

SOUTH DOUGLAS CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING

November 2, 2020

This meeting was conducted by conference call

Meeting was called to order 7:00 p.m. Present were Eileen Bone, Jeff Rock, Mike Lesky, Lindsey Morrison, Carolyn Kelly, Carol Cowling, Bob Nansel – NRCS, Mike Baden – WCC, Rachel McClure – Rep. Newhouse office

October meeting minutes were approved. **Motion:** Jeff/Lindsey/Passed
Financial statements and bills to be paid submitted. **Motion:** Jeff/Lindsey/Passed.
(V 4386—4390 = \$4,729.41)

Rachel McClure – Rep. Dan Newhouse office, was on the phone to discuss several areas:

1. Inconsistency between agencies on program applications between NRCS, FSA and IRS. While several factors (time, ranking, sage grouse #s) are analyzed, the timing seemed to be the deciding factor of whether an application was even considered. FSA will be accepting the AGI/IRS forms starting in November, so that should help the requirements within the timeline.
2. Emergency grazing not allowed on CRP/SAFE ground.
3. The conclusion of the CRP program may have lasting effects on the erosion and wildlife habitat controls in the County. Has an economic analysis been done on the programs?

Rachel will research some of our concerns and report back. She would like to attend these meetings when she can.

NRCS Report – Bob updated us on several programs. Now that the NRCS has entered a new fiscal year, Carolyn will contact Doug Poole, Foster Creek CD, about the shared planner position we had asked NRCS about previously.

WCC Report – Mike Baden updated us on the new election changes. Also needs Cost Share Priority guidelines South Douglas uses. Carol will provide.

Old Business

VSP/CWMA Update – VSP virtual meeting, 11/12, to discuss 5 year plan. CWMA – Carolyn worked with Ryan Lefler (FC) on obtaining a \$17,000 grant from BLM, for outreach and mapping of weeds to develop priorities and options. Do we need to update our MOA with Foster Creek?

NCW area meeting was down in attendance. Discussions on State Budget status, election changes.

New Business

Fall Chipping planned for November 12 and 13. (Delayed until following week)

WACD annual conference will, of course, be virtual. For \$150 all supervisors and staff may attend. **Motion** to pay for all to attend: Jeff/Lindsey/passed.

2021 will be South Douglas's turn to host the annual meeting. This will not be possible in person, and discussion concluded that a virtual meeting will not be well attended. Instead, we will try a Field Day in the summer to get everyone together. (Burn area, weed problems, etc.)

Because we must have an election even if only one person is running, it was decided to do it entirely by mail, following the guidelines the WCC has set forth. The election will be March 1, 2021.

Cost Share Projects

1. Ryan Roberts, our area engineer, went out to Jeff Smoke and Jeff Rock's projects. He will submit more info and cost estimates.
2. Brent Billingsley submitted a cost share proposal for a solar pumping for livestock water. More info needed.
3. Justin Grillo updated us on his erosion control project. No labor has been factored in. Will suggest he use elderberry instead of Douglas Hawthorne for plantings.
4. Thomas Jirgensohn – Fancher Heights, is looking for assistance for his property. He is looking for complete bare ground and herbicide treatment. May want to consider weed barrier, rock garden or Firewise plants that will hold the bank in place. Will contact.

Meeting adjourned 9.25 p.m.

Auditor

Recorder