

DAKOTA WEST RC&D AREA, INC.
Council Meeting
Elk's Lodge, Dickinson, ND
October 19, 2009

The council meeting of Dakota West RC&D Area, Inc was called to order by President Duane Urlacher on Monday October 19, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

Dakota West RC&D Area, Inc. Council members present: Duane Urlacher, Darrel Oech, Loren Myran, Frank Hatzenbuhler, Dr. Kris Ringwall, and Dennis Reich. Others in attendance: Staff present: Allan Pfliger, Upper Dakota RC&D Coordinator, LeAnn Hallen, Adams County District Manager and Jennifer Bemman, Office Administrator.

Reading & Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dennis Reich to approve and accept the minutes as printed and was seconded by Frank Hatzenbuhler; all were in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report: Bemman discussed the measures taken to provide back-up copies for Dakota West's financials in the event of theft or power failure. QuickBooks data of the financials is saved weekly on a jump drive and stored in a safe at American Bank. Bemman also explained the new business that was set up with the aide of Mahlum Goodhart. The financials indicate all funds are accurate and matching bank statements. A motion was made by Darrel Oech to file the financials for Audit and was seconded by Myran; all were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

Insurance-Officers & Directors- Bemman presented the numbers for the insurance coverage increase and because of the substantial amount of money the council members were not interested in pursuing the increase.

Save Our Lakes/Dickinson Dike Update- Bemman discussed the funds needing to be expended by the end of this year. Also, Dakota West RC&D granted Urlacher authorization to enter into a contract if it is within budget and meets construction guidelines and approval of ND Game & Fish Department. Bids are being presented at this time.

Legislative Update: Bemman read a letter from John Haugen, NARCDC stating that the House and Senate Committee for FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations Bill have restored funding for the RC&D Program as a Standalone program.

New Business

NARC&DC Award: Bemman discussed the awards that will be given out to councils, council members, coordinators, etc. that are deserving of recognition.

Council Audit: Mahlum Goodhart had a 3-year contract with Dakota West for financial duties and it is now expiring. A motion was made by Oech to request a proposal to Mahlum Goodhart for a one-year contract and was seconded by Hatzenbuhler; all were in favor, motion carried.

2010 Dues to Other Organizations: Bemman discussed the request by the National Association of RC&DC to pay 2010 dues in advance because of financial challenges. Myran made a motion to pay the dues early and Oech seconded the motion; all in favor, motion carried.

2009-2010 Sponsorship Dues: Bemman discussed Dunn County Water Resource Board failure to pay 2009 dues. Myran volunteered to look into this matter. The membership dues will be kept at \$200 for 2010. The council will visit the topic of dues again in March to decide if an increase is in order.

Section 1619 Compliance: This is a form that allows Dakota West access to otherwise protected information for producers and the information protects producer's privacy of personal information. A motion was made by Reich for Urlacher to sign the Compliance papers and was seconded by Hatzenbuhler; all were in favor, motion carried.

Annual Plan of Work: The Plan shows new projects of the year as councils and committees approve projects and are updated quarterly. A motion was made by Oech to approve the Annual Plan of Work and for Urlacher to sign it and was seconded by Reich; all in favor, motioned pass.

2010 Western Conference: Bemman informed the council of the location, dates and travel suggestions at this time and asked all council members to inform her if they plan on attending the conference.

Nadine Radtke Support Letter- Doug Landblom spoke on behalf of Radtke speaking of the necessity of funding for their program and stating that they are currently looking for sponsors.

Reports

State Association Meeting update: Hatzenbuhler discussed his interest about the idea of the State Assoc. Meeting be held at different RC&D's town location to build an awareness of the achievement and success stories for every RC&D and their Council members.

Invasive Species- Hallen spoke about issues her weed board is having with a grant written for a project. Rules for the Invasive project were talked about as well as legal matters. The Council acknowledged concern with Hallen that the rules are not being followed and it could potentially jeopardize the funding of future grants. It was further suggested that Hallen contact Dakota West RC&D's coordinator in an effort to alleviate this issue. This topic is requested to be a follow-up at the next council meeting.

SW ND Water Quality Education & Water Quality Education: Bemman informed the council that the SWNDWQE Project was funded for additional 3-years in 2006 receiving \$426,200 and in September received an additional \$135, 000 and than in June was extended for an additional year with an additional funding of \$312,000.

LFAP: The program will run it coarse and expire on June 30, 2010. The LFAP Committee will meet for a meeting in November to discuss its exit strategy and to ensure that all producers will be assisted in the completion of their projects.

CIG & SARE- Bemman read the report for CIG & SARE.

PIP Summer Intern Presentation: Wenger gave her final presentation on her summer activity with Dakota West RC&D and The SWND Soil Health Demonstration. Included was her marketing and outreach plan for Dakota West RC&D.

Hettinger Xeriscape Presentation: Dan Nudell presented the projects implementations, success and challenges. He thanked Dakota West RC&D for its support on this project.

Adjourn: 12:10 pm

Upcoming Meetings/Events

November 16, 2009

November 22-24, 2009

January 31-Feb. 3, 2010

February 25, 2010

Executive Board Meeting, Dickinson, ND

ND Assoc. of SCDs Annual Meeting, Bismarck, ND

Western RC&D Conference, Missoula, MT

State Assoc. Annual Meeting, Bismarck, ND