

State Conservation Commission Minutes
April 27, 2023
Conference Room # 3, Kneip Building in Pierre

Call to Order: Vice Chairman Gene Williams called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM CT.

Roll Call of Members Present: Mike Konechne, Gene Williams, Tom Glover, Dusty Rodiek, Charlie Moe, Dean Odden, Bruce Haines.

Member Present Virtually: Bill Coburn

Members Absent: Doug Hansen

Others present: Bill Smith (DANR), Alex Roeber (DANR), Jordan Turgeon (DANR) Kim Paxton (DANR), Charles Groen (Turner CO), Tami Moore (Miner CO), Colette Kesler (USDA/NRCS), Eric Weeman (Brule-Buffalo CO), John Parker (Minnehaha CO), Commissioner Brock Greenfield (School and Public Lands), Tonja Jessen (Hyde CO), Emily Kallas (McPherson/Edmunds CO), Vanessa Bodossian (McPherson/Campbell CO)

Others present Via Teleconference:

Angela Ehlers (SDACD), Yvette Kirkman (Elk Creek/Lawrence/Butte CD), Patricia Weyrich (DANR), Katie Schulte (Haakon CD), Kristin Pester (Roberts CD), Ivy Lathem Pazour (Clark CD)

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: Vice Chairman Williams asked the Commission members if they had any conflicts of interest to disclose at this time. None were disclosed.

Approval of the January 19, 2023 Minutes: A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the January 19 minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Upcoming travel: Bill Smith discussed upcoming travel.

Request for new business to be placed on the agenda: None.

Correspondence: None.

Revolving Loan Report: Jordan Turgeon gave the revolving loan status report.

Revolving Loan Applications for Emergency Consideration: None.

Grant Program/Updates/Changes/Amendments: Alex Roeber gave an update on the grants program.

Historical Grant Report: Alex Roeber or Jordan Turgeon gave the report. A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the reversion of \$38,074.40 from grants that closed on December 30, 2022. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Extension/Amendment requests: Grant extensions and amendments were presented by Alex Roeber.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Bennett/Badlands Conservation District's request amendment on Grant # 2023-CSW-003 Tree Plantings be revised to use the 2023 cost share docket. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Butte Conservation District is requesting a six-month extension on Grant # 2022-CSW-025 Multi county Ditch to Buried Pipe Conversion. The reason for the extension was due to material cost and availability and delays in getting approval from partner agencies. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Custer Conservation District is requesting a six-month extension on Grant # 21-CSW-023 Thinning for a Resilient Forest Grant. The reason for the request was that some of the landowners are having issues with the contractors completing the work on schedule. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mike Konechne and seconded to approve the Hyde Conservation District is requesting a one-year extension for the Hyde/Faulk Enhancement Project Grant 2021-CSW-029. The request is being asked because of the snow during this spring. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny the Pennington Conservation District request for a one-year extension on the current Thinning Grant 2021-CSW-032. The request was made because of the snow. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

The reason for the extension being denied is the commission would like the district to submit a reimbursement for work already completed and utilize the 2023 Thinning for Forest grant to finish the projects. The 2021-CSW-032 grant end date is June 30, 2023. Any remaining funds in the grant will be reverted.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Todd Conservation District is requesting a six-month extension on 2022 Multi-Practice Grant 2022-CSW-024. The district plans to use the remaining funds prior to the grant expiration date of 6/30/2023; however, with the winter that we have had, contractors' shortages, and the higher cost of materials projects have been taking longer than normal to complete. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-abstained, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mike Konechne and seconded to deny approve the Todd Conservation District is requesting a six-month extension on Tree Grant 2021-CSW-036. The request was put forward because of the past drought conditions, many producers opted to wait on planting until there was more moisture. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-abstained, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Reason for the extension being denied: The commission would like the district to submit a reimbursement for work already completed and come in for another grant in the fall grant round.

Final Reports: Alex Roeber provided the commission with 8 final reports on closed projects.

Open Grant Report: Alex Roeber provided the commission with the Open Grant Report.

Spring Grant Round Review: There were a total of 14 grants submitted for funding consideration. The below minutes reflect the alphabetical order of the grants as submitted by conservation districts rather than the order chronologically in which they were acted upon.

Resilient Forest Grant Application Review:

A motion was made by Mike Konechne and seconded to deny the Elk Creek Conservation District Thinning For Forest Health application in the amount of \$ 26,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-abstained, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Reason for the denial is the conservation district requested that the application be withdrawn.

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Fall River Conservation District Forest Resiliency & Health application in the amount of \$15,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-abstained, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Pennington Conservation District in the amount of \$33,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Turner Conservation District Shelterbelt Renovation application in the amount of \$9,566, to the Conservation Commission Funds. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried**

Regular Conservation Commission Grant Review:

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Brule Buffalo Conservation Renovation and Tree Planting application in the amount of \$36,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Codington Conservation District Promotional application in the amount of \$5,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-nay, Dusty Rodiek-abstain, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-nay, Bruce Haines-nay, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion failed for lack of majority vote.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District Cover Crop & Grazing application in the amount of \$ 10,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-abstain, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mike Konechne and seconded by to approve the Davison Conservation District Awareness & Outreach Activities application in the amount of \$ 1,500. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-abstain, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded by to approve the Haakon Conservation District Multi-Purpose application in the amount of \$38,176. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the McPherson Conservation District North Missouri Shelterbelt Renovation & Establishment application in the amount of \$62,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District Statewide Career Development Planning application in the amount of \$3,630. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District Pollinator Planting in Miner County application in the amount of \$1,475. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dusty Rodiek and seconded to approve the Roberts Conservation District Community Outreach application in the amount of \$6,150. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Spink Conservation District 2023-2024 Education and Promotion application in the amount of \$6,000. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried.**

Soil Conservation Award Review and Selections: 2023 Soil Conservation Farm, Ranch Awards, 9 total applications included Beadle Conservation District: John R. Boomsma, Bennett Conservation District: Pisha Family, Grant Conservation District: Charles (Chuck) and Tammy Wollschlager, Hughes Conservation District: Dan Elwood, Randy Englund, Don Irion, Mark Rilling, Jerry Sperry, Roberts Conservation District: Alan Schmidt. A motion was made by Bruce Haines seconded by to award to all the nominations. Roll call vote: Mike Konechne-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Bill Coburn-aye. **Motion carried**

Division Report: Alex Roeber updated the Commission on division activities.

2023 Speech contest: Alex Roeber gave an update on the 2023 Speech contest that was held on April 22 in Pierre. Dean Odden thanked the committee for asking him to be a judge at the speech contest.

Advisory Board members Reports:

Angela Ehlers with the SDACD provided a report to the commission. The annual SDACD meeting will be held on Sept 17-19 in Aberdeen this year.

Commissioner Brock Greenfield (School and Public Lands) gave an update on the leases and land auctions.

Colette Kesler (USDA/NRCS) gave an update on USDA/NRCS.

Ryan Wendinger with Game Fish and Parks provided a report to the commission.

Tami Moore with SDACDE gave an update on the upcoming leadership meetings set for June 28-29 at Cedar Shores.

SD Conservation District area meetings will be held from June 13-21, 2023.

Open Forum and Public Comment: None.

Next Meeting location and place: The next commission meeting will be between July-September.

Ending Remarks: None.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM CDT.