

Minutes of a Meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Advisory Board
Held on April 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
ND Dept. of Career & Technical Education Conference Room, 15th Floor State Capitol

Present: Randy Bina, OHF Advisory Board Chairman
Brian Amundson, OHF Advisory Board
Tom Claeys, OHF Advisory Board
Patsy Crooke, OHF Advisory Board
David Dewald, OHF Advisory Board
Tyler Dokken, OHF Advisory Board
Brad Erickson, Lignite Energy Council
Tom Hutchens, OHF Advisory Board
Rhonda Kelsch, OHF Advisory Board
Randy Kreil, OHF Advisory Board
Robert Kuylen, OHF Advisory Board
Rachel Retterath, OHF Advisory Board
Tony Hillig, OHF Advisory Board
Jeb Williams, OHF Advisory Board

Also

Present: A complete list of attendees is available in the Commission files

Chairman Randy Bina called the meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board (“Board”) to order at 9:00 a.m. with a quorum being present.

It was moved by Robert Kuylen and seconded by Tom Claeys to approve the October 12, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

To facilitate the discussion on the process of voting a white paper with different voting options to choose from was provided. The Board has used the same voting process from the beginning which Chairman Randy Bina believes has worked well for the Board. Based on information from the Attorney General’s Office the Board should not follow Roberts Rules of Orders. Any action by the Board requires a majority except for determining funding which requires seven members in favor. Industrial Commission Executive Director, Karlene Fine, stated the current voting process has worked well from an efficiency standpoint due to the number of applications received each grant round. To change to a different process where each application is voted on separately requires a motion to change to that process from the current tally zero sheet. No action was taken by the Board.

If there is a conflict of interest it needs to be declared and a form needs to be filled out, but the member still needs to vote. Ms. Fine clarified an exception is when someone is associated with a company that has a conflict-of-interest policy stating they are not allowed to vote on applications that involve their company. For this meeting the only conflict of interest form that had been filed was by Mr. Claeys regarding the North Dakota Forest Service: Sheyenne River State Forest Access Improvement Project -- Application 20-06.

Ms. Fine provided a financial summary as follows:

Outdoor Heritage Fund (294)
Financial Report - Cash Balance
2021-2023 Biennium
April 21, 2022 OHF Advisory Board Meeting

	Cash Balance	
July 1, 2021 Balance	\$	36,056,487.97
Interest Revenue through February 28, 2022	\$	15,315.80
Revenues through February 28, 2022	\$	7,500,000.00
Returned funds	\$	-
Grant Expenditures through February 28, 2022	\$	(3,350,750.41)
Administrative Expenditures through February 28, 2022	\$	(7,069.21)
	\$	40,213,984.15
Outstanding Administrative Expenses (Estimated)	\$	(192,930.79)
Outstanding Project Commitments as of February 28, 2022	\$	(31,183,580.18)
Balance	\$	8,837,473.18

Senate Bill 2014, (2021 Session)

OIL AND GAS TAX REVENUE ALLOCATIONS - NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 57-51-15 relating to the allocations to the North Dakota outdoor heritage fund, for the period beginning September 1, 2021, and ending August 31, 2023, the state treasurer shall allocate eight percent of the oil and gas gross production tax revenue available under subsection 1 of section 57-51-15 to the North Dakota outdoor heritage fund, but not in an amount exceeding \$7,500,000 per fiscal year.

She reviewed the information and stated that there is sufficient funding should the Board wish to award funding for the applications they will be considering.

Mr. Bina called on the first applicant to make their ten-minute presentation.

20-1 (D) Carrington Area Healthy Communities Coalition: Playground Renovation, \$95,000

Project Summary: Renovate Carrington's west end park by replacing the old equipment.

The applicant was unable to attend today's meeting. The project will still be voted upon by the Board.

20-2 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Cover Crop & Livestock Integration Project III, \$1,609,000

Project Summary: Provide financial and technical assistance to North Dakota landowners who implement and adopt cover crop and livestock integration practices on cropland.

