USGS – National Initiatives, new National Water Dashboard (legacy pages will end in July), data collection with cameras at stream gauges in the Dakota's
- Joe Nichols, USFWS – NFWF funds, not much of a budget, some project potential in Meade, Perkins, Harding, Butte, Lawrence
- Lori Brown, TNC – New Landowner Guide to Managing Streams, good landowner tool, moving forward will be doing workshops and tours
- Justin Boerboom, NRCS RUC – Intro to Grazing in August Butte/Lawrence, Youth Rangeland Days Butte, Hugh Hammond Bennett Award requesting contributions for travel for award winner, cannot announce until after National Convention, Karl moved to approve \$250, Tristan second, all in favor, motion carried
- BLM – reclamation project off of Hwy 212 west, public, private and state lands, 1600 acres, no top soil, large pits, water, needing baseline data through sampling, monitoring and surveys

Upcoming Events

Black Hills Planners Conference, West River SDPA Luncheon, Barn At Aspen Acres, Jan. 27th
Lawrence CD Water Meeting January 26 @ Hudson Hall, 6-8pm

*Collegiate Soils Competition funding request made in March via email, Karl moved to approve \$100, Tim/Connie/Tristan second, all in favor motion carried

Adjourned: 2:35pm

Next Meeting: April 20 @ 1pm, First Interstate Bank, BF

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
March 29-30, 2023 – ONLINE MINUTES

On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 4:20 PM, Justin Krajewski emailed a request “FYR - BFRWP 2023-Irr-S10-2 Irrigation Contract Approval?” to consider a motion to approve the following contract item and to authorize the chair’s signature when the contract is signed by the producers.

To: MCPHERSON CONNIE (conniemc54@yahoo.com); Tim Reich (timreich@rushmore.com); bfidtristan@sdplains.com; Swan, Tyler - NRCS, Belle Fourche, SD <Tyler.Swan@usda.gov>; Kirkman, Yvette - NRCS-CD, Belle Fourche, SD (Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net) <yvette.kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net>; Roeber, Alex <Alex.Roeber@state.sd.us>

On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 4:25 PM, Karl Jensen emailed to move to approve the contract.
On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 4:49 PM, Connie McPherson second it and approve Karl’s motion.
On Thursday, March 30, 2023, 1:46 PM, Tristan Clements emailed and voted yes on the motion.
On Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 8:44 PM, Tim Reich emailed the motion/2nd and approves.

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
APRIL 20, 2023, MEETING @ 1PM
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK, BELLE FOURCHE
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Maggie Syversen-NRCS, Karl Jensen-Law CD, Connie McPherson-Elk Creek CD, Valerie Riter-NRCS, Jo Knutson-NRCS, Joe Nichols-USFWS, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS, Tristan Clements-BFID, Tyler Swan-NRCS, Justin Krajewski-BFRWP Coordinator, Tim Reich-Butte CD and Yvette Kirkman-Butte CD/BFRWP

Introductions

Approval of Agenda & Minutes – Karl moved to approve the current agenda and minutes of the January meeting, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Treasurer's Report – Connie moved to approve the treasurer's report, Tristan second, all in favor, motion carried

Grants Update

SDDANR 319 Segment 10

- Budget – Justin Krajewski reviewed budget, 2 Irr projects approved and in progress, Range/Rip- 1 project approved and in progress
- IWM Projects – 12 Contracts were presented, Karl moved to approve all, Tristan second, all in favor, motion carried

NRCS Update

RCPP – 44 applications with 15-16 being eligible, funding to be obligated by Sept

\$570k (9 pivots) \$623k total to obligate
\$236k for BFID lateral/pipe and \$396k for irrigation&soil health
New RCPP proposal due in July

EQIP – 2 applications pre-approved, IRA deadline is next week

BFID

Current water supply – 94%, flow of 260 cfs, 1.3ft from full

May 10 – 18” will be the recommended irrigation allotment

Sept 29 – turn off date or level below 50%

PPD's are still taking a little time but improving

Pipeline Projects – 3 proposed, 3 future projects, 1 new project added due to cost

