

**Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board Meeting  
August 21, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held August 21, 2019 beginning at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair, Rick Nelsen. Present were Lynn Darling, Ken Wolf and Rick Nelsen. Also present were: John Shea, District Manager; Scott Runck, District Technician; Sabrina Raddle, Administrative Assistant; Catelyn LaCour, Farm Bill Technician; Robert Demuth, Nobles County Commissioner; Allisa Wendland, NRCS.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the August 21, 2019 meeting was reviewed. Darling moved to approve the agenda as presented. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Wolf and Nelsen. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MINUTES: The minutes for the June 19, 2019 meeting was reviewed. Wolf moved to approve the minutes as presented. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Wolf and Nelsen. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for June 2019 and July 2019. Darling moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$34,553.19 and \$28,088.08, respectively. Wolf seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen and Wolf. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS: With the rising cost-share costs, Shea wanted the board to look into other options. Instead of paying full price for a broad base project, cost-share would pay the cheaper amount between a narrow and broad base project based on percentage. This is just an informational piece for the board to look at.

Raddle presented the board with an updated tree cost-share log and local cost-share log.

<b>FY19-01</b>	<b>Justin Hoffman</b>	<b>Shelterbelt</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
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After review, Wolf moved to accept and pay the cost-share contract for Justin Hoffman in the amount of \$1,000. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen and Wolf. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

<b>SWCD-46</b>	<b>Jerry Loonan</b>	<b>Conservation Use</b>	<b>\$975.00</b>
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After review, Darling moved to accept the cost-share contract for Jerry Loonan in the amount of \$975. Wolf seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen and Wolf. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Shea discussed a couple previous projects that need repair. The board didn’t see an issue with repairing the basins under local cost-share.

CORRESPONDENCE: MASWCD legislative briefing, MCIT Brochures.

OLD BUSINESS – BUFFER UPDATE-LaCour checked all parcels that still needed a review. There were 23 parcels that were sent to the County to send a letter for compliance. The landowner would then have 11 months to become compliant before the fine.

SUMMIT LAKE 11- Shea and LaCour went out to site and cut roughly 40 acres to control the weeds. The contractor has New Vision lined up to spray the weeds out on site this fall.

1W1P - BWSR has the plan to approve. The local workgroup should be meeting again to set policy on how money should be spent. Shea hopes that by 2020 we will have funding available to spend.

EMPLOYEE POLICY HANDBOOK – Raddle discussed with the board various changes. She will bring the policy back for the board to review next month.

CRP/CREP UPDATE – LaCour talked about what she has had for sign-up this batching period.

REGIONAL EMPLOYEES MEETING – Shea attending this meeting last week. He thought it was beneficial to have discussions with Administrators from other states to hear what they had going on in their respective states.

NOBLES COUNTY FAIR – Numbers down from years past. Working on different ideas for next year.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT – Shea touched on the educational activity he and LaCour helped with this summer. He then touched on the NRCS staffing changes in our office. Boysen took a different position in Fairmont. NRCS hopes to have someone staff our office every day. Conservationist of the Year discussion occurred. Runck and Shea will be attending a cover crop meeting at the end of August and his manager meeting was moved to mid-September.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT – Allisa was here for NRCS. She explained how NRCS is operating now and what we can expect in the time to come. She briefed the board on EQIP and the funding Nobles County received. She then touched on the other programs NRCS had available.

WATERSHED DISTRICTS AND OTHER REPORTS – Shea touched on the KLRWD meeting. KLRWD is looking at partnering with the City of Adrian on Wellhead protection. Demuth touched on the OOWD meeting. They are still working to repair the structure at the old golf course. The lake Ocheda draw down has started. The watershed is still monitoring the carp in the area to see where they are spawning and wintering to better manage the population. Demuth then covered the county topics. One of the topics included Lewis and Clark Rural Water. They are looking for a letter of support for another well supply.

NEW BUSINESS – 2020 Budget Committee – Shea is waiting on grant amounts for 2020. He would like to set a time to work with budget committee. Nelsen and Langseth are on the committee.

EMERALD ASH BORER – The insect was found in Nobles County at Pioneer Village. There will be a meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the topic and how it can be managed.

RETENSION SCHEDULE – Raddle is working on keeping this updated.

ADRIAN DAM – This is based from the USFWS grant to remove the dam. Shea informed the board on the happenings of

WCA – Nobles 2 Wind project. There will be temporary impacts to the wetlands in the area. Shea received 2 letters of credit for this area in the event the company goes bankrupt during this process.

GOVERNANCE 101 CONFERENCE – No board members will be attending. Shea and Raddle will look into it.

LEARNING AREA TOURS – Wolf moved to provide lunches to the volunteers and workers assisting with the event. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen and Wolf. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

BWSR ACADEMY – Darling moved to send four staff to BWSR Academy in 2019. Wolf seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen and Wolf. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2019 at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURN 9:35 a.m.

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Lynn Darling, Secretary