



64352 US Highway 93
Ronan, Montana 59864-8738
Phone: 406-676-2842, ext.102

Lake County Conservation District
No-Till Seed Drill Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 11:00 am

Present: Supervisor Curt Rosman, Associate Supervisor David Sturman, Dave Bunnell Mission Valley Pheasants Forever, Mike Schmidt RDO Equipment. Ben Montgomery NRCS, Kristi D'Agati LCCD, Karli Becher LCCD-BSWC and Heidi Fleury LCCD.
Excused: Sigurd Jensen

The meeting was called to order at 11 am. Introductions were made and the floor was open to any comments.

I. New Business

- A. Overview of equipment features—The product features of three brands of no-till drill were compared and it was realized that the John Deere no-till seed drill we had originally thought would work will not. It requires a 100 HP tractor. It is the feeling of all involved that this would cut out 75% of people we originally intended to service. It was decided that we will go with a smaller drill. The 7' Great Plains NTSD will be investigated by Heidi further.
- B. RDO Representative to answer questions—Mike Schmidt—Answered transporting, product and financial questions on the John Deere 1590.
- C. Pheasants Forever Partnership—Dave Bunnell Mission Valley Pheasants Forever—PF would withdraw their support if we purchased the John Deere 1590 that requires a 100 HP tractor. They are in full support of a 7' Great Plains NTSD.
- D. Lake County Weed District Partnership—Heidi and Ben were set to attend the Weed Districts meeting on July 11th to confirm their support but it was cancelled. Some concerns voiced by the Weed Board and passed on by Tom Benson included the size of tractor it would take to run the machine we purchase.

- E. Final equipment feature decisions—Committee members recommend reversing our decision to purchase a John Deere 1590 and instead recommend purchasing a 7' Great Plains NTSD. Heidi will figure out lead times and downpressure specifics and the committee will travel to Potomoc to look at the Great Plains no till seed drill in person
- F. Final Costs and Grant Completion—Details are still being ironed out.
- G. Contractor Planning—Ed Vishe is still the only person interested. The committee will set up a face to face meeting with Ed to discuss specifics.
- H. Outreach Planning—On hold due to lead time on ordering drill (possibly not available until February 2018).

Open Mic

Insurance—Heidi spoke with the MACO Insurance Rep and figured out specifics.

There being no other business the meeting was dismissed at noon.