

BELLE FOURCHE RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
NOVEMBER 29, 2012
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 1pm

Present: Karl Jensen-Lawrence CD, Tanse Herrmann-NRCS Sturgis, Jared Oswald-RESPEC, Sarah Eggebo-NRCS Belle Fourche, Steve Fairbairn-USFWS, Jenny Walker-BLM, Carmen Drieling-BLM, Justin Boerboom-NRCS Belle Fourche, Dale Lundgren-Elk Creek CD, Matt Stoltenberg, Nate Jagim-Meade Co W&P, Clint Pitts-BFID, Tim Reich-Butte CD and Yvette Kirkman-Butte CD

Minutes of the August meeting were distributed and reviewed, Karl moved to approve, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Karl reviewed the treasurer's report, noting that 4 cost-share payments had been made, Clint moved to approve, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Matt Stoltenberg reviewed the Segment V budget, noting that \$187k was available to invest in pivots, which would fund approximately 1200 acres. There are 27 applications eligible to fund. Matt also stated that everyone who had participated in the irrigation scheduling had received their data and the riparian implementation projects that were funded are now complete as well.

Regarding project management, \$112k is currently available for investment and all obligations must be made by June 1, 2013.

Water quality monitoring is complete on Horse Creek.

Matt submitted the final report for Segment IV to EPA and it was accepted.

2 proposals were submitted via email to the board, Karl moved to approve funding on both projects, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried. (A copy of the email correspondence is available)

Matt distributed copies of the draft presentation of Segment VI. The group went over each page and made several adjustments, changing graph styles, adding more data and added projects that are planned for the future, to show the continued commitment to the project. The task force meets on Dec. 4th in Pierre, Matt and Tim will be attending.

At this time, the group was informed that all of the proposals that were presented to the Conservation Commission were funded. Among those proposals was the envirothon grant, which was reduced from 2 years to 1 year as a pilot project and the budget was revised. An extension was granted for the groundwater study and SDSMT has approached Matt about hosting the website for that data. The group felt this was a good partnership and Matt will keep everyone posted on that

progress. The BF River Weed Management group mentioned that they were working on securing match dollars from the Wild Turkey Federation and Homestake Mining Co.

Casey Peterson & Assoc. has contacted Matt regarding next year's audit and whether a full audit would be necessary. Karl stated that because we have the process so streamlined he recommended going ahead with a full audit because if we were to just do a review, in the event that a full audit was required we would have to go back thru all this information again anyway. Karl made the motion to proceed with a full audit, Clint seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Deidre will be contacted to move forward.

The partnership received a letter regarding sponsorship of the Leopold Conservation Award. Karl moved to contribute \$1000, Clint seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Matt noted that the City of Lead has requested some technical assistance on some stream issues and that this would be a good opportunity to possibly gain a new partner in the groundwater project.

Yvette mentioned that the Vale Ag Show would be held on Jan. 9th and would the group like to have a booth again this year. The cost is \$125 for the day. Matt noted that it's a really productive event each year, Karl moved to approve the booth, Dale seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Steve Fairbairn updated the group with information that Elk Creek CD was awarded another multi-county ponds grant via the Conservation Commission.

Nate Jagim updated the group on the funding the Weed Management group had received and the proposal that was going to the Weed & Pest board in February. They have made progress with the Phragmites but have discovered a new infestation of Salt Cedar near White Owl that will be receiving some attention in the spring. Nate asked that if anyone noticed any Salt Cedar or Phragmites to please contact the Weed & Pest asap.

Next meeting will be February 7, 2013 @ 1pm.