Partner Reports

USFWS – Joe Nichols, minimal budget, left over projects from last year priority

NACD – Karl Jensen noted that the summer meeting will be in Bismarck in July
Elk Creek – new employee will start July, Rural School Day successful, 100 students
Lawrence CD – meeting coming up with Forest Service, Zeppelin project located
south of the Chimera project, includes Elk Creek CD area

Other Business

Tanse Herrmann shared that the demo trailer had been repaired and receipts
would be coming, Tim suggested to have the trailer wrapped or new skin installed
due to the latest weather events, Tanse also noted that NE Grassland Coalition is
being formed and SD is helping with the inaugural program

Hugh Hammond Bennett Northern Plains Award Winner – Riley Kammerer

Dave Ollila and Shawn Freeland working with Belle Valley Irrigation

**BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
JULY 20, 2023 @ 1PM
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK, BELLE FOURCHE
MINUTES**

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1:04pm

Present: Emily Gray-Smith-Elk Creek, Karl Jensen-Lawrence, Maggie Syversen-NRCS, Connie McPherson-Elk Creek, Bill Eastman-GFP, Joe Nicholas-USFWS, Valerie Riter-NRCS, Tyler Swan-NRCS, Justin Krajewski-RESPEC, Tim Reich, and Yvette Kirkman

Absent: Tristan Clements-BFID

Approval of Minutes – Connie moved to approve the minutes of the April meeting, Karl second, all in favor, motion carried

Treasurer’s Report – Connie moved to approve the treasurer’s report, Karl second, all in favor, motion carried

Grants Update

Segment 10 PIP Amend – additional funding has become available, partnership is able to invest those funds, budget amendment will be submitted, signature will be required, Connie moved to approve Chairman signature on approved amendment when it is received, Karl second, all in favor, motion carried

Segment 10 Budget – Krajewski reviewed the amended budget, noting 2 pivot projects and 3 IWM sensor projects approved and in progress, 1 riparian/range project approved and in progress

Segment 10 Apps and Contracts – board reviewed applications and rankings, Karl moved to approve top 7 projects and move forward as funding allows, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Krajewski presented a contract extension, extension would be to December 31, 2023, Karl moved to approve, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

BFRWP CCG – contract is complete, waiting on final report and updates to matching funds table.

NRCS Update

Valerie Riter, Sturgis NRCS – updated on Forestry CIS, Curlew Lake project, 1 general EQIP-CRP Grasslands

Maggie Syversen, Belle Fourche NRCS – announced new Pheasants Forever employee, Derek Hartl, updates on 2 late funded EQIP, RCPP 11 apps to rank and 4-5 CIS, 2 Forestry contracts, beginning farmer high tunnel and sage grouse/grassland birds

BFID Update

Tristan was unavailable, BFID applied for RCPP and design is ready to submit to NRCS

Partner Reports

Joe Nichols – no projects in the watershed

Bill Eastman – water development budget is a little bit lower, cost share for access program, second century plantings, and tree establishment at 75% cost share up to \$20K

Next Meeting: December 7 @ 1pm, First Interstate Bank, BF

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
August 14, 2023 – ONLINE MINUTES

On Monday, August 14, 2023, 10:15 AM, Justin Krajewski emailed a request “FYR - Kammerer Ranch Tour August 23rd and Donation Request?” to consider a motion to donate towards the expenses for the Kammerer Ranch Tour.

From: Justin Krajewski [mailto:Justin.Krajewski@respec.com]

Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:15 AM

To: MCPHERSON CONNIE (conniemc54@yahoo.com) <conniemc54@yahoo.com>; Tim Reich (timreich@rushmore.com) <timreich@rushmore.com>; bfidtristan@sdplains.com; Karl Jensen <kfjensensd@gmail.com>

Cc: Kirkman, Yvette - NRCS-CD, Belle Fourche, SD <Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net>; Riter, Valerie - NRCS, Sturgis, SD <valerie.riter@usda.gov>

Subject: FYR - Kammerer Ranch Tour August 23rd and Donation Request?

