



## **BIG SIOUX RIVER PROJECT Steering Committee Meeting Minutes June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Dell Rapids City Hall, 302 E 4<sup>th</sup> St. | Dell Rapids, SD 57022**

**Location:** Dell Rapids City Hall, 302 E 4<sup>th</sup> St, Dell Rapids, SD 57022  
**Time and Date:** 09:00-11:00 Tuesday, 27 June 2023  
**Attendees:** Barry Berg, Amber Lively, Travis Entenman, Darrell DeBoer, John Parker, Jeremy Schelhaas, Tyson Cerkowniak, Troy Lambert, Jose Alvarez, Michelle Burke, Dean Jaycox, Jay Gilbertson

- 1. Call to order at 9:05 AM Minnehaha Conservation District Project Sponsor, John Parker.**
- 2. Approve Agenda**
  - Approved with amendments to postpone updates from Tanner Clausen (DANR) and Tami Jansma (City of Brandon) until next meeting.
  - Motion Justin Weiland (City of Dell Rapids), Second Darrell DeBoer (Brookings County)
- 3. Approval of March 22nd meeting minutes.**
  - Approved without corrections.
  - Motion Darrell DeBoer, Second Dean Jaycox (Moody County)
- 4. New employee McKenzie Blaine has left the project for graduate school.**
  - Barry indicated a backfill for McKenzie's position will likely be posted this fall for a November start.
- 5. Soil Health Coalition update. - None**
- 6. NRCS programs update (Deron Ruesch)**
  - \$171,516 RCPP applications
  - ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP): 3 applications funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Carbon Smart Initiative Fund Pool. 1 contract approved through the IRA ACTNow Fund Pool for Shelterbelt Renovation. Two High Tunnel and 5 Cover Crop contracts obligated.
  - CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP): General signup closed in March; 10 renewal applications received.
  - 27 July = new batching for FY24 RCPP Applications with the goal to obligate 12 July 2024
- 7. City of Sioux Falls update (Troy Lambert).**
  - Introduction of Tyson and Jose as new employees with the City of Sioux Falls
  - Final design for E. coli filter to be decided on 28 June.
  - Following installation, the City of Sioux Falls will host a field day.
- 8. Big Sioux River Project (Barry).**
  - 4 SRAM contracts completed in 2023.
  - 168 acres, 25,914 linear feet, 4.9 miles.
  - 88.8 Miles, 3574.3 acres SRAM & RAM totals through 2022.
  - 93.7 Miles, 3,742.3 acres total through 2023.
- 9. August 23rd = SRAM Grazing Lands Partnership Field Day**
- 10. Big Sioux River Project Information & Education Update (Amber Lively).**



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- Education Update
  - a) 12 April – Harrisburg 6th Grade
  - b) 9 May – Big Sioux River Water Festival
  - c) Board Game – “Big Sioux River Water Hero”
- Outreach
  - a) 23 March – Farm to Brew Event
  - b) 17 April – State of the City Address; Sioux Falls Downtown Rotary Meeting
  - c) 14 May – Vermillion- Big Sioux Area Meeting
- Ongoing Projects
  - a) Website updates
    1. New informational “updates” section which has brought in new traffic to the website.
    2. Average traffic is coming directly to us via a link and navigating 2.5 pages per session.
  - b) Social Stats
    1. Instagram:
      1. 258 followers
      2. 58.1% Female, 41.9% Male, aged 25-34
    2. Facebook:
      1. 146 followers
      2. 50.7% Female, 49.3% Male, aged 35-44
    3. Average audience member is from Sioux Falls (77.7%),
  - c) Development of educational handouts & curriculum
  - d) August 23rd Event -materials, planning, and invites.
  - e) New informational “Updates” and watershed engagement posts focused on urban audiences.
- Upcoming
  - a) Riverfest (19 August)
  - b) This is Our Water event (23 August)
  - c) Community engagement with outside municipalities beyond Sioux Falls

### **11. RBI Project update (Tanner Clausen). - Postponed**

### **12. City of Brandon (Tami Jansma). - Postponed**

### **13. Other Business.**

### **14. Adjourn. 9:50 AM**

- Motion: Darrell DeBoer, Second: Dean Jaycox