

State Conservation Commission
April 30, 2026
Matthews Training Center
523 East Capitol Ave, Pierre

Call to Order: Chairman Doug Hansen called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM CST.

Roll Call of Members Present: Tom Glover, Gene Williams, Charlie Moe, Dean Odden, Duane Schneider, Greg Josten, Jason Preble and Doug Hansen. Bruce Haines joined the meeting after January minutes were approved.

Absent: None.

Others Present: Bill Smith (DANR), Alex Roeber (DANR), Jordan Turgeon (DANR), Paul Lorenzen (DANR), April Reiter (DANR), Angela Ehlers (SDACD), Katie Schultz (Haakon Conservation District), MaryBeth Fravel (Stanley County), Colette Kessler (NRCS), and Mike Larsen (NRCS).

Others present via Teams: Angie Jones (Dewey Conservation District), Mike Baldwin (Custer Conservation District), Cory Zirbel (Prairie Coteau Protection Project), Kyle Reeves (Clark County Conservation District), Paula Holley (Jackson Conservation District), Deanna Kunkel (Codington Conservation District), Rachell Fletcher (Hyde County Conservation District), and Dave Bartlett (DANR).

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: Dean Odden will abstain from voting for the Hand County Conservation District grant application.

Approval of January 29, 2026, Minutes: A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve January 29, 2026, minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-absent, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

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

Correspondence: None.

Upcoming Travel: Bill Smith provided an overview involving upcoming travel and meetings. Jason and Greg will attend the Hills Area meeting. Gene will attend rangeland days. Gene will attend the Northwest Area meeting. Charlie and Tom will attend the Prairie Area meeting. Dean will attend the North Missouri Area meeting. Bruce and Tom will attend the South James-Missouri Area meeting. Duane and Doug will attend the Coteau Area meeting. It has yet to be determined who will attend the Vermillion Big Sioux Area meeting.

Request for New Business to be Placed on the Agenda: None.

Correspondence: None.

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

Emergency Revolving Loan Application Review and Action: A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve Codington's request for \$60,000 for tree planting expenses. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe -aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve Dewey's request to refinance loan balance of \$63,959 on loan #1106. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe -aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Program Updates: Alex Roeber provided the commission with a status report on the commission grant program.

Grant Extensions/Amendments: A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve Clark County's request to use the 2026 Docket for their 2025-CSW-25 Shelterbelt Project and 2025-CSW-009 Tree Planting grant. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve Day County's request for a 6-month extension of their Prairie Coteau Project. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve McPherson County's request to use 2026 Docket for their Missouri Shelterbelt Renovation Shelterbelt Project. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-nay, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Reversions: A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to revert \$41,633.01 to be available for grants approved in the spring grant round. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Spring Grant Round Review: There were a total of fifteen grant applications received for the Spring Grant Round. The below reflects the alphabetical order of the grants as submitted by conservation districts rather than in chronological order in which they were acted upon.

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Custer Conservation District's Thinning for a Resilient Forest Health grant application in the amount of \$35,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to deny the Davison Conservation District's Micro irrigation application. Reason for denial is they already have a micro irrigation grant and Davison requested that their grant application be withdrawn. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-abstained, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Day Conservation District's grant application for their Prairie Coteau Watershed Project in the amount of \$55,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-abstained, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Dewey Conservation District's Wind & Water Mixed-Use grant application in the amount of \$35,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Edmunds Conservation District's Conservation Education grant application in the amount of \$1,500.00 Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve the Haakon Conservation District's Tree Planting grant application in the amount of \$35,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Hand County Conservation District's Shelterbelt grant application in the amount of \$30,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-abstained, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Greg Josten and seconded to approve the Hutchinson Conservation District's Awareness, Education, & Outreach grant application in the amount of \$3,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Hyde/Faulk Enhancement Phase 4 grant application in the amount of \$32,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Jackson Conservation District's Dam Repair and Cleanout grant application in the amount of \$10,000. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-abstained, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Jackson Conservation District's Conservation Education & Awareness grant application in the amount of \$2,100.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-abstained, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Lincoln Conservation District's Conservation Windbreak Renovation Summer 2026 grant application in the amount of \$10,000.00 and require all landowners to have an agreement with the Lincoln Conservation District to replant all shelter belts which are renovated. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-nay, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-nay, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-nay, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Mellette Conservation District's 2026 MC Multi-Practice grant application for \$40,000.00. Motion and second of the original motion were withdrawn. A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Mellette Conservation District's request for \$50,000. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-abstained, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Roberts Conservation District's Conservation Education grant application in the amount of \$8,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe -aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-abstained, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to approve the Stanley County Conservation District's Shelterbelt grant application for \$25,000.00. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Natural Resources Conservation Award Review and Selections: A motion was made by Duane Schneider and seconded to approve all Natural Resource Conservation Award nominations received from the Bennett, Custer, Haakon, Kingsbury, and Marshall conservation districts. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Docket Proposal: A motion was made by Gene Williams and seconded to deny Custer's Conservation Districts 2026 Docket change proposal. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Gene Williams-aye, Charlie Moe -aye, Dean Odden-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Greg Josten-aye, Jason Preble-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Commission Feedback from the Locally Led Meetings held in Huron and Philip: Greg Josten attended the Philip meeting and commented that the meeting was well organized. Doug, Dean, and Bruce attended the Huron meeting and agreed with Greg.

Commission Discussion Regarding Preference to Grants Tied to Local Workgroup Priorities: The commission decided to place this on the agenda for a future commission meeting.

Division Report: Paul Lorenzen updated the Commission on division activities.

Commission Member Reports: Jason Preble stated that the district's had good projects and good effort. Charlie Moe noted that the Conservation Speech Contest was great but there were fewer participants than normal.

Advisory Board Members Reports: Angela Ehlers provided the SDACD report. Angela also requested that commission add an agenda item at future meeting to discuss soil erosion and sediment complaints.

Mike Larson provided the NRCS report.

Open Forum and Public Comment: No requests for public comments were received.

Next Meeting location and place: The next commission meeting and time will be determined at a later date and time. The meeting will be where loan applications will be considered.

Ending Remarks: None.

Chairman Hansen declared the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. CST.