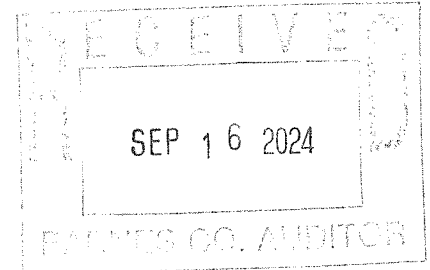


# BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

[www.barnes.nd.nacdn.net.org](http://www.barnes.nd.nacdn.net.org)

Minutes of Meeting  
August 6, 2024  
USDA Building  
Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:  
Charlene Stenson  
Mardy Dahl  
Carl Pederson  
Shelly Nelson  
Bob Bruns

Others:  
Jason Elston, Tech  
Jessica Jones, Administrative Professional  
Shelby Larson, DC  
Sandy Chapin, Wetlands Admin. Assist.

The August meeting was called to order by Stenson at 8:10am at the USDA Building, Valley City, ND. Minutes from the July Regular meeting. Stenson declared those minutes approved as presented.

## **Financials:**

A list of receipts and bills paid in July 2024 were reviewed by the Board. Bob made a motion to accept the July Financials as presented with Pederson seconding it. All in favor aye, motion carried.

## **Correspondence:**

1. Thank you card from ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts

## **Technician Report:**

Jason reported Pay Applications have been signed. We are waiting on near \$56,000 to be paid off from OHF. OHF applications for next year were due in July. The no till drill had a lull in July. We have a CRP late summer seeding coming up. Harvest will be busy with CRP plantings. Jason is looking into a chisel plow purchase. No decision was made, at the moment, regarding the purchase of the plow. Jason will need to seal or insulate the shed because we have a bat problem. Jason requested a quote from Bakkegard for the tree cooler compressor. Jason needs to build a headache rack for the truck topper for safety reasons.

## **Office Report:**

Shelby handed out her report. See attached. Ella Darrow's (NRCS Intern) last day is August 9th. EQIP batching is due September 20<sup>th</sup>. NRCS will be restructuring and is planning to go to 4 areas versus 3.

## **Old Business:**

1. Area II Meeting went well. Invoices have been sent out to the other 9 districts to split the \$817.08 cost.
2. Eco Ed is in one month – New director, Lori Faleide, has taken over Wesley Acres. Dates are September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.
3. New employee – Jessica Jones – Started on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **New Business:**

1. Charlene proposed a motion to remove Jill Olson from financial institutions and add Jessica Jones. Dahl motioned and Pederson seconded. Motion carried.
2. The district is looking to purchase our own SCD laptop, set up a district E-mail address and purchase separate Wi-Fi to separate our financials from NRCS.
3. Shelly made a motion to purchase a laptop and purchase QuickBooks Online for SCD, Mardy seconded. All in favor aye, motion carried.
4. Shelly made a motion to look at options to purchase Wi-Fi or Hotspot with Verizon and BEK, Mardy seconded. All in favor aye, motion carried.
5. Streamline Services - \$100 a month to streamline social media, website, and make it ADA compliant. Discussion occurred; tabled for now.
6. Jessica is going to Urban Conservation and Outreach Workshop in Grand Forks – September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.
7. Bob is up for renewal. Bob wants to step down in the fall. New candidate supervisor's deadline for paperwork to be turned into the auditor is September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

8. Convention is November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The banquet is Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> at the Bismarck Event Center. Details are still being finalized.

The next regular meeting is to be September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8am at the USDA building.

Charlene motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:05, Mardy seconded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Jones, Administrative Professional

ALL PROGRAMS OF THE BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT ARE OFFERED ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS, WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, SEX, MARITAL STATUS OR HANDICAP. ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER, EMPLOYER AND LENDER.

# July/Aug 2024 Tech Report

## ❖ Trees

- Planted 53,085ft on 19 Sites.
- All 2024 Pay applications were signed and mailed out prior to the July 26<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- \$55,738.15 in pay apps to be paid.
- 2025 OHF Tree Applications were mailed prior to the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.
- 71,015ft of tree plans sent to OHF for funding. 12 Applications.

## ❖ Drill/Grass Seeding

- Have 1 large grass seeding remaining around trees.
- 1590 has been to 17 sites so far, multiple producers on list.
- August CRP seeding window Aug 10-25<sup>th</sup>.

## ❖ Other

- 10ft Chisel Plow purchase as another possible service for producers.
- Seal/Insulate shed.
- Getting a compressor quote for cooler. If Tree Planting Initiative (NDASCD) gets funded, we can potentially get cost share for the whole bill. Will know later this fall about funding.
- Need to build a headache rack for inside topper to prevent WB rolls from coming through the window in the event of an accident.
- I will be gone August 13-16<sup>th</sup>.



**United States Department of Agriculture**

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Valley City Field Office  
110 Winter Show RD SW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
701-845-3114 Ext. 3

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## **NRCS Activity Report**

### **Barnes County Soil Conservation District Board**

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Shelby Larson, District Conservationist (DC)

Travis and Ella have been completed Annual Monitoring field checks for our Wetland Reserve Easements (WREs)

Travis recently accepted a position on the Wetland Compliance Team. He will still be stationed in the Valley City Field Office, but will be focusing on wetland, mitigation, and HEL compliance. His last day with the field staff was July 26<sup>th</sup>

Ella's last day is August 9th

CDU (Fargo, Hillsboro, Finley, Valley City) meeting coming up at the end of August, potentially in Valley City

Continuous CRP documentation is due back to FSA September 6<sup>th</sup>. Cody has been busy working on these

Expiring CRP onsite review is due at the end of September, Cody and I will have to start working on these

EQIP Batching deadline: September 20<sup>th</sup>, accepting applications all year round

Quarterly Zone Meetings- East Zone Meeting is planned for October 30<sup>th</sup>, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

NRCS restructure plan/Leadership Team's ideas