Mr. Tanner Gue gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *In reference to project one in 2017, only 75% of those funds have been used and in 2019, only 30% of those funds have been used and now Ducks Unlimited is back for a third project. How come those funds are not being utilized after the initial funding approval? Staff are constantly working with producers and it takes a substantial amount of time to design a project for that specific producer and then some projects fall through. Most of this work is contracted out and it has been hard to get supplies or find contractors to complete the work due to the pandemic and*

supply shortages. Always having funding available to meet the needs of producers helps keep the momentum going and the design process more on track. Mr. Amundson stated he would like money awarded to be spent before coming to the Board for additional funds for the same type of project. Mr. Gue noted that funds from project one have been 100% committed and over 80% from project two have been committed.

- *Is this project different from projects one and two or is it trying to service the same producers?* Project three is not different from projects one and two; it is intended to help more producers get started with the practice.
- Regarding agriculture and the installation of water development with the drought, it has been extremely difficult to contract well drillers. To provide some clarification on why dollars are not drawn down. within the USDA specifications the component pieces of a contract cannot be paid out in its entirety until it is an actual functioning system. Fencing is separate from the water development component.

20-3 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Grasslands Enhancement Project Phase II, \$315,750

Project Summary: Advance grazing management systems on School Trust, public, and adjacent private land through grazing infrastructure enhancements and planned grazing.

Mr. Dane Thomas Buysse gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- This is a big task matching State owned lands surrounded by private lands. *The lessee is paying a 40% cost share match so is that fence within the water development owned by the lessee or the State?* First phase of the project was a pilot. The Trust was willing to take ownership of the permanent fencing and the lessees were required to put up temporary cross fencing. OHF funds were only going towards fences that would be taken over by the Trust. Cross fencing was required in order for the water developments.
- *Does the 40% cost share as a producer go towards temporary cross fencing?* Yes, it would be depreciated over ten years to pay for that fence and would be similar to a rent credit. Concern is whether or not the State is willing to also provide a 40% match since the infrastructure is initially owned by the State. The State is basically improving its own infrastructure which, in turn, should improve its rent. These projects are enhancing Trust lands. Ranchers want to put wells in, but not all their money to complete the project which is why the cost share works. *So this cost share is enough stimulus for ranchers to commit to these conservation practices even though that same rental agreement may not exist within a few years?* Research shows that having quality water can create a 20-30% gain in livestock. All six producers already in the program have renewed their leases.
- *Is the depreciation on the 40% cost share a reduction in what was paid?* Trust lands will pay a certain portion of the well. The lessee gets the rent credit for that lease so it reduces the out-of-pocket expense for the following year.
- The lessee is paying the 40% up front and then receiving it back via a rent credit so that is where the collaboration between the lessee managers, and contractors is important.
- *Does the barbed wire fence stay with the property?* The barbed wire boundary is not allowed in the first phase, but the rancher still owns it. The water tanks are with the lessee so if years later the lease was lost, those water tanks could be removed. Usually what happens is that the lessee will sell all of that to the next lessee. It is a cutthroat business though and sometimes the lessee will just remove the fence.

- *If both the fence and water tanks are funded, then why not just leave it on the property which will be better for the State in rent income?* The State would then have responsibility of maintenance, but that could also be written in the lease.
- *So the producer uses the 40% cost share, but then is compensated back by the State in a rental reduction?* Yes, for the drilling of that well.
- The issues are with the possible water tank and fence removal on State land. It would be better if the producer pays the 40% cost share and owns the water tank and fence. Compensation is only for the well drilling. There is no compensation for the tank and solar system. The only credit that Trust Lands does with the lessee is for the drilling of the well. Regarding permanent infrastructure, the State compensates the producer back. The lessee still has the 40% on the solar system and tank.
- *The successful removal and reuse of water tanks is debatable. Is the State compensating the producer back for the entire system?* The State is only compensating the producer back for the drilling of the well and not the tank or solar system.
- *Has the producer asked the State to compensate for the full water tank system?* The State does not want the maintenance of the whole system. The State's responsibility is to have income for the public School Trust.
- If State land is rented, it is the responsibility of the lessee to take care of the land and remove any noxious weeds.
- With the development of enhanced grazing and better soil and grass management, the State could compensate the producer for the full water tank system and then it would stay with the land. The intent with OHF is that the project is kept and maintained after completion.

20-4 (C) Golden Valley County Water Board: Odland Dam Sedimentation & Nutrient Removal Project Phase 2, \$1,296,720

Project Summary: Make additional improvements to Odland Dam by completing 100,000 cubic yards of sediment and nutrient removal so it is an enjoyable recreational area accessible for all individuals.