On Monday, August 14, 2023, 11:02 AM, Tristan Clements emailed to move to donate \$250. On Monday, August 14, 2023, 1:43 PM, Karl Jensen emailed and seconded Tristan’s motion. On Monday, August 14, 2023, 2:31 PM, Connie McPherson emailed and voted yes on the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
September 15-16, 2023 – ONLINE MINUTES

On Friday, September 15, 2023, 12:16 PM, Justin Krajewski emailed a request “FYR - DRAFT BFRWP Segment 10 PIP Amendment” to consider a motion to approve the BFRWP Segment 10 Project Implementation Plan (PIP) Amendment requesting \$899,000 in 319 dollars to be expended by August 2025 and submit to the SD DANR by October 1st for funding consideration.

From: Justin Krajewski

Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 12:16 PM

To: MCPHERSON CONNIE (conniemc54@yahoo.com) <conniemc54@yahoo.com>; bfidtristan@sdplains.com; Karl Jensen <kfjensensd@gmail.com>; Tim Reich (timreich@rushmore.com) <timreich@rushmore.com>

Cc: Riter, Valerie - NRCS, Sturgis, SD <valerie.riter@usda.gov>; Syversen, Maggie - FPAC-NRCS, SD <Maggie.syversen@usda.gov>; Kirkman, Yvette - NRCS-CD, Belle Fourche, SD (Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net) <Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net>

Subject: FYR - DRAFT BFRWP Segment 10 PIP Amendment

On Friday, September 15, 2023, 12:31 PM, Karl Jensen emailed to move to approve the Segment 10 amendment and submit to SD DANR. On Friday, September 15, 2023, 1:00 PM, Connie McPherson emailed and seconded Karl’s motion. On Saturday, September 16, 2023, 6:43 AM, Tristan Clements emailed and voted yes on the motion. On Friday, September 15, 2023, 10:30 PM, Tim Reich emailed that we have a motion/2nd and majority votes yes to approve the amendment application.

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
November 3, 2023 – ONLINE MINUTES

On Friday, November 3, 2023, 10:45 AM, Justin Krajewski emailed a request “Board Action Requested - BFRWP Revised Cost Docket, Irrigation Contract Modification, New Riparian/Rangeland Contract Approval Needed” to consider a motion to approve the following items:

1. Request board to revise the 2023 BFRWP 319 Cost Share Docket to include Pumping Plant (533) for Irrigation with a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) or a Single-to-Three Phase Converter at 50% not to exceed a Unit Cost of \$5,062.53?
2. Request board to approve a contract modification to \$8,946 to the BFRWP 2023-Irr-S10-4 irrigation contract for additional pivot system length of 75 feet, a telemetry enabled flow meter, and a single to three phase power converter?
3. Request board to approve a new contract BFRWP 2023-Rng-S10-10 riparian/rangeland contract for installing livestock water pipelines, four livestock waterers, a concrete livestock tank, and fencing along Horse Creek?

From: Justin Krajewski

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 10:45 AM

To: MCPHERSON CONNIE (conniemc54@yahoo.com) <conniemc54@yahoo.com>; Karl Jensen <kfjensensd@gmail.com>; bfdtristan@sdplains.com; Tim Reich (timreich@rushmore.com) <timreich@rushmore.com>

Cc: Kirkman, Yvette - NRCS-CD, Belle Fourche, SD (Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net)

<Yvette.Kirkman@sd.nacdnet.net>; Syversen, Maggie - FPAC-NRCS, SD

<Maggie.syversen@usda.gov>; Riter, Valerie - NRCS, Sturgis, SD <valerie.riter@usda.gov>; Swan,

Tyler - NRCS, Belle Fourche, SD <Tyler.Swan@usda.gov>; Roeber, Alex <Alex.Roeber@state.sd.us>

Subject: Board Action Requested - BFRWP Revised Cost Docket, Irrigation Contract Modification, New Riparian/Rangeland Contract Approval Needed

On Friday, November 3, 2023, 11:17 AM, Karl Jensen emailed to move to approve the three items. On Friday, November 3, 2023, 11:43 AM, Connie McPherson emailed and seconded Karl’s motion to approve. On Friday, November 3, 2023, 10:00 PM, Tim Reich emailed that we have a motion/2nd and approval for these 3 changes.

