




LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

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Memorandum

Date: August 13, 2020
To: Board of Directors
From: David Potter, Assistant General Manager 
RE: Land Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes.

The Land Resources Subcommittee had a virtual (Go-To) meeting Tuesday, August 11, 2020 hosted from the NRD Office in Lincoln. Subcommittee members participating included Gary Hellerich, Gary Aldridge, Mark Spangler, Bruce Johnson, Chelsea Johnson, Mike DeKalb, Dave Landis, and Sarah Wilson. Others participating in the meeting were Larry Ruth, David Potter, Donna Reid, and Cory Schmidt. The meeting was called to order by Chair Hellerich at 5:32 p.m. and the agenda was reviewed.

(a) Surface Water Quality Cost-Share Applications. *[Action]*

The first item on the agenda was consideration of the surface water quality applications. Potter stated the district received a total of 88 fall cost-share assistance applications for conservation work and FY'21 NRD funds. Applications were divided into the Eastern and Western areas and the cost-share review groups met last week to review them. Minutes from those review groups are provided herein.

The Eastern NSWCP Cost-Share Review Group met virtually Thursday, August 6th at 9:00 a.m. via Go-To meeting to review the 42 fall applications received. The group also reviewed the proposed 2020 Surface Water Quality BMP Cost-Share Program budget consisting of the FY'21 budgeted amounts, the allocated funds, obligated dollars, and the available funds. Staff noted the program budget indicated funds still available with the presented applications and prioritization is not needed. Review group members attending included Mark Spangler, Mike DeKalb, Dan Steinkruger, and Sarah Wilson. Others present included Cory Schmidt, Cindy Spilinek, James Conradi, Scott Mathine, Peyton Harsin, Nicole Strand, Donna Reid and David Potter. It was moved by DeKalb, seconded by Steinkruger and unanimously approved to recommend approval to the Land Resources Subcommittee those Eastern Portion applications totaling the amount presented in the program budget. Steinkruger also commented on and suggested that the Land Resources Subcommittee consider 1) increasing maximum cost-share dollar amounts and 2) increasing the crop production year cost-share requirement from one year to two or three years.

The Western NSWCP Cost-Share Review Group met virtually Thursday, August 6th at 11:00 a.m. via Go-To meeting to review the 46 fall applications (10 targeted, 36 district-wide) received. The group also reviewed the proposed 2020 Surface Water Quality BMP Cost-Share Program budget consisting of the FY'21 budgeted amounts, the allocated funds, obligated dollars, and the available funds. Staff noted the program budget indicated funds still available with the presented applications and prioritization is not needed. Review group members participating included Gary Hellerich, Gary Aldridge, Vern Barrett, and Bruce Johnson. Others present included John Albert, Cory Schmidt, Nicole Strand, Mitch Schoenfelder, Donna Reid and David Potter. It was moved by Barrett, seconded by B. Johnson and unanimously approved to recommend approval to the Land Resources Subcommittee those Western Portion, SVL & Stevens Creek applications totaling the amount presented in the

program budget. Review group members also commented on need to raise maximum cost-share dollar amounts and suggested promoting programs by identifying completed projects with signage.

Potter stated that the District's program funding budgets and prioritization commonly used were provided to the subcommittee. It was also noted that FY2021 cost-share program budgets also take into account those payments made in FY2021 for jobs completed in the previous fiscal year, the summer applications that were approved for this year, and the fall applications. In summary, there are 88 District cost-share applications for consideration, including 36 District-Western, 10 Targeted, and 42 District-Eastern totaling an amount of \$862,773.00 (West \$333,279, Targeted \$138,233, East \$391,261). The applications were identified on a spreadsheet and map and were provided to the subcommittee.

It was moved by Landis, seconded by DeKalb, and unanimously approved, to recommend the Board of Directors approve the 88 identified cost-share applications totaling an amount of \$862,773.00.

(b) LPSNRD Cost-Share Program. *[Discussion]*

Staff and the subcommittee discussed the maximum cost-share dollar amount of the NSWCP Land Treatment Cost-Share Program and how increasing it might affect conservation work. The last increase was in 2015 and changed the district-wide maximum from \$7000 to \$10,000 and the summer conservation program maximum from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Potter stated that staff would bring this item to the subcommittee for consideration in December or early next year to coordinate with the 2021 docket and application period.

(c) Measurable Goals. *[Action]*

As directed in the LPSNRD 2019 Master Plan, a list of measurable goals is to be developed for each subcommittee for the fiscal year and then those goals are to be reviewed each year to see what has been accomplished. Potter presented the 12-month review of the FY20 measurable goals and the proposed goals for FY21 for the Land Resources Subcommittee. The review and proposed goals were provided to the subcommittee.

It was moved by Landis, seconded by B. Johnson, and unanimously approved, to recommend the Finance and Planning Subcommittee include the identified measurable goals as part of the FY21 Long Range Implementation Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.