Mr. Bud Ordahl gave a presentation regarding the application and outlined the work that is being proposed.

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- Comments from the Technical Committee were that this is a privately owned lake, but the Game and Fish Department has shown interest in the lake and there is a lease in place with the landowners regarding public access until 2043. The Game and Fish Department also has four agreements in place regarding the Save Our Lakes program to review the watershed going into Odland Dam. The goal is that if there is a project with sediment removal, there are good practices in place. Although there is some farmland, there is still a large amount of grass in that watershed. The Game and Fish Department has a long-standing relationship with the landowners regarding public access to that area. There is community involvement and commitment regarding the spillway. This has been a productive fishery over the year and there is a lot of benefit in this project.
- *What is the current average depth of the lake?* The average depth is four feet and the deepest depth is nine feet. The fishery is very well used which is nice for the southwest area of the State. Currently it is down six feet from the spillway which is a lot considering the lake is only 20 feet deep normally.
- *What is the primary source of sedimentation?* Is the sedimentation caused by surrounding cropland? The lake has been in existence for eighty years so sedimentation has built up during

that time and there has been no sedimentation removal. There is farming around the watershed area, but it is not significant. There are also grass buffers and sedimentation traps that have been setup around the area.

- With no-till farming practices, there is little sedimentation leaving the ground, but the damage from prior practices has already been done.

20-5 (C) Hettinger Research Extension Center: Southwestern North Dakota Pheasant Initiative, \$74,297

Project Summary: Cooperate with private landowners to create, enhance, and restore habitat for ring-necked pheasants and build local populations through the establishment of new grassland plantings, food plots, and manipulation of existing grassland acres.

Mr. Benjamin Geaumont gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *Does the Hettinger Research Extension Center have its own fire team or is this contracted out? What is the largest size fire area completed?* Since 2016, Hettinger has its own fire crew which is a group of people trained in fire protocol along with students, so the labor is already identified. These are also the people that live in this area versus having a crew come in to burn a fire and then leave. Fire size areas are usually kept small and the goal is to create small patches that can be better controlled. The fire team has also burned on black dirt and low lines so feel better about doing the work themselves.
- *How many acres will be impacted over the three-year period? Is there any public access to these tracts or are all the tracts private?* The acres targeted will mainly be on plots land, but there are also private landowners that want to participate in the project. If pheasant habitat is created that seed should help the surrounding landscape so it will be done even if private landowners do not want to give up hunting rights.
- *Please clarify the statements regarding a 1,200-acre goal and then a 350-acre goal.* A total of 250 acres will be new, 225 acres will be food plot, 400 acres will be discing, and 300 acres will be prescribed fires. Some of the prescribed fire and disced land will be over seeded.
- *Will these practices go on the same acreage or separate?* Separate and additional. Approximately 475 acres are new and the remainder of the 1,200 acres is improvements of the existing land.
- *What is the percentage of public versus private lands?* That data is not available, but there is no State-owned land. The difference will be in the overall wildlife habitat of our State.
- *If this project is successful, will it be expanded?* It will have to be on smaller acreage. If this pilot project is successful and there is additional need, the landowner will then be asked to provide funds for the project. Some areas are not feasible to disc which is where the fire component comes into play.

20-6 (A) North Dakota Forest Service: Sheyenne River State Forest Access Improvement Project, \$45,000

Project Summary: Develop and improve trails and establish an informational trail head area with restrooms, trail archways, and an informational kiosk within the Sheyenne River State Forest.

Mr. Michael Kangas gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- From a Department standpoint, trails are the number one request in our State. This is a good project for the only national trail in North Dakota. Members of the North Country Trail came to North Dakota to visit both locations at Lake Sakakawea State Park and this location.

20-7 (D) City of Center: Center Pedestrian Trail Extension, \$120,329

Project Summary: Extend Center's pedestrian trail 625 feet to reach the east end of town along Highway 25.

Mr. Grant Dockter, and Danielle Butler gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *Are the softball diamonds located in the same area as the community parks and recreation so children would also be able to use this trail?* Yes.
- In the future, the plan is to also complete some intersection improvements. Currently with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to get the 25 mile per hour signs started at the Dollar General approach. The speed limits are in place, but there are no markings for crossings which is where the future crosswalk would be helpful.

20-8 (D) City of Dunseith: City of Dunseith Park Upgrade Project, \$75,000

Project Summary: Enhance the city park by refurbishing the basketball and volleyball courts, installing new aluminum bleachers, and adding a new restroom facility.

