

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
APRIL 16, 2020 – 2PM
ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE
MINUTES

Meeting called to order @ 2pm by Tim Reich

Roll Call – Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD, Cliff Conry-Butte CD, Dale Lundgren-Elk Creek CD, John Heisler-BFID, Alex Roeber-DENR, Kris Dozark-DENR, Justin Boerboom-NRCS, Tate Lantz-NRCS, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS, Victor Tuschen-NRCS, Dave Ollila-SDSHC, Jenn Lutze-BCR, Lori Brown-TNC, Matt Gottlob-PF, Melissa Greenwalt-PF, Matt Stoltenberg-Stoltenberg Services/BFRWP, Justin Krajewski-RESPE/BFRWP, Jeff Zimprich-NRCS, Tim Reich-Butte CD and Yvette Kirkman-Butte CD/BFRWP

Approval of Agenda – Karl Jensen moved to approve, John Heisler seconded, all in favor, motion carried

Approval of Minutes – Karl Jensen moved to approve, Dale Lundgren seconded, all in favor, motion carried

Treasurer’s Report – John Heisler moved to approve, Karl Jensen seconded, all in favor, motion carried

SD Envirothon Update – Due to the COVID-19 situation, the SD State Competition has been cancelled and subsequently NCF has made the decision to cancel the International Competition to be held in Nebraska in July. Nebraska will host the 2021 competition instead. Tim reported that the Conservation Commission funds for the 2020 competition have been reverted and the Butte CD will submit for 2021 at the fall grant round, will also be discussing funding with NRCS.

NRCS Updates

*RCPP 2020 – \$1.6 million in RCPP funds were awarded with \$1.6 million in partner match, over a 3-year period to begin in 2021

*1619 Forms will be mailed out to the board members and support staff for signature, to ensure confidentiality of information passed between the two groups

*CIS – Justin Krajewski noted the letters of support for the submission of the CIS application

*CCGA 2018 request for extension to complete the remaining surveys and submission of a 2020 CCGA application to continue the project to cover all follow-ups on implementation. Karl Jensen moved to approve the request for extension and the application for additional funds to continue the project, John Heisler seconded, all in favor, motion carried

319 Update

Justin Krajewski presented a revised PIP, adding \$83k to the budget, Karl moved to approve the amendment, John seconded, all in favor, motion carried

Justin Krajewski shared handout #6, with preliminary project rankings, with SHPO approvals and cost estimates yet to be done before final rankings

Other Business – Partner Reports

*Kriz Dozark & Alex Roeber-DENR – noted that the Seg. 9 amendment would need to be submitted in the next couple of months, no additions or reductions were made in the water quality assessment

*Justin Boerboom-NRCS – introduced Victor Tuschen as the new DC in the Belle Fourche field office, quickly touched on CSP renewals, rankings, and the COVID-19 situation and how it was affecting the offices

*Tanse Herrmann-NRCS – congratulated the area on submitting 9 CIS proposals

*Dave Ollila-SDSHC – mentioned area workshops, rangeland days has been cancelled, soil health school to be held in Mitchell is still up in the air, he is also available as a consultant on range practices

*Matt Gottlob-PF – assisted with the submission of one of the CIS proposals, working on a project in Harding County, will be assisting the State GIS specialist with updating the Sage Grouse habitat areas, promoting Sage Grouse program in general

*Lori Brown-TNC – applying for an NRCS CCG to develop a user-friendly stream guide for understanding western streams, looking into low tech/low cost erosion techniques, and working on a riparian restoration pilot project for the summer

*Melissa Greenwalt-PF – working on CSP's, held software planning workshops in Faith, Bison and Buffalo, assisting with the partner program addressing the long-billed curlew

*Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD – noted that it was questionable whether they would be having their summer meeting in ND

*Tate Lantz-NRCS – congratulated everyone on the RCPP and thanked everyone for the hard work putting in the CIS applications, there were 9 for this area, Spearfish Creek group interested in working on an irrigation system

*John Heisler-BFID – the irrigation district is prepping structures and cleaning ditches for the upcoming season

*Jenn Lutze-BCR – will be working on some grant writing for landowners via SGI

*Victor Tuschen-NRCS – new DC in the Belle Fourche office, introduced himself

Next tentatively scheduled meeting will be May 28th, will update whether it will be via teleconference or face to face