

**State Conservation Commission Minutes
November 15, 2022
Matthews Training Center, Joe Foss Building, Pierre**

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

Roll Call of Members Present in Pierre:

Dean Odden, Bruce Haines, Charlie Moe, Tom Glover, Gene Williams,

Members Present via Teleconference: Bill Coburn

Member Absent: Dusty Rodiek, Mike Konechne, Doug Hansen

Others Present in Person: Angela Ehlers (SDACD), Bill Smith (DANR), Jordan Turgeon (DANR), Alex Roeber (DANR), Eric Weeman (Brule-Buffalo Conservation District), Tami Moore (Miner Conservation District), Peggy Loomis (Hamlin Conservation District), Matt Hayes (Davison Conservation District), MaryBeth Fravel (Stanley Conservation District), Deanna Kunkel (Codington Conservation District), John Parker (Minnehaha Conservation District), Karl Jensen (Lawrence Conservation District), Tanya Flegel (Kingsbury Conservation District), John Parker (Minnehaha Conservation District), and David McVey (Attorney General's Office)

Others Present via Teleconference: Shauna Kopren (Perkins Conservation District), Robin Viestenz (Beadle Conservation District), Patty Beck (Bennett Conservation District), Dawn Schulte (Charles Mix Conservation District), Annie Walker (Corson Conservation District), Mike Baldwin (Custer Conservation District), Triniti Sowards (Hughes Conservation District), Lisa Sall (Jerauld Conservation District), Valerie Feddersen (Jones Conservation District)

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: Vice Chairman Gene Williams asked the Commission members if they had any conflict of interests to disclose. Bruce Haines stated he will abstain from voting on Davison grant applications. Tom Glover stated he will abstain from voting of Gregory Revolving Loan application.

Approval of the September 19 Minutes:

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the September 19 minutes as presented.

Roll call vote: Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the October 3, Minutes:

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the October 3 minutes as presented. **Roll**

call vote: Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the October 20 Minutes:

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the October 20 minutes as presented. **Roll**

call vote: Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

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

Upcoming travel: Bill Smith presented upcoming events through early February.

Correspondence: None

Contested Case Hearing-Approval of Finding of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Decision.

David McVey presented the finding of fact, conclusion of law, and decision to the commission. A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the finding of fact and allow Vice Chairman Gene Williams to sign **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

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

Revolving Loan Applications: Jordan Turgeon presented four revolving loan application for the commission's consideration.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Brule-Buffalo Conservation District's loan application in the amount of \$45,000 to purchase a spray drone and supporting equipment. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Clark Conservation District's loan application in the amount of \$30,000 to purchase of a tractor. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District's loan application in the amount of \$50,000 to purchase a 2023 pickup. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines abstained, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines seconded to approve the Gregory Conservation District's loan application in the amount of \$16,500 to purchase a tree fabric machine. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover abstained, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Extension /Amendment requests: Alex Roeber presented three grant extensions and amendments.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Brule Buffalo Conservation District's request to extend grant # 2020 CSW 029 Renovation and Tree Planting for six months. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District's request to extend grant # 2021 CSW 031 East Central Range Stewardship for one year. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District's request to extend grant # 2022 CSW 022 for one year. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Program Status Report: Alex Roeber provided the grant status report. Alex informed the

commission that \$149,420.83 was available in funds from grants that closed on June 30.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to revert \$149,420.83. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Final Reports: Alex Roeber provided the commission with the 27 final reports on closed projects.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to set aside \$100,000 from the funds available balance for a spring grant round. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

Fall Grant Round Review: There were a total of 25 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.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District's Livestock Water application in the amount of \$20,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Beadle Conservation District's Shelterbelt Program application in the amount of \$22,218. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve Bennett and Badlands conservation districts' Bennett/Badlands Tree Planting 2023 application in the amount of \$12,397.92. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Charles Mix Conservation District's Shelterbelt Cost application in the amount of \$10,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Codington Conservation District's State Land & Range application in the amount of \$15,000 for one year. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Codington Conservation District's Promotional Grant application in the amount of \$2,500. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Corson Conservation District's Corson/Dewey Tree Grant application in the amount of \$14,494.65. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Custer Conservation District's Thinning for a Resilient Forest application in the amount of \$75,000 from the standard grant fund and \$15,000 from the Resilient Forestry Funds (SB 170). **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye,

Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District's DCD Tree Plantings application in the amount of \$7,500. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines abstained, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Davison Conservation District's Multi County Brush Management application in the amount of \$40,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines abstained, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to deny the Edmunds Conservation District's Research Shelterbelt Planting application. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried. Reasons for denial there are funds for research projects available from other sources.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Hamlin Conservation District's 2023 Tree Plantings application in the amount of \$11,168. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the Hamlin Conservation District's Promoting Conservation Districts application the amount of \$4,600. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Hughes Conservation District's 2023-2025 HCCD Tree Initiative application in the amount of \$35,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Jerauld Conservation District's Multi-Purpose application in the amount of \$30,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Jones Conservation District's North Dam Urban Grant from the Forestry Funds application in the amount of \$176.92 from the Resilient Forestry Funds (SB 170). **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Jones Conservation District's Shelterbelt Fire Recovery application in the amount of \$2,343.64 from the Resilient Forestry Funds (SB 170). **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Kingsbury Conservation District's Conservation Practice application in the amount of \$65,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Lawrence Conservation District's Forest Resiliency Project application in the amount of \$20,000 from the standard grant fund and \$5,000 from the Resilient Forestry Funds (SB 170). **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn abstained. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District's Public Awareness of Conservation application in the amount of \$2,250. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Miner Conservation District Soil Health Improvement application in the amount of \$11,992. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Minnehaha Conservation District's Minnehaha Shelterbelt Renovation application in the amount of \$11,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe nay, Tom Glover nay, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion failed for lack of a majority of the Commission.**

After discussion between the commission and the Minnehaha Conservation District that clarified that the Commission intends to uphold their past policy of not using grant funds to cost share standalone farmstead or homestead windbreaks, a motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Minnehaha Conservation District's Minnehaha Shelterbelt Renovation application in the amount of \$11,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve the Minnehaha Conservation District's Minnehaha Wildlife Habitat Project in the amount of \$10,000. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Moody Conservation District's Shelterbelt Grant application in the amount of \$35,960. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Tom Glover and seconded to approve the Perkins Conservation District's Northwest Area Tree Planting Grant in the amount of \$23,460. **Roll call vote:** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.**

2023 Cost-Share Docket: Alex Roeber present comments received from SDACDE, Bennett Conservation District, and Roberts Conservation District regarding changes to consider for the 2023 Cost-Share Docket.

A motion was made by Bruce Haines and seconded to approve SDACDE changes to the conservation commission docket. Those included changing the rate for machine planted trees from \$0.37/lf to \$0.39/lf, changing the rate for machine planted shrubs from \$0.38/lf to \$0.42/lf, and changing the rate for fabric from \$0.66/lf installed to \$0.71/lf installed. **Roll call vote** Dean Odden aye, Bruce Haines aye, Charlie Moe aye, Tom Glover aye, Gene Williams aye, Bill Coburn aye. **Motion carried.** The commission passed on their appreciation to SDACDE for surveying all districts and submitting their findings.

2023 Guideline and Priorities: Vice Chairman Williams appointed Mike Konechne, Doug Hansen, and Dusty Rodiek to serve on a subcommittee to determine if the commission's guideline and priorities needed to be changed.

Division Report: Bill Smith gave the division report.

Advisory Board members Reports: Angela Ehlers (SDACD) and Tami Moore (SDACDE) provided reports to the commission

Open Forum and Public Comment: None

New Business: SDACD Committees were discussed. Vice Chairman Williams asked the commission to look at their committee assignments and encourage the commission to let RCF staff know if they were interested in serving on a committee or wanted to change assignments.

Next meeting location and place: Next meeting date and location TBD.

Ending Remarks: None

Meeting Adjourned at 1:15 PM CDT.

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