

**Minutes**  
**North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**NDASCD Office and *via Zoom***  
**December 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Rocky Bateman at 8:35 am.

**ATTENDANCE:** Keith Bartholomay, Rocky Bateman, Monte Bloms, Gary Dathe, Kelly Froelich, Steve Gilje, Sam Partlow, and Ken Pedersen.

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Perry Bollum, Aaron Field, Gina Fracassi, Jill Howard, Brian Johnston, Keith Kronenberg, Dustin Krueger, Tokina McHenry, Mary Podoll, and Jesse Thompson.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Steve Gilje motioned to approve the minutes of August 4, 2021, September 9, 2021, September 24, 2021, and November's 2021 Re-Organization meeting and written and distributed. Monte Bloms seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye.**

**Absent: Gary Dathe and Albert Wood.**

**REPORTS**

*NACD* – Keith Bartholomay reported on the dates of the upcoming meetings. The NACD Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida will take place February 12-16 2022. The NACD will go back to the rotation schedule of regional meetings. The Summer Meeting will be held in ND for 2022. And the National NACD Meeting will be held in Bismarck in 2023. Rocky Bateman reported the Task Force Report will be approved at the National Convention.

*NDCDEA* – Dustin Krueger discussed the Tree Promotion scheduled March 15-17<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Inn, Bismarck. He reported that there will be an Urban Conservation seminar planned for early spring of 2022. The NDCDEA will be giving out 2 \$1,000 scholarships in 2022. 2021's NDCDEA Appreciation Award went to Ryan Thorson. The NDCDEA will hold monthly district employee meetings starting in January 2022. Dustin answered questions from the board.

*NDSSCC* – Aaron Field updated the board on the two grant funded positions that are open for applications. The hiring process should be complete by the next meeting and Aaron will introduce the new staff. Aaron reviewed the Leadership Academy Training levels and upcoming dates which are available. Bob Martin from Stutsman Co SCD was elected to the NDSSCC Board of Directors. Bob's term will start at the beginning of 2022. (Report Available)

*NRCS* – Mary Podoll reviewed deadlines the NRCS is taking care of. The agency will hold their annual award celebration Thursday, December 16. Starting in January 2022 there will be a monthly employee staff meeting. NRCS will be re-opening offices starting in January 2022. Jill Howard with the NRCS reported on the RCCP Program. Applications are due by December 30, 2021. The Farm Bill Specialist bill will expire in September of 2022. (Report available)

## **LON UPDATE**

Brian Johnston introduced Jesse Thompson as the new LON Nursery Manager. Jesse reviewed fishbowl and nursery property/machinery updates. He answered questions from the board.

## **OAKES PROPERTY UPDATE**

Perry Bollum from James River SCD, along with Tokina McHarry, Keith Kronberg, and Gary Dathe came to the board meeting to present a proposal to buy Oakes Property. Tokina McHarry presented a report on what the James River SCD would like to do with the property if purchased. Tokina answered questions from the board.

**Keith Bartholomay moves to sell the Oakes Property to James River SCD for \$550,000. Gary Dathe seconded the motion.**

**Monte Bloms moves to amend the motion to include a rider that states “property used for education for the life of the loan”. Steve Gilje seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye.**

**Absent: Albert Wood**

**The amendment passed unanimously.**

**Kelly Froelich moved to amend the motion to change the price from \$550,000 to \$500,000. Keith Bartholomay seconded the motion. Kelly Froelich and Keith Bartholomay voted aye. Steve Gilje, Rocky Bateman, Monte Bloms, Kent Pedersen, Gary Dathe, and Sam Partlow voted nay.**

**Absent: Albert Wood**

**The amendment failed.**

**Rocky Bateman asked the board to voted for the original amended motion of the sale of Oakes Property to James River SCD for the price of \$550,000. Keith Bartholomay, Steve Gilje, Rocky Bateman, Monte Bloms, Gary Dathe, Sam Partlow, and Kent Pedersen voted aye. Kelly Froelich voted nay.**

**Absent: Albert Wood**

**The original amended motion passed 7 ayes to 1 nay.**

9:30am: Break

9:45am: Meeting resumed

## **CEO REPORT**

Brian reviewed the tree sales report with the board and answered questions. Former nursery manager, Bill Elhardt, re-opened his claim with WSI. Once WSI has made a decision, the board will have a Zoom meeting to discuss it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Monthly Pay Period* – Brian reviewed the new pay period policy with the board.

**Monte motioned to strike wordage “pay period every two weeks on Friday” on page 34 in the employee manual and insert language “pay period to be determined by CEO”. Keith Bartholomay seconded the motion. All board members present voted aye.**

**Absent: Gary Dathe and Albert Wood**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

*2022 board meeting dates* – Rocky Bateman and Brian Johnston reviewed 2022 meeting dates. The board agreed to change the February 1, meeting to Tuesday, February 22, 2022. The rest of the dates are tentative and subject to change.

*NACD 2022 Summer Convention* – Keith Bartholomay updated the board on the summer convention. He does not know when or where it will take place. He will be in contact with Aubrey Evans, NACD Regional Rep., and update the board when he has more information.

*Tree questionnaire* – Rocky discussed with Brian and the board on how to implement a tree questionnaire with a tree sale. Certain groups who give grants to plant trees need to know what the trees are being used for and if some program is helping pay. Brian will reach out to Morton Co. SCD and get a format for a questionnaire LON can use.

Meeting breaks: 12:30pm

Meeting reconvenes 12:57pm

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

*SBA Loan Update* – Brian updated the board on the SBA Loan. After the sale of Oakes Property, the property in Bismarck will be used as collateral. Kristi sent in a voided check and the Association is waiting for payment. Brian will update the board at the next meeting.

*Area V Director* – The board discussed how to get people to join the board. Monte Bloms would like to change how the nominating committees fills vacant positions. Rocky asked Monte to do some research and report back at the next meeting.

*Standing Committees* – Kent Pedersen told the board the Association can change or appoint committee charges as needed.

*NDASCD 2022 Dues* – Invoices will go to the districts after the 1<sup>st</sup> of January for 2022 dues. Payments are due by the end of February.

Rocky adjourned the meeting a 1:43pm