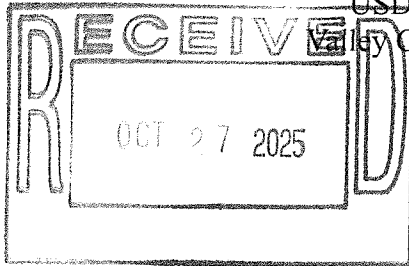


BARNES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of Meeting

September 10, 2025

USDA Building
Valley City, ND 58072



Board Members Present:

Charlene Stenson

Carl Pederson

Shelly Nelson

Others:

Jessica Jones, Administrative Professional

Shelby Larson, District Conservationist

Jason Elston, District Tech

Bob Flath, Ransom County SCD

The August meeting was called to order by Stenson at 8:07 am at the USDA Building, Valley City, ND. Minutes from the August Regular meeting were reviewed, and Stenson accepted those minutes as presented.

Financials:

A list of receipts and bills paid in August 2025 were reviewed by the Board. Nelson made a motion to accept the July Financials as presented. Pederson seconded the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Correspondence:

None

Office Report:

Shelby handed out her report; see attached.

Technician Report:

Jason handed out his report; see attached.

Outreach Coordinator Report:

Jessica handed out her report. See attached.

Old Business:

Charlene, Cody, Jessica, and Shelby attended the Area II meeting. The big takeaway was that all the different entities are collaborating and working as a team. Rhonda mentioned that communicating our needs with legislators is imperative.

New Business:

1. Charlene made a motion to approve the Mill Levy Budget for 2026 with a correction to the year on the form. Pederson seconded the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.
1. Nelson made a motion to approve the 2025 County Award Recipients to be recognized at our annual Barnes County SCD Banquet this fall/ winter. There are 3 award recipients, which are The Farmstead Windbreak Award: Judy Elston, The Backyard Stewardship Award: Steve and Beth Udem, and The Lifetime Achievement Award: Karen and Dave Olstad. Stenson seconded the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.
2. Bob Flath presented a 319 Grant Funding collaboration opportunity between Ransom County and Barnes County beginning December 2026 through 2030. The projects would include the Sheyenne River Drainage below Baldhill Dam and the drainage in Ransom County, cropland and rangeland practices, financial assistance to tours and public information meetings, and septic repair/ replacement or systems close to the river or drainages. Nelson made a motion to move forward with Bob's proposal to apply for and pursue funding for a collaborative 319 grant. Pederson seconded the motion. All in favor aye, motion carried.

Other:

1. None

The meeting adjourned at 9:30am. The next regular meeting is to be held on October 8th, 2025, at 8:00am at the USDA building.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Jones, Administrative Professional/ Secretary



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
September 10th, 2025
Shelby Larson, District Conservationist (DC)

August 25th, Cody and I attended the Area 2 meeting, along with Jessica and Charlene

Cody and I attended SE Zone meeting in Jamestown on August 27th

CRP paperwork is still really busy on the NRCS side, new signup work and re-enrolls. Paperwork is due back to FSA by September 17th. Cody has almost all of it is completed.

CRP producers are reporting their grass plantings from this spring/summer, so Cody and I are also completing that paperwork

Annual Waterbank reviews are completed and submitted, due September 30th

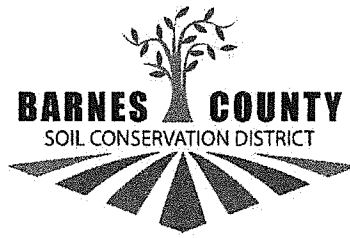
Working on getting all EQIP and CSP producers documentation completed, this is taking up a majority of my time and is my highest priority until all acres are reported and documents are received from producers

Attended Eco-Ed on September 2nd and 4th

Cody and I attended a grazing training by Wyndemere on September 8th. This showcased a producer utilizing electronic collars on a heard of goats

EQIP signup deadline is September 19th

Barnes County Food and Agriculture Council (FAC) Meeting is September 25th at 9am



Outreach Coordinator Report September 2025

Library Collaboration

- The Nature Explorers Club resumed on September 9th! Our theme was exploring the 5 Senses – Explore Nature with our sense of sight and hearing– The plan was to read “We’re Going on a Nature Hunt”, make binoculars, and do a nature hunt outdoors with our binoculars and magnifying glasses. We didn’t have any participants, unfortunately. We may need to adjust the date/ time. Sara is going to send out a survey to see what day/ time will work better for everyone.
 - o September 23rd: 5 Senses – All About Apples – we will read about apples, inspect an apple with a magnifying glass, try different apple varieties, and eat homemade applesauce.

School Outreach

- None

Eco Ed Camp

- September 2nd and 4th at Wesley Acres from 9am-5pm. The schools appreciated the shortened day. On Tuesday, we had 72 students from Washington Elementary. On Thursday, we had 39 students from St. Kate’s, Barnes County North School, and Maple Valley. The weather was perfect on Tuesday. On Thursday, it was windy and rainy, so the sessions had to be moved indoors, and the students didn’t get to go canoeing. They did go on a scavenger hunt with Jason and Cody that covered all the things that they learned about at Eco Ed. They really enjoyed exploring the campground. We had Kathleen Schell – The Bugman’s Daughter present about bugs this year! We also had Jim with Remarkable Reptiles present his reptiles at the end of the camp.
- I will be visiting other Eco Ed Camps across the state this month.

Trainings & Meetings:

- Project Learning Trees: Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood – this is an online training that I am working on. I have been using this curriculum for my library lessons and activities.

Submitted by: Jessica Jones, BCSCD Outreach Coordinator

110 Winter Show Road SW | Valley City, ND 58072 | 701-845-3114 Ext. 3

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