

**Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District
Board Meeting – December 15, 2023 – 9:11AM
Held at USDA Building 417 Park St W, Park River ND**

Attendance

Joel Hylden, President
Jay Gudajtes, Vice President
Brent Risky, Supervisor
Allen Zidon, Supervisor
Jacob Suda, Supervisor
Josh Anderson, District Conservation Manager
Brandon Mathiason, Business & Operations Manager
Bob Lundquist, NRCS

President Hylden called meeting to order with roll call and asked for modifications to the agenda.

Minutes

Last month's minutes were discussed, and Gudajtes moved to approve the November 9th meeting minutes; Risky seconded; motion carried.

District Conservation Report

Anderson gave the conservation report of what we have done this past month and some of the things that are planned for next month. Anderson also talked about the different grant funding that we have applied for. Anderson also mentioned that we are moving forward with the water festival and starting to do more for the aquifer. Mathiason gave the business & operations side of the report highlighting some of the events they attended as well as talking about the interviews that were conducted with the watershed position. Mathiason also talked about how the 319 grant paperwork was going and stated they are now turning to the focus on getting tree plans in order and finalized.

Other Reports

Lundquist reported on the status of NRCS programs.

Financial Report

Mathiason gave the financial report with some year-end reports. The board also discussed how to deal with customer credits. Mathiason also asked to approve the bills. Risky moved to pay the bills and Gudajtes seconded; motion carried.

New Business

The board spoke about the possibility of shortening the name in the future. There was also discussion on early tree and grass sales outlining what discounts could be offered. Mathiason presented the board with an optional annual revenue program working with advertising from businesses. The board discussed and agreed to move forward with some minor adjustments to

the program. Mathiason & Anderson asked the board about the annual public banquet and wanted to get suggestions when to have the event, where to hold the event, and other items pertaining to the banquet, after discussion the board decided to have it the first Thursday in April.

Old Business

The board decided to reject Anderson's request for a 10-month work year and stated that they would work with him on taking personal time off if and when needed.

Other Business

The Watershed Coordinator position had two good candidates to choose from and the board decided to have Mathiason and Anderson extend the offer of the position to Yates McConnell. Yearly appointed Supervisor terms for Allen Zidon and Jacob Suda were extended to both Zidon and Suda again for the 2024-year term and they both accepted. Risky moved that both Allen Zidon and Jacob Suda be reappointed to the yearly supervisor term for the year 2024; Gudajtes seconded; motion carried.

Next Meeting

Regular board meeting January 11th at 9am to be held at 417 Park St. W Park River ND 58270

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:16AM