



Five Rivers RC&D
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Five Rivers RC&D Council Meeting Minutes – February 17th, 2011

President Alan Richard called the regular meeting of the Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council to order at 9:36 a.m. at the Five Rivers RC&D office location.

Members Present: Lower Big Blue NRD –Bob Lorenz
Johnson County – Tom Hamer
Saline County – Willis Luedke
Richardson County- Jim Davidson
At-Large – Dale Haverty
Johnson County Alternate – Howard McNiff
Nemaha County – Mary Kruger
Pawnee County – Alan Richard
Gage County – Myron Dorn
Otoe County - Alfred Gigstad
At-Large – Wilmer Schlake

Members Absent: At-Large - Paul Rohrbaugh; At-Large – Jessica Jones; Jefferson County – Jim Frager; Nemaha NRD – Scott Kudrna

Staff and Volunteers: Tammy Timms, Coordinator

Changes to the Revised Agenda: President Richard added a reimbursement for Western RC&D Conference.

Introductions of Guest and New Member(s): President Richard welcomed new member-Myron Dorn and guest speaker -Amie Schleicher. Introductions were given.

Presentation: Amie Schleicher, University of Missouri Extension, is participating in the Ag Leadership of Tomorrow which is a two year program to introduce students to the principles of leadership in the field of agriculture nationwide. Amie's class had the opportunity to travel to Europe and learn of their agricultural practices and policies. European producers raise a variety of products such as purple garlic, organic cereal grains, ducks (for fatty liver entrée), grape for wine, apples for liquor, and fruits and vegetables. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is a system of European Union agricultural subsidies and programs. It represents 48% of the EU's budget. The CAP combines a direct subsidy payment for crops and land which may be cultivated with price support mechanisms, including guaranteed minimum prices, import tariffs and quotas on certain goods from outside the EU. The aim of the common agricultural policy (CAP) is to provide farmers with a reasonable standard of living, consumers with quality food at fair prices and to preserve rural heritage.

Minutes: A motion was made by Hamer and seconded by Lorenz to approve the January 19th, 2011 minutes as previously mailed. Motion passed.

Bills and Financial Report: A motion was made by Haverty to accept the financial report as presented. Lorenz seconded the motion. Motion passed. Motion by Schlake and second by Haverty to pay the \$75.00 deposit to Kimmel Education and Research Center for Wine School IX, \$907.37 to First National Bank credit card for computer and printer purchase, and \$696.30 to Alan Richard for airline and registration fees for the upcoming Western RC&D Conference. Motion passed.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Staff Report: Coordinator Timms gave an update on projects as well as distributed the 2011 RC&D goals.

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

Unfinished Business:

Executive Committee: No new report.

EDGE project: President Richard reported that only two registrations for the EDGE course had been received, so the class was canceled. A meeting with Janelle Moran, Rural Enterprise Assistance Program, will help direct us on other possible business training curriculum.

New Business:

New Members: The council welcomed Myron Dorn as the new Gage County representative. Rex Adams will be Gage County's alternate. Myron resides near Adams and is a full-time farmer. Both Myron and Rex are county commissioners.

Projects to Open/Close: A motion was made by Kruger and seconded by Gigstad to open 11-301 Wine School IX, 11-302 2011 NETF Invasive Weed Grant, and 11-303 Weed ID Pocket Guide. Motion passed.

Other Business:

Western RC&D Conference – March 13-16th, Lewiston, ID: Members were reminded that the Western RC&D Association is looking for auction items for the conference and would appreciate any donations.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the RC&D Council will be held at the Five Rivers RC&D office in Tecumseh, NE at 9:30 a.m. on March 17th, 2011.

Discussion on Noxious and Invasive Weeds – Open discussion on the categorizing of Japanese Knotweed as a noxious weed by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (recently found in only four counties in eastern Nebraska), but not Sericea Lespedeza (found in over at least eight counties in southeastern Nebraska and very difficult to eradicate) led to a motion by Richard and second by Haverty to send letter to the Five Rivers WMA (with copies to the counties and NDA) to take an active approach in getting Sericea Lespedeza on the Nebraska State Noxious Weed List. Motion passed.

Roundtable: Council Members and staff shared information on current events in the surrounding counties and communities.



Al Gigstad, Secretary