

ALLAMAKEE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 3, 2017

TIME 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Those attending

Commissioners: Jack Knight, Don Elsbernd, Josh Dee, and Mike O'Hare

Staff: Sara Berges, LuAnn Rolling, and Megan Waechter

The monthly meeting of the Allamakee Soil and Water Conservation District commissioners was called to order at 7:07 p.m. at the Allamakee USDA Service Center in Waukon by Chairman Jack Knight.

Adopt Agenda

- 1-17 **A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**

Election of chairperson and vice-chairperson

- 2-17 **A motion to elect Jack Knight as chairperson was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**
- 3-17 **A motion to elect Don Elsbernd as vice-chairperson was made by O'Hare and seconded by Dee. The motion carried unanimously.**

Appointment of treasurer and secretary

- 4-17 **A motion to appoint Josh Dee as treasurer and Mike O'Hare as vice-treasurer was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**
- 5-17 **A motion to appoint Brianne Wild as secretary and Sara Berges as temporary secretary was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**

Review Commissioner Responsibilities

LuAnn Rolling and Jack Knight explained the commissioner responsibilities while serving on the board.

SWCD Memorandums of Understanding

LuAnn Rolling talked to the commissioners about the roles the different entities play and how they work together to accomplish the shared goals.

EEO/Civil Rights

LuAnn Rolling reviewed the EEO and Civil Rights policies to ensure that no one is discriminated against.

Approve minutes from December 6 and 29 meetings

- 6-17 **A motion to approve the minutes from the December 6 and 29 meetings was made by Elsbernd and seconded by Dee. The motion carried unanimously.**

Approve Financial Report and Bills from December

- \$97.99 - Rite Price Office Supply – envelopes and postcards (1M account)
- \$500 – Pitney Bowes postage for postage machine (1M account)
- \$135 – Hacker and Nelson - November payroll processing (payroll account)

\$215 - Bulk Mail Permit from USPS (1M account)

\$66.77 – Elliott Jewelers for mugs for Lynn & Clint and plaque engraving (1M account)

- 7-17 A motion to approve the financial report and bills was made by Elsbernd and seconded by Dee. The motion carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS

Update of Ongoing Initiatives by Rolling

Rolling reported that the office has 21 EQIP applications they are working on for ranking, most of which are round 1. Few of the applications are for terraces. They are spread out between energy, pasture, streambank, and ag waste. There are 6 applications for the new CSP, which are due in early February. All of the rules have not been explained to the staff, making it difficult to explain to producers at this point. FSA announced that beginning January 9, they will allow early termination for certain CRP contracts without penalty if the landowner will be selling the land to a beginning farmer or lease with an option to buy. Jared Winkie has been working in the office 2 days a week doing CRP checks and Brady Kruger has been working a few afternoons a week evaluating existing CSP contracts.

Leopold Grant Report

1. Reimbursement Request from Leopold Center for \$1,849.08
2. Sara was asked to speak about the Leopold Center and RCPP grants at the Trout Unlimited Driftless Symposium in La Crosse on Febraury 7-8. Cost \$95 – will come from Leopold Center Grant
3. Request to attend ISU Confinement Site Manure Applicator training – Jan 25 at Allamakee Extension Office – no cost
4. Leopold Center progress report due at the end of the month – need tentative approval now. Will send out report later in the month for you to review.

Sara reported that her application for an RCPP project has been approved, but the contract has not been negotiated and a timeline for project start hasn't been established. It will follow regular EQIP deadlines with cost-share funds available for FY2018. She has also written several articles for the local newspaper and talked to landowners at the counter regarding the inclusion of conservation in their farm leases.

- 8-17 A motion to approve the Leopold Grant Report including reimbursement request, attendance at the Driftless Symposium and ISU Manure training, and tentative approval of the progress report was made by O'Hare and seconded by Elsbernd. The motion carried unanimously**

Awards Banquet

Location: Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank

Time: 6:00 p.m. Supper 7:00 Awards

Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Who is presenting which award?

Sandra Koehring (forestry) – Jack Knight

Ryan Collins (beginning farmer) – Josh Dee

Scott Ness (cover crop) – Mike O'Hare

Leo & Kathy Conway (lifetime achievement) – Don Elsbernd

NEW BUSINESS

AgLeader "parallel" machine

Cost for AgLeader Compass Display Guidance Kit
\$1,990 from Tri State Precision Ag
\$1,780.75 from Three Rivers Precision Services

- 9-17 **A motion was made by Dee and seconded by O'Hare to buy the AgLeader Compass Display Guidance kit from Tri-state precision ag for an estimated cost of \$1,990 with the funds coming from the interest ledger line. The motion carried unanimously.**

Agreement with Hacker and Nelson

- 10-17 **A motion to approve the agreement with Hacker and Nelson was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**

Review the Commissioner data sheet – make changes if needed

Approve Farm Bill XIIIB Reporting from IDALS-DSCWQ for CSP work products (\$270 value)

- 11-17 **A motion to approve the Farm Bill XIIIB Reporting was made by Dee and seconded by Elsbernd. The motion carried unanimously.**

Cancelled Projects – didn't get seeded in time

Don Elsbernd – cover crop application #56349
Scott Koether – cover crop application #57388
Mitchell Schultz – cover crop application #54548

- 12-17 **A motion to approve the cancelled projects was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**

Completed Projects

Byron R. Schultz – cover crop (#55638) – cost share \$532.50
Creative Agriculture Inc. – cover crop (#57566) – cost share \$2,400.00
Donald Elsbernd – cover crop (#56350) – cost share \$1,050.00
John Ruff – cover crop (#59588) – cost share \$2,400.00
Timmie Moses – cover crop (#54682) – cost share \$750.00

- 13-17 **A motion to approve the completed projects was made by O'Hare and seconded by Dee. Elsbernd abstained from voting and the motion carried.**

TIP Plan

Dorchester Reserve (t1121)

- 14-17 **A motion to approve the TIP plan for Dorchester Reserve was made by Dee and seconded by O'Hare. The motion carried unanimously.**

Sodbust

Victoria Bloxham (t1027) – 2.0 ac

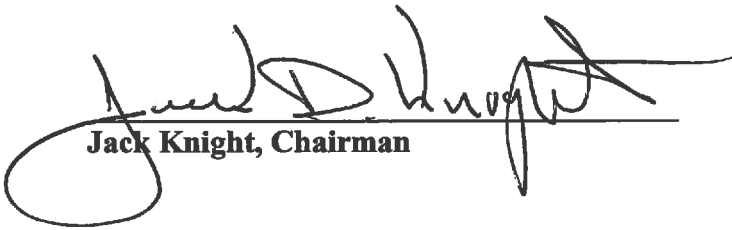
- 15-17 **A motion to approve the sodbust plan was made by Dee and seconded by Elsbernd. The motion carried unanimously.**

Misc.

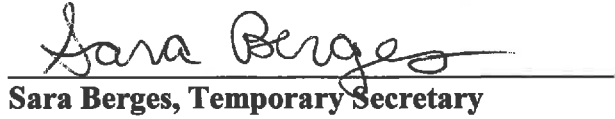
- 2017 Iowa Conservation Partnership Day at the Capitol Building in Des Moines, January 17, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.- see handout in folder
- New commissioner training – see handout in folder
- NACD Annual meeting – January 28-February 1, 2017 in Denver, Colorado
- article from Iowa Farmer Today on “conservation practices on leased farmland” – copy in your folder

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Adjourn

16-17 A motion to adjourn was made by Elsbernd and seconded by O’Hare at 8:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.



Jack Knight, Chairman



Sara Berges, Temporary Secretary