



Five Rivers RC&D
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Five Rivers RC&D Council Meeting Minutes – June 21st, 2012

President Jessica Jones officially called the regular meeting of the Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council to order at 9:46 a.m. at the Five Rivers RC&D office in Tecumseh, Nebraska.

Members Present: Lower Big Blue NRD –Bob Lorenz
At Large – Dale Haverty
At-Large – Jessica Jones
Otoe County - Alfred Gigstad
Johnson County – Tom Hamer
Nemaha NRD – Scott Kudrna
Gage County – Myron Dorn
Richardson County- Jim Davidson
Nemaha County – Mary Kruger
Saline County – Willis Luedke
At-Large – Wilmer Schlake

Members Absent: At-Large – Paul Rohrbaugh; Pawnee County – Alan Richard; Jefferson County - Jim Frager

Staff and Volunteers: Bobbie Meints, Executive Director

Introductions: None

Minutes: A motion was made by Haverty and seconded by Lorenz to approve the May 24th, 2012 minutes as presented and previously mailed. Motion carried.

Bills and Financial Report: Haverty made the motion accept the financial report as presented and Dorn seconded the motion. Motion carried. Discussion was held regarding the bill for the Steamboat Trace Trail shelters. Kruger reported that although the bill is in the amount of \$7898.05, the Nemaha County Lodging Committee’s grant is only for \$7500.00. Therefore Kruger explained that the RC&D, as the fiscal agent, would write the check for \$7500.00 and the Peru Development Committee will need to cover the \$398.05 out of their own budget. Kruger will make certain that both checks are delivered to Sack Lumber in Auburn and that the total amount owed is paid. Hamer made the motion to pay all bills as listed, except for the bill for the shelters, which will be paid as Kruger explained in the amount of \$7500.00. Haverty seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Staff Report: An update on current and upcoming projects was distributed.

Update of Volunteer Hours: A volunteer hours reporting form was circulated.

Unfinished Business:

Fundraising Opportunities/Brainstorming: President Jones asked the Council if anyone had any fundraising opportunities that they wished to share. Kudrna suggested purchasing a new banner each year with the Five Rivers RC&D name and logo to display during events and sell advertising spots on the banner. He stated that this is done at several other organizations, including little league baseball games. The organization is able to raise money and the businesses have a cheaper form of advertising throughout the year. The council agreed that this was a worthwhile idea and should be a new project. Jones formed a new committee consisting of Kudrna, Haverty, and Meints. The committee will meet to discuss the next plan of action.

MINK grant possibilities –Kruger: Kruger reported that the group had the opportunity to meet with the Kansas City Economic Development Director and discussed how to properly handle disaster funding. She reported that the ground will utilize RC&Ds in each region to help with the grant administration, however at this time it is still in the beginning phases. She stated that Maxine Maul is a big supporter of this project and is encouraging the group to get their application in as soon as possible. Kruger stated that she will have more details after a meeting in Rock Port, Missouri on June 27th, 2012.

2012-2013 Five Rivers RC&D Sponsorship Dues-UPDATE from County Reps: Meints reported that she has scheduled appointments with Otoe County, where Doc and Howard will both present on the 26th of June and one in Jefferson County, Where Alan will present on the 26th of June as well. She also stated that she met with the Richardson County Commissioners on Tuesday, June 19th and thought the meeting went well. Meints stated that there is another meeting scheduled for July 12th at the Nemaha NRD and is in the process of scheduling a date and time with the Lower Big Blue NRD. Dorn stated that after speaking with the Financial Committee for the Gage County Supervisors, it was decided that they were not going to allow organizations to come before the board requesting funding at this time. Dorn stated that he will continue to speak with each of the Supervisors as well as the county clerk with hopes of gaining full or partial funding.

2013 Western RC&D Conference – Nebraska to Host – Update-Meints: Meints reported that although she reported that the each RC&D would have the opportunity to speak with the chambers and economic development offices in their areas to gain bids to determine where the conference would be held in 2013, it was decided that the conference would be held in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Meints stated that a committee was developed at the Spring RC&D meeting, which she sits on, however she has not been asked to participate in any conference details or meetings at this point.

New Business:

Budget Committee Report and Proposal-Hamer/Kudrna/Kruger: Kudrna stated that the budget committee met prior to the Council meeting; however more details are needed to further determine the budget for FY 2012-2013. He stated that although the committee can make recommendations, the Council will need to make certain decisions, including whether or not to stay in the current building and paying rent, as well as whether or not to keep paying association dues. As projected, the Council lost money the first year without federal funding, resulting in a net loss of \$18,700.00, which was taken from the Council's saving. If the Council continues without making necessary changes, the money will be spent within three to four years. The goal is to decrease expenses and increase income, with several grants and sponsorships helping to achieve this goal. The committee will meet once again and present the proposal at the next Council meeting.

Updated project status of Steamboat Trace Trail-Peru-Kruger: Kruger reported that the NRD has been a big supporter of the Peru Area Development's project and according to Hilske, the trail should reopen in July. Kruger stated that the shelters are complete and they are beginning work on the signage with the QR coding.

Quarterly Traveling Council Meeting-Gage County-Beatrice Community Hospital-Dorn: Dorn reported that he did check with the Beatrice Community Hospital and they will allow a tour. He stated that he will communicate with them further to arrange a meeting for the July Council Meeting. Dorn will keep Meints updated.

Projects to open: Kudrna made the motion to open Proj 12-317 – Five Rivers RC&D Sponsor Banner. Dorn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Projects to close: None.

Other Business:

National RC&D Conference-Meints: The National RC&D Conference was held in Madison, WI, June, 2012. Meints attended the conference and reported that approximately 175 RC&D representatives were present. She also reported that she was able to present the Five Rivers WMA success story during the conference, which she thought went very well. Meints informed the council that she was able to distribute several weed ID guides and Sericea Lespedeza brochures. Dwayne Bergman, Ron Moore, and Carol Peters were also in attendance to represent the Nebraska State RC&Ds.

Council of 12-Meints: Meints reported that the last teleconference was quite short and that the group focused on the 2013 Western RC&D Conference (see notes regarding Western Conference above) as well as the 2013 Nebraska RC&D Meeting, which will be hosted by Northeast RC&D and held in Wayne, NE at the end of September. Meints will update the Council when further information is received.

Roundtable: Council members shared upcoming events and other news from their communities and counties.

Council Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 p.m. with a motion from Kudrna and a second by Haverty.



Alfred (Doc) Gigstad, Secretary