

NDCDEA Directors Meeting

Via-Zoom

December 7th, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Acting President, Dustin Krueger at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was present. Dustin Krueger took over the role as acting President after Kaylee Stein resigned.

Directors Present: Darci Gahner, Ryan Thorson, Tokina Mcharry, Kari Beckman, Stetson Myers, Dustin Krueger, Valerie Frohlich and Sarah Tunge.

Others Present: Rhonda Kelsch

Minutes:

Minutes from the July 20th directors meeting were presented. ***Tokina Mcharry motioned to approve the minutes. Valerie Frohlich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

Financial Report (attachment available):

Darci stated that there are currently 60 paid members, along with 12 regional members. Currently there is \$90,472.47 in the account. The NDCDEA internal audit was completed, and reports were emailed out to the directors. ***Tokina Mcharry motioned to approve and accept the audit reports as presented. Ryan Thorson seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Ryan Thorson motioned to approve the Financial Report as presented by Darci Gahner. Kari Beckman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*** Rhonda Kelsch asked the board for reimbursement of around \$550.00 for registration costs for her and Sarah Tunge at the National meeting. ***Ryan Thorson motioned to approve the registration fees for Rhonda Kelsch and Sarah Tunge at the National meeting as presented. Tokina Mcharry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

Old Business:

NACD Poster-

On hold until 2022/2023.

2022 Tree Promotion-

Tree Promotion will be held March 15th-March 17th at the Downtown Radisson in Bismarck. Ryan Thorson, Kelli Schumacher, and Dustin Krueger have been planning and will have an agenda out sometime in January/February. Some of the topics/training opportunities include:

- Towner Nursery Production
- New Employee Mentor Program

- Tour-Sawmill, then Laughing Sun Brewery. Ryan said there will be a bus charge of \$175.00 to get to and from the tour, plus the possibility to have a meal at Laughing Sun Brewery around \$16/plate. **Motion made by Sarah Tunge to have the tour bus and meal paid for out of the NDCDEA account as presented. Tokina Mcharry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Keynote Speaker-Craig Larson, CEO of Starion Financial
- Drought and Trees
- Working with Landowners
- Arboretums Updates
- Cost-share Options
- Health and Safety-ND Safety Council
- Breakouts-Variations, Mill Levy, Urban Conservation, Tree Protection, Taxes, Watershed 319, Living Snow Fences, Websites/Newsletters/Social Media, and Seasonal High Tunnels.

NDASCD Annual Meeting/Convention-

Dustin Krueger has yet to hear back from the Association if they will be mailing out the 2021 Length of Service Awards. The NDASCD Annual Convention will be held in Bismarck next November 2022.

NDCDEA Appreciation Award-

Ryan Thorson-Grand Forks Soil Conservation District, was selected as 2021/2022 Appreciation Award winner, as voted on by his peers and colleagues.

NDCDEA Directors Election-

Area I-Shannon Anderson--Eligible for reelection
 Area II-Nathan Johnson--**NOT** eligible for reelection
 Area III-Stetson Myers--Eligible for reelection
 Area IV-Dustin Krueger--Eligible for reelection
 Area V-Sarah Tunge--**NOT** eligible for reelection
 Area V-Vacant--Appoint someone to fill-in until 2022 Election

By-Laws Update and Signatures-

A signed copy of the updated By-Laws has been uploaded on the NDCDEA website.

Thunderbook-

No updates.

New Business:

Dart Update-

Sarah Tunge said that DART is going well but will need someone eventually to run/overlook the program. Rhonda said she would like to see the T/A Grant with NRCS someday run in the same format as DART.

Above and Beyond Award-

Information will be emailed out sometime in February.

2022 Scholarships-

Motion made by Sarah Tunge to award two-\$1,000.00 scholarships for 2022 as done the previous year. Ryan Thorson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Ryan will again oversee the essay topic. Scholarship information will be emailed out in January/February.

2022 Raffle/Auction Fund Raiser-

Discussion of where the proceeds from the annual raffle/auction should go to, if decided to do so again, was brought up. Talks of the proceeds going to a group/charity of the board's decision was an option. Then Sarah Tunge suggested that maybe the proceeds from the raffle/auction could be tied-in with the Scholarships, instead of trying to figure out which group or charity would receive it. ***Motion made by Sarah Tunge to use the proceeds made from the annual NDCDEA raffle/auction towards the NDCDEA Scholarships as presented. Tokina Mcharry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

NDASCD-

Dustin meets with the NDASCD on Monday, December 13th for their meeting. After discussing with the other directors, Dustin is going to ask the Association where they see the partnership with the NDCDEA going and how do we increase funding opportunities.

Conservation Collaborative Grant (also called the 'Partnership Collaborative Grant')-

Sarah Tunge said there are opportunities and funding available and will be letting everyone know more within the next couple of weeks. Sarah is also working on getting some other partnerships involved with the project that we can work with.

Northern Plains Regional Representative/NACD-Sarah Tunge-

Sarah was in Montana for their meeting, and she said that they hold a monthly call-in meeting with their SCDs, discussing a variety of topics. They roughly hold eleven meetings/calls per year, and it seems to be a great success within the State. Sarah would like to throw that idea out to our Districts and see if it's something that would go over well and if there would be good participation rates. As the Northern Plains Regional Representative for the NACD, Sarah asked to stay on the NDCDEA board as an

advisor, since her elected term will expire at tomorrow's NDCDEA business meeting. The other directors agreed, so Sarah Tunge will serve as an advisor to the NDCDEA board, along with Rhonda Kelsch.

Other Business:

James River SCD/Dickey County-

Tokina Mcharry brought to the board's attention that she, along with the James River SCD (Dickey County) board of supervisors, will be going to the NDASCD board on Monday, December 13th to hand-in their proposal to purchase Oakes Nursery from the NDASCD. The plans for James River SCD are to utilize the Oakes Nursery, with its unique sandy soils, for educational and research purposes. ***Motion made by Sarah Tunge to have a letter of support written on behalf of the NDCDEA for James River SCD (Dickey County) to purchase Oakes Nursery as presented. Ryan Thorson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

With no further business to discuss, Ryan Thorson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tokina Mcharry seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Beckman

Kari Beckman, Secretary