

MINUTES
NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LINCOLN-OAKES NURSERY, BISMARCK, ND
March 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Keith Bartholomay at 8:09am.

ATTENDANCE: Keith Bartholomay, Albert Wood, Rocky Bateman, Kelly Froelich, Kent Pedersen, Jeff Aalund, Richard Knopp, Roger Christenson, Perry Bollum

Absent: Julius Wangler

OTHERS ATTENDING: Brian Johnston, CEO
Mary Podoll, NRCS State Conservationist
Bruce Schmidt, NDSU Extension Specialist – NDSSCC
Jill Howard, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist – Partnership
Coordinator
Whitney Huesers, Farm Bill Specialist Supervisor
Bill Elhard, Bismarck Nursery Manager
Sarah Tunge, NDCDEA/Mercer County SCD Manager
Kathy Henriksen, NDASCD Secretary

Approval of December 10, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Kent Pedersen moved to approve the December 10, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes. Jeff Aalund seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS Report

Mary Podoll, NRCS State Conservationist reported on the NRCS programs and activities. She updated the Board on the Restructure Process. The State Technical Meeting is scheduled for March 12. Jill Howard reported on the Conservation Collaborative Grants which were due February 20.

NDSSCC Report (available)

Bruce Schmidt highlighted his written report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Todd Klee reviewed the report which was sent out to the Board members prior to the meeting. President Bartholomay appointed the Audit Committee of Roger Christenson, Jeff Aalund and Richard Knopp to work with Todd in choosing a firm for an audit. Todd reported he will contact 3-4 firms for a bid and get the information to the Committee to review and make a recommendation to the Board.

Rocky Bateman moved to approve the financial report as distributed and reviewed. Richard Knopp seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

NDCDEA Report

In the absence of President Ryan Thorson, Sarah Tunge reported on the NDCDEA activities and programs. She reviewed the Capitol Day held on a stormy evening on January 30th. Approximately 30 in attendance. The districts employees would like not like to take the leadership role in the 2021 Capitol Day. They will continue to support it but not the planning. Sarah reported she and Rhonda Kelsch attended the NACD meeting and updated the Board on Bootcamp. Tree Promotion was well attended and thanked Bill for attending for a time of Q and A. She reported the District Employees are working on an Outdoor Heritage Grant due in May.

9:51am: Break

10:06am: Reconvened the meeting

NACD Report (available)

Roger reviewed his written report. Discussed the 2020 Summer Board Meeting and some options for tours, meetings, etc. It was suggested to host the Northern Plains Meeting in Bismarck at the same time and possibly having the Area Meetings at this time. Keith Bartholomay appointed a committee to work on the 2020 Meeting: Roger Christenson, Keith Bartholomay, Chr., Jeff Aalund, Rhonda Kelsch, Mary Podoll, Ryan Thorson, and Darrell Oswald

Jeff Aalund reported on his attendance at NACD as a Soil Health Champion. He suggested we ask Climate Hub to be a Convention sponsor. Talked about the “Come up Project” and how they work with men at risk to work on farms and ranches. Richard Knopp reported the auction item cowhide/leather handbag went for \$325.

President Report

Keith Bartholomay reported he attended the Conservation Core meeting (NRCS) – communication is key for the partnerships. Also, he visited with Congressman Mark Armstrong and Coleman Garrison, NACD staff member while in DC on Ag related issues.

Farm Bill Specialist Report (available)

Whitney Huesers, FB Specialist supervisor requested to bring the mileage reimbursement rate for the Farm Bill Specialist to the federal rate of .54 per mile.

Perry Bollum moved to set the mileage rate for the Farm Bill specialists at the federal rate. Rocky Bateman seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

10:10am: Break

10:30am: Reconvened the meeting

CEO Report (available)

Brian Johnston highlighted his written report.

SALE OF LON LAND on South 12th

Kyle Holwagner from Daniel Companies presented a proposal on the LON property with options and the challenges of selling that property. The nursery is not using the land but it is costing us to maintain it. Rocky Bateman updated the Board on the Area IV Farm situation. No decisions have been made by the land owners so right now it is on a year to year lease.

Rocky Bateman moved to table the sale of the LON property until we gather more information about the family involved in the Area IV farm. Kent Pedersen seconded the motion. All board members present aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

2019 CONVENTION PLANS

The proposed draft agenda was presented by the committee. Darrell Oswald agreed to help all partners work together to find a keynote speaker with expenses being shared. Keith Bartholomay presented the theme: "Conservation: We've Only Just Begun!"

Kelly Froelich moved to approve the theme and the new proposed format for the Convention agenda. Roger Christenson seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

11:56am Break for lunch

12:46pm: Board meeting was reconvened

AREA MEETINGS

The 2019 Area Meetings will be held on Sunday at the NDASCD Convention on November 24th. The Directors of each Area will chair the Business meetings with the elections. Staff and agency reports will be given at the Business meetings at the Convention. Procedure for resolutions will be discussed at the June 24th meeting.

BREMER BANK UPDATE

Jesse Sailer, Bremer Wealth Management reviewed the NDASCD portfolio through January 31, 2019.

SALE OF OAKES NURSERY PROPERTY

The Board updated what has happened at the Oakes Nursery since a decision was made to pursue the possibility of selling Oakes Nursery. It was reported we have 4 years left on our lease. An appraisal was done on the Oakes Nursery property.

Discussion followed and it was suggested the Board needs a long term strategy for the sale of both properties.

Perry Bollum moved to table the sale of the Oakes Nursery property. Albert Wood seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Albert Wood, Kelly Froelich, Perry Bollum, Jeff Aalund and Keith Bartholmay

No: Richard Knopp, Kent Pedersen, Roger Christenson and Rocky Bateman

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion passed.

BY-LAWS DISCUSSION

The board discussed the voting rights of non-paying dues districts.

Kelly Froelich moved to add to the by-laws that only dues paying members can vote. Roger Christenson seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye.

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

Keith Bartholomay appointed a By-Laws Committee: Kelly Froelich, Rocky Bateman, Chr and Richard Knopp. A resolution will be written by the board at the June meeting to present at the Annual Meeting for this by-law change.

Continued discussion on the Oakes Nursery buildings.

It was reported that the Oakes Nursery buildings are in bad condition. The Board should ask the lessee to fix the buildings at his expense or maybe share the expenses with him to get those buildings fixed. Perry will look at other entities that might be interested in purchasing the nursery.

NURSERY Report (available)

Bill Elhard reviewed his written report and answered questions.

2:49pm: Break

3:22pm: the Board meeting was reconvened

CONSERVATION POLICY REVIEW:

The Board reviewed the policy for 2019. Kent Pedersen presented the 2018 Approved Resolutions in the format for inserting resolutions into the Conservation Policy. **Perry Bollum moved to approve this format. Richard Knopp seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

The following changes and additions were made. Sunset Policy review of 2014.

Page 1: Major Concern: Add paragraph 4: Resolution #7

Page 2: We Will Seek and Support: add #8- Resolution #8

Page 4: Information Helps: Delete #1: **Rocky Bateman moved to delete. Albert Wood seconded the motion. Board members voted aye. 1 Nay Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried. #3: Roger Christenson moved to keep. Jeff Aalund seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Renumber section

Page 5: Farm Programs: (Make changes and re-number) Delete # 3 **Rocky Bateman moved to delete. Kelly Froelich seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Keep #4: **Richard Knopp moved to keep. Jeff Aalund seconded the motion. Board members voted- 1 nay. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Keep # 5: **Kent Pedersen moved to keep. Kelly Froelich seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Delete #7: **Jeff Aalund moved to delete. Richard Knopp seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

After re-numbering add Resolution #9 as Number 11.

Page 6: Delete E. Assignment of CRP Payments **Kent Pedersen moved to delete. Albert Wood seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Research Needs: A. Windbreaks: Add paragraph 3 – Resolution 4

Add D. Resolution 2

Add E: Resolution 3: Interim Policy

Page 7: Water: States Water Rights – delete paragraph 2 and 3 and keep paragraph 4. **Roger Christenson moved to make this change. Rocky Bateman seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Delete E. Devils Lake Outlet **Richard Knopp moved to delete. Albert Wood seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Page 8: Reclamation: Add E. Resolution #6

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY REVIEW:

The Policy was reviewed and the following changes were made:

Page 3: Directors: add #9: Other meetings deemed necessary and delegated for Association Business. **Jeff Aalund moved this addition. Richard Knopp seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Page 5: Meetings: Delete #6 **Rocky Bateman moved to delete. Roger Christenson seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Page 11: Travel #6: Add #4: Other meetings as approved by the Board. **Roger Christenson moved to add #4. Perry Bollum seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

Page 19: Trust Policy Book: Bonding: Change the word “shall” to **may**, to read: The Treasurer may be bonded in an amount...**Kent Pedersen moved to make change. Rocky Bateman seconded the motion. All Board members present voted aye. Absent: Julius Wangler The motion carried.**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

President Bartholomay made the committee assignments:

District Operations: add Kelly Froelich as Vice-Chair

Education: Kent Pedersen, Chair and Albert Wood, Vice Chair

Natural Resources: Rocky Bateman, Chair and Roger Christenson, Vice-Chair

President Bartholomay would like to take some time at the next meeting to discuss the functions of the Committees.

OTHER BUSINESS:

HB1020 has a hearing on March 20th. Rocky Bateman, Lobbyist will attend that meeting on behalf of NDASCD in support of the bill.

Discussion on SBARE. **Rocky Bateman moved that the NDASCD become a member of SBARE. Albert Wood seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye.**

Absent: Julius Wangler

The motion carried.

President Bartholomay would like to have a Board retreat. June 25th was suggested but two board members are gone that meeting. The Board will look at some possible dates at the June meeting.

Keith Bartholomay adjourned the Board meeting at 5:27pm.

Perry Bollum, Secretary

Kathy Henriksen
Recording Secretary

Committees appointed by President Bartholomay:

Audit Committee: Roger Christenson, Richard Knopp and Jeff Aalund

Resolution Committee: Kent Pedersen, Roger Christenson and Keith Bartholomay

By-Law Committee: Rocky Bateman, Chr., Kelly Froelich and Richard Knopp

NACD Summer Board Meeting Committee: Keith Bartholomay, Chr., Roger Christenson, Jeff Aalund, Rhonda Kelsch, Mary Podoll (NRCS) or Jill Howard, Ryan Thorson, NDCDEA, and Darrell Oswald