Mr. Les Thomas gave a presentation about the application, provided a handout and stressed the need for this project

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- Working at pursuing the Land and Water Conservation Program funding so this would be phase 3 of this project. The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant would be the playground equipment. The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa have been great partners with the Recreational Trails Program grants to establish natural resources and have been a trusted entity with those dollars.
- Thank the Board for prior funding to establish the Sky Chief Park which now has docks and buildings and has become the premier place for recreation.
- The application states that if only partial funding would be received that the City of Dunseith would commit to completing phase one. *Are there additional phases of this project?* Yes, if more funding is available there will be additional phases of this project such as restrooms, park benches, and a bike path.
- It is difficult to fit 34,000 enrolled members on a 6 x 12 reservation. The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa flag now flies at the Peace Gardens. The Commerce Department appropriated \$100k to develop a ten-year strategic plan for an indigenous area with an interpretive center, teepee lodge, and earth village. Dunseith is the gateway to the Peace Gardens and the proposed park is right along the main street.

20-9 (C) Tongue River Restoration: Pembina County Water Resource District, \$703,700

Project Summary: Halt the upstream progression of severe channel incision and restore floodplain connectivity and ecologically self-sustaining function to a 1.6-miles already impacted river channel, as well as restoring native riparian vegetation on 55-acres of floodplain.

Mr. Don Kemp, Zach Herrmann, and Christi Fischer gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *What were the issues in the watershed that prompted the water board to bring forth this project?* Initially, it started with wanting to understand the erosion issue along the Tongue River and ongoing flood damage reduction issues within the watershed and also stabilization. There are areas where the flows can break out of the Tongue River and move over land.
- The project area is within the stretch between the headwaters of Renwick Dam and the outflows of Senator Young Dam. In theory, Senator Young Dam should be catching a lot of sediment from the upper watershed. *Are there any legal drains coming into that section below Senator Young Dam and above Renwick Dam?* No, there is not.
- *What does raised channel mean and does that mean channelization?* The goal is to raise the channel up to what pre-existed before the erosion. It is designed using a natural riparian function that if there is a flood of a certain magnitude, there will actually be more flood plain access gained for those flows. Currently the channel is eroding in size pretty substantially.
- One of the reasons for the size erosion is that these were old levies that farmers had built along the river and confined it to one size of the river. The bottom of the old channel will be at the elevation of the new channel because of the meander which will be reactivated.
- NRCS led the design portion of this project.
- *The application addresses the problem and how to fix it, but not how to prevent this problem from happening again. What contributed to the problem and how will what is being proposed prevent it from happening again?* It involves removing the levies to address confinement issues which were made by farmers removing hay fields and pushing that material with bulldozers over the side of the valley. Earth boring culverts through the road fill to avoid future concentrations were also looked at, but it was an expensive option. Instead, there are buried sheet pile weirs providing control below the constructed channel which are countermeasures.
- *So this has been a long acting problem for multiple years which now needs to be addressed?* Yes, the levies have been there for a long time and there is high road fill with a single bridge off to the same side. In 2013, there was a record flood in that watershed which triggered this erosion process. There is shale bedrock sitting below the channels which is very erodible. The bridge has dropped eight feet since 2013. When trying to downsize a river, this will happen.
- *Regarding the reconnection of the floodplain with the removal of levies, is there landowner support for the amount of water that will be on the floodplain? Is there an easement that will protect this project?* There are three landowners involved and they are all supportive of the project. The majority of hayfields are in Farmers Home Administration easements and some of the lower downstream areas are in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). There are several easements already, but none is production land. The landowners that initiated this project are owners of the forest land that do not want to lose any more trees due to erosion.
- *How many river miles are there between Senator Young Dam and Renwick Dam?* 26 miles.
- *A total of 1.6 acres of work will fix the problem and there is no adjacent work, correct?* The rehabilitation project was designed for a certain amount of sedimentation and the models were ran for cropland which will erode again. It will bring the erosion back down to the level expected, but it will not get worse. It took five years to get to this point and write the 500 pages of studies to receive this federal money so it will reverse the trend long-term.

- *Are there any plans to move a similar plan either upstream or downstream?* There is no need to do that. Once the sediment that came from these 1.6 miles was estimated, it matched the survey completed at