

MINUTES
NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LINCOLN-OAKES NURSERY, BISMARCK, ND
September 22, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President James Teigen at 10:13am.

ATTENDANCE: Dennis Reich, Edward Hauf, LeAnn Harner, Dennis Haugen, Marc Schriefer, Aaron Smestad, Curtiss Klein, Richard Faught, James Teigen

ABSENT: James Cart

OTHERS ATTENDING: John Glover, Acting NRCS State Conservationist
Scott Hochhalter, NDSU Extension, NDSSCC
Greg Morgenson, Nurseries Manager
Tom Hanson, NDASCD Executive Director
Kathy Henriksen, Association Secretary

James Teigen welcomed and introduced John Glover, Acting State Conservationist and Board introductions were made.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

June 22, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes:

Corrections to June 22, 2009 Minutes:

1. Page 2 under BUDGET – 1st line delete the word *along*. Line 1 should read: Tom and Greg presented the budget.
2. Page 2 in the motion, Marc Schriefer's name was misspelled.
3. Page 4: LEGISLATIVE ADJUSTMENTS – To include in all motions: All directors present voted aye.

President James Teigen declared the June 22, 2009 Board meeting minutes approved as corrected.

July 13, 2009 Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes.

President James Teigen declared the minutes approved as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Hanson presented the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the monthly financial statements sent to the Directors. This budget year seedling prices were increased. The staff is working hard to keep expenses down. The Board discussed the outstanding accounts receivables.

NURSERIES MANAGER REPORT

Greg Morgenson reported weeds have been a problem at both nurseries. Harvesting will begin when the leaves drop. Seed collection is ongoing at both nurseries. He reported there is a heavy fruit crop this year. Seed sales are down. At this time, cuttings of certain species are being done. The tree order forms were emailed and mailed to the districts on September 5. Order forms have been sent out to 10-11 state conservation districts, agencies, etc. Lee Nursery is bankrupt. Greg reported we had a small increase of sales from Lee's customers. Cascade Nursery in Iowa owes \$6,000. We have issued a final judgment. He reported an increase of 10% on seedlings. Greg stated there are numerous state nurseries closing. The labor issues continue to be a major problem. Deer population is down this fall. Greg reported he and his wife Lynn attended the ND Forest Service Trees Bowl at NDSU where he received the Distinguished Service Award at half time of the NDSU football game. Dr. Dale Herman nominated him and Greg was very appreciative of the award. The Board members congratulated him and stated it was a well deserved award.

10:30am - Break

10:50am The meeting was reconvened

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A note from Debra Bogar thanking us for hosting the Northern Plains Regional meeting in Bismarck.
2. SBARE – received a notification of fall input sessions which is their process of preparing our recommendations by receiving input from stakeholders and individuals planning for ND Legislative session. We are invited to attend one of the input sessions in October 23-24 or November 20. Tom will attend one of these meetings to support NDASCD's position. It was suggested to contact commodity groups for support. The Board agreed Tom Hanson should attend meetings to present our position to SBARE. It would provide continuity and also Board members are encouraged to attend.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tom Hanson gave the Executive report. (see pages 6-7)

He updated the Board on his work concerning Living Snow Fence. Tom has submitted an article for Farm and Ranch Guide. Tom highlighted the meeting with Jeff Blackwood on August 19th.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Scott Hochhalter reported on the current programs with the committee. He reported all 55 SCDs received funding from the Forest Service Grant funding. The SSCC meeting was held in July. The standing committee assignments were made. A teleconference call with Duane Hauck took place at this meeting, which he explained the extension budgetary process. Scott reported he has visited districts this summer. Some of the points of interest for districts are cover

crops, aerators and putting CRP back into production. Scott also mentioned that many SCDs have been meeting with County Commissioners. These discussions have been productive and his hope is that a more beneficial relationship will evolve because of these meetings,

NOON – Lunch

12:45pm – the meeting reconvened

NRCS REPORT

John Glover, Acting State Conservationist reported on the activities of NRCS since the last meeting. He updated the board on the appointment process for a state conservationist. Mr. Glover reported it would be 2-8 weeks after the selection process when the new state conservationist would be in ND working. Mr. Glover stated agreements with SCDs are more tailored to meet local needs. He said the RC&Ds are very active in North Dakota and involved in many projects. He mentioned special EQIP monies being used for flooding and ring dikes. Mr. Glover stated he has enjoyed the role of Acting State Conservationist in North Dakota.

Dave Archer ARS, Agriculture Economist presented a very informative power point presentation on Bio energy/fuel. Dave reported there is a new field study on BioEnergy/fuel Cropping Study on Hwy 6.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

NACD REPORT

Richard Faught reported he was unable to attend the NACD Summer Legislative Conference and Board Meeting in Washington, D. C. in July because his mother was seriously ill. He reported NACD is seeking more funding, updated the board on LINCPASS, the Accreditation Program and the Urban and Resolution Policy committee.

AUDIT REPORT

Carl Kvanvig, Capital Accounting presented the Audit Report and reviewed the management letter. Mr. Kvanvig will also be presenting this report at the Business Meeting during the Annual Meeting in November.

**LeAnn Harner moved to accept the Auditor's Report. Dennis Reich seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye. Absent: James Cart
The motion passed.**

PMC Greenhouse Tour

Wayne Duckwitz took the board and others on a tour of the newly constructed greenhouse which he hopes to be completed in the next couple of months. Also, the new site for a new storage building with construction starting soon was toured.

Dedication of living memorial to Roy LaFramboise

Greg Morgenson chose three trees (Siberian stone pine) to be planted on the south side of Lincoln-Oakes Nursery as a living legacy in memory to Roy LaFramboise. Folks shared memories and stories about Roy. Tom Claeys, ND Forest Service stated they will provide a plaque.

CONVENTION REVIEW

Rhonda Vetsch and Randy Myers representing the Employees Association joined the meeting.

Tom Hanson reported Governor Hoeven is unable to present the Keynote address but will consider giving a greeting. It was suggested a panel from NDSU and SBARE present the keynote.

Tom stated Debra Bogar will not be attending the Annual Meeting but Jack Majeres, NACD Secretary/Treasurer from South Dakota will attend.

Rhonda and Randy suggested some future topics for the convention. One is a session on the role of supervisors and another one is how to market our districts. Susan Schultz, NACD would be a contact person for this topic. Richard Faught suggested we provide an onsite accreditation booth in the courtyard at the convention for the supervisors. It was suggested to contact Dan Folske to assist with this booth.

Inspirational Service

Curtiss Klein asked for suggestions on possible speakers for the Inspiration service. University of Mary's president, Father Shea or Father LaFramboise were suggested. James Teigen will contact Father LaFramboise.

Rhonda and Randy asked if the Employees Association in the future could have more input into the convention planning. Rhonda reported she is working on an Employee handbook and would like to continue having an insert in the NDASCD newsletter periodically. Rhonda reported on some of the topics for their training events. They will have their auction at the convention but are also having a 50/50 raffle.

Tom handed out the depreciation schedule and a listing of salaries for fulltime employees which were requested by board member Marc Schriefer.

CONTINGENCY PLAN

The Board members discussed the plan. Dennis Haugen stated we should be looking for positive innovative ideas for other production on the nursery land. He will investigate some of these ideas and get back to Tom. Dennis Haugen suggested we try to improve the negative bottom line and have Greg look for other markets. It was suggested Tom Hanson and James Teigen work on a presentation for the Convention on the State of the Association.

An update on the Carbon Credit Verification program was presented to the Board. All materials are on the Farmer's Union website.

JUDGE AWARDS:

District Employee: Betty Solberg, Towner County SCD
Layperson: Vincent Dawley, Cavalier County SCD
Communication: Francis Karnik, Walsh County Three Rivers SCD
Professional: Fred Nass, Bowman-Slope SCD

NACD ANNUAL MEETING

Dennis Haugen moved to send Richard Faught, NACD Board member and James Teigen, NDASCD President to the NACD Annual meeting, January 31 - February 3, 2010 in Orlando Florida. Marc Schriefer seconded the motion.

The Board members present voted aye; Dennis Reich, Dennis Haugen, Edward Hauf, Marc Schriefer, LeAnn Harner, Aaron Smestad and James Teigen; Curtiss Klein voted no and Richard Faught and James Cart were absent. The motion passed.

Pembina County SCD correspondence:

A letter from the Pembina County SCD supervisors was shared with the Board. It was discussed.

Aaron Smestad moved to reject their request of not paying their bill of \$2644.00 and send a letter to the Pembina County SCD supervisors explaining the Board's decision. Dennis Reich seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye. Absent: Richard Faught and James Cart

President James Teigen declared the meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Curtiss Klein,
Secretary

Recorded by
Kathy Henriksen
Association Secretary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

September 22, 2009

June

23	RC&D Salinity meeting	Jamestown
24	NRCS Leadership Team	Bismarck
25	Area IV Annual Meeting	Napoleon

July

8	Area III Annual Meeting	Towner
9	NDSU Soils and Forestry Depts.	Fargo
13	Web Developer meeting	LON
13	Special NDASCD meeting (conference call)	
14-15	Biomass Conference	Grand Forks
16	ARS Focus Group	Mandan
19	Past President's picnic	LON
20-23	SARE Workshop	Des Moines, IA
24	SSCC	LON
30	ND Forest Service	Bismarck

August

18	Senator Dorgan's office	Bismarck
19	Tour SCDs with Jeff Blackwood	Bismarck, Jamestown
20	Senator Conrad's office	Bismarck
24	Assoc. of Counties	Bismarck
25	Bismarck/Burleigh Public Health agreement	Bismarck
31	Congressman Pomeroy's office	Bismarck

Sept.

9	Web Developer meeting	LON
10	NPSP 319 meeting	Bismarck
11	Meet with auditor	LON
14	Meet Acting State Conservationist	NRCS
17	Achievement Award proof selection	Bismarck
21	SARE project meeting with instructors	Mandan

Living Snow Fence

Significant time has been spent seeking funding for living snow fence and other items with the Congressional delegation offices and agencies and organizations in North Dakota. These meetings have sought to use future “stimulus” monies as well as other potential legislation for this. The recent EPA study may be another potential source. Another option is to introduce this as an initiative in separate legislation.

Salinity

A meeting with the NDSU School of Natural Resource Sciences (primarily the Soils Department) was held to determine if the department was still supportive of seeking a salinity position through the SBARE prioritization process. We also inquired about the need for a soil microbiologist. Both of these initiatives will be developed by the department and NDASCD will be promoting these initiatives this fall/winter when SBARE seeks input from organizations. Our intent is to also press the need for an additional forestry researcher in the School of Natural Resource Sciences.

Jeff Blackwood

Senator Dorgan’s aide for agricultural affairs in the Washington, D.C. office, Jeff Blackwood, visited the SCD office in Bismarck and heard from three SCDs (Burleigh, Morton, and Oliver) regarding their office workings and programs they are involved in. At Jamestown, he met with the Stutsman, Foster, and Barnes SCDs. At both sites a short tour was given to acquaint him with projects/programs within the Burleigh and Stutsman SCDs.