

USDA STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Neal Smith Federal Building
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
NRCS Hugh Hammond Bennett Conference Room
Des Moines, Iowa

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Teleconference Coordinates:

Dial: 1-202-650-0123

Passcode: 861818169#

September 15, 2022

1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Welcome Comments

Jon Hubbert, State Conservationist

- Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2022 (*attached packet*)
- Introductions
- Agency Updates
 - NRCS

Jon Hubbert provided agency updates which included a strong outlook on the FY23 budget, additional funding coming from IRA, current staffing, and concerns regarding filling positions timely.

- FSA

Curt Goettsch provided an update from FSA related to staffing. FSA is also working to fill as many positions as quickly as possible. Programmatic updates include CRP deadline on September 30, accepting CRP offers for new sign up after October 1, CRP payments after October 3. Also, discussion regarding CRP rental rates.

- Review of Minutes

Jon asked for a review of the minutes. No concerns were raised.

- Prairie Pothole Region (PPR) Lateral Effect Tool (*attached packet*)

Derrick Klimesh

Derrick Klimesh and Sarah Anderson provided a demonstration of the Lateral Effect Tool. The tool was released in mid-August. This tool is unique to the Prairie Pothole States of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The states worked collectively to issue a joint supplement and build a public use tool.

- EcoSci Update (*attached packet*)
 - CPS 590 Nutrient Management Update

Mike Henderson

Mike provided updates regarding the 590 Nutrient Management practice standard. NRCS received a request to extend the comment period, which was honored. We received valuable feedback. We took into consideration all the comments and adjusted for clarity and flexibility where we could. We are working through the adoption process with a goal of having the new standard and supporting documents in adopted by mid-October.

- P-Index Updates

Mike provided updates regarding the P-Index. The soils database has not been updated since 2004. We have updated the soils to FY2022 SURGO data and the rainfall data to reflect the most current data set. Completing final review of the updates to the tool.

- Tech Note 25 is also being updated to align with the current Iowa NRCS planning policy of the predominant soil type

- **Role of the State Technical Committee**

Jon shared information with committee regarding what the role of the committee is.

Status of Farm Bill Programs

- Programs Update (*attached packet*) Sam Adams

Sam provided an overview of the Programs report that was attached in the packet.

- Partnerships Reports (*attached packet*) Scott Cagle

Scott provided an overview of the Partnerships report that was attached in the packet.

Sub-Committee Reports

- CSP Shawn Richmond
 - CSP Minutes (*attached packet*)

CSP subcommittee met on August 19. Primary topics included Priority Resource Concerns and Outreach on CSP & NRCS streamlining efforts.

- EQIP Steve Hopkins/Nick Baumgarten
 - EQIP Minutes (*attached packet*)

EQIP subcommittee met on September 13. The subcommittee was tasked with exploring how the wildlife-riverine ranking worked, and potential issues that would hinder the success of future EQIP applications aimed to improve in stream habitat.

- ACEP-WRE Kelly Smith

Kelly Smith was unable to join the subcommittee meeting that was held on September 12. John Paulin shared the changes of land valuation from ISU between 2020 and 2021. That came down to a statewide average increase of 29%. NRCS decided to use the Appraisal process for FY22. Once the results came back, we contracted for an Areawide Market Analysis and plan to pursue Geographic Area Rate Caps (GARC) for FY23.

- ACEP-ALE Sindra Jensen
 - No update this month.

No subcommittee report was provided.

- CRP Sean McMahon/Matt Russell
 - CRP Minutes (*attached packet*)

The CRP subcommittee met on June 22. The subcommittee reviewed the following proposed changes to SAFE from Iowa IDNR. Gaining Ground, Pheasant Recovery, Quail SAFE, Grand River SAFE, and Neo Tropical SAFE.

- SWP Christina Murphy/Bridget Durst
 - FY23 Recommendations and spreadsheet (*attached packet*)

The SWP subcommittee met on August 25. Christina Murphy reviewed the subcommittee report and discussed the recommendations from the subcommittee including 2020 list of approved practices and the Source Water Protection Areas by HUC12s.

Future Meeting Dates

December 15, 2022

March 16, 2023

June 15, 2023

September 21, 2023

Attendance (In-Person and Virtual):

Sam Adams

Sarah Anderson

Nick Baumgarten

Bruce Barnhart

Randy Brincks

Penny Brown Huber

Scott Cagle

Josh Divan

Jessica Downey

Matt Dvorak

Jean Eells

Suzan Erem

Amy Fischer

Jaia Fischer

Paige Frautschy

Curt Goettsch

Miranda Haes

Mark Heckman

Steve Hopkins

Jon Hubbert

Derrick Klimesh

Susan Kozak

Katie Kramer

Roz Lehman

Jordan Moser

Christina Murphy

Will Myers

Rubyana Neely

Kalee Olson

Dave Petty

Shawn Richmond

Kelly Smith

Dustin VandeHoef

Alicia Vasto

John Whitaker

Roger Wolf