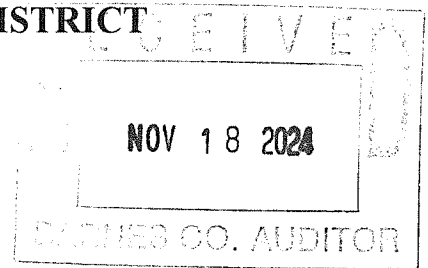


BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting
October 9, 2024
USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:

Charlene Stenson
Mardy Dahl
Shelly Nelson
Bob Bruns

Others:

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

The October meeting was called to order by Stenson at 7:15am at the USDA Building, Valley City, ND. Minutes from the September Regular meeting were reviewed, and Dahl accepted those minutes as presented; Stenson seconded. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Financials:

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

Correspondence:

1. Thank you cards from Barnes County North School and St. Kate's Catholic School were received thanking us for hosting Eco Ed.

Technician Report:

Jason handed out his report. See attached. Jason requested approval to purchase more lights for the tree shed. Bruns made a motion to allocate \$1,200 for tree shed lights. Stenson seconded that motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Office Report:

Shelby handed out her report. See attached.

Outreach Coordinator Report:

Jessica handed out her report. See attached.

Old Business:

1. Jessica was added as a signer to the Wells Fargo checking account.

New Business:

1. Jessica presented rates for checking accounts, savings accounts, and Certificates of Deposit for Wells Fargo, Dakotah Bank, Bank Forward, and First Community Credit Union. Upon comparing rates, Nelson motioned to move BCSCD's two bank accounts from Wells Fargo to Bank Forward. Dahl Seconded. All in favor, aye. Motion carried.
2. Conference – November 25th and 26th. Board members will firm up their RSVP by the next board meeting. Jessica will make hotel reservations.
3. BCSCD and NRCS Christmas Party will be held on November 20th at Sabirs beginning at 5:00pm.
4. Staff evaluations will take place after the board meeting on November 13th.
5. Tree Report – see attached. The deadline to order handplants will be February 15, 2025.

Other:

1. OHF payment will be coming in soon.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45am. The next regular meeting is to be held on November 13, 2024, at 8:00am at the USDA building.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Jones, Administrative Professional/ Secretary

Sep/Oct 2024 Tech Report

❖ Trees

- All but 1 OHF contract came back funded. That 18k foot contract is pending. They held some of the larger ones back until they have a better idea of allocated dollars.
- 3 producers cancelled their contracts. One for medical, one person passed away.
- Bix Sioux verified and filled our initial tree order
- Towner-Still waiting to be filled. Should be verified in November

❖ Drill/Grass Seeding

- 1590 continues to be routed around county.
- I have multiple people signed up for dormant CRP seedings. Ground temps need to be 40deg for 5 consecutive days.

❖ Other

- Shed/Cooler winterized and cleaned up
- Ordered compressor from Bakkegard and Shell. Compressor is 4-6 weeks out. Comes with a 1-year warranty. Extended warranty may be available for 25% of the cost. Roughly \$1,200. Justin was looking into that option to see if its even available.
- Have washed and stored all equipment that is done for the year.
- 9.12.24- Attended big Iron. NRCS had a booth there.

❖ Park

- Continue to spend time at the park mowing and general upkeep. Everything is trimmed and cleaned up for winter. Kayak launch needs to be removed soon.
- Tore out an overgrown shrub row next to the road at the park and installed new weed barrier. Will be planting a row of Japanese lilac trees back into it next spring.



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

NRCS Activity Report
Barnes County Soil Conservation District Board
October 16th, 2024
Shelby Larson, District Conservationist (DC)

CDU (Fargo, Hillsboro, Finley, Valley City) had a District Conservationist meeting in Hillsboro October 8th

Expiring CRP onsite review is due soon, Cody has been busy checking these while Sandy printed the address on the envelopes for us and I've been reviewing and mailing

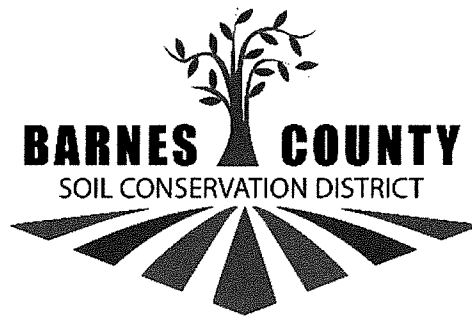
NRCS had a booth set up at Big Iron, our CDU (Fargo, Hillsboro, Finley, and Valley City) helped cover the booth along with Minnesota NRCS staff

Been very busy in the office certifying acres for applied practices and planning for next year's EQIP and CSPs

EQIP Batching deadline: September 20th, 16 applications. We still accept applications all year round

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

NRCS DC's and CDUS are to attend the SCD convention in November



Outreach Coordinator Report October/November 2024

Previously:

Halloween Dirt Cup Make and Take

- We had over 80 participants!

Pre-K Lesson: Farm to Table

- Circle of Friends Preschool: I read a book called The Pumpkin's Secret, and we discussed the life cycle of a pumpkin. Pumpkins start out from a seed --> then turn into a sprout --> then turn into a flower --> then turn into a pumpkin! We discussed how pumpkins can be used as cover crops in certain parts of the world. We then talked about the many uses for pumpkins, such as pie!
- We looked at pumpkin seeds, we ate pumpkin seeds, and then we made pumpkin pie in a cup!

Coming up:

Library Collaboration

- November 14th: Valley City Barnes County Public Library: Nature Explorer's Club
 - Read a non-fiction book about leaves. Make a leaf project.

In the future:

Library Collaboration

- December 12th: Valley City Barnes County Public Library: Nature Explorer's Club
 - Read a non-fiction book about snow. Make fake snow.