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
DECEMBER 14, 2023 @ 1PM
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK, BELLE FOURCHE
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD, Tristan Clements-BFID, Steve Fuller-USGS, Connie McPherson-Elk Creek CD, Kristin May-BCR, Valerie Riter-NRCS, Tyler Swan-NRCS, Zach Grant-NRCS, Derek Hartl-PF, Carlie Grine-BLM, Mieke Bruch-BLM, Bill Eastman-GFP, Joe Nichols-USFWS, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS, Justin Krajewski-Project Coordinator, Tim Reich-Butte CD and Yvette Kirkman-BFRWP Admin

Introductions were made around the table

Approval of Agenda/Minutes – Karl moved to approve the agenda and minutes of the July meeting, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Treasurer's Report – Tristan moved to approve the financial report, Connie second, all in favor, motion carried

Grants Update –

SD Conservation Commission – Multi County Ditch to Pipe grant was fully funded (\$30k) during the last grant round, 4-5 larger projects will be completed

SD Nonpoint Source Task Force Meeting – Segment 10 PIP Amendment, fully funded at \$899k thru August 2025

NRCS RCPP – PPA Amendment, minor amendment on the date of the contract, extended to Dec. 8, 2024

SD DANR 319 Segment 10 – Justin Krajewski reviewed the budget summary with amendments, Contract/Project summary, 3 pivot projects complete, 8 projects approved and in progress, Range/Riparian projects, 1 complete and 6 approved and in progress, of note, waiting on NRCS cost list

NRCS Update – Valerie working on CSP renewals, EQIP rankings working from smaller to larger fund pools, Tyler working on CSP, 8 EQIP and sorting through 120 applications and waiting on the cost list to rank and obligate contracts

BFID Update – Tristan reported that Orman Dam is at 82% currently, district converted 5000' ditch to pipe, 20-25 miles of open ditch have been cleaned

Partner Reports –

Elk Creek CD – Connie reported that the Rural School Day has been scheduled for April, Meade Co Commissioner Gary Deering has been very active in attending district meetings and showing support for the district, currently without an employee but actively searching

Lawrence CD – Karl reported on his trip to Washington DC, NACD Annual Convention is coming up in San Diego, the districts forestry application with the Conservation Commission was fully funded for 2024

USFWS – Butte projects include pond repairs and cross fencing that fall within the watershed

GFP – seeding projects, access and habitat programs available, wire winder will be available for those removing woven wire, currently have 12 Biologists in the state

USGS – reported on a new stream gauge in Annie Creek in Spearfish Canyon, Whitewood Creek in Deadwood, there are 61 stream gauges with federal priority, 40 of which are funded, criteria for federal priority are flood, drought and land use

Tanse, NRCS – Tanse reported on the use of the watershed demo trailer, between Aug 2022 and Sept 2023, 33 presentations and approximately 600 contacts, highlight presentation to the Leadership Cohort for the Belle Fourche Economic Development, Tanse suggested developing a 2 page guide for set up and operation of the trailer for demos.

BLM – Carlie and Mieke are the new range specialists, announced Chip Kimball will retire in March, aged out dam and dugout projects, salinity and veg production, bentonite reclamation

Pheasants Forever – working on EQIP with wildlife component, sage grouse initiative, partner with GFP on walking PATH program

Bird Conservancy – assisting NRCS with contracts and working on upcoming presentations

SD DANR – Tanner Klaussen working on Riparian Buffer Initiative

Yvette noted that the partnership is out of promotional items for events, Karl moved to approve \$2000, Tristan second, all in favor, motion carried

Soil Health Conference coming up on January 23-24, Tristan moved to approve \$400 booth support, Karl second, all in favor, motion carried

Adjourned @ 2:30pm Next Meeting: March 14 @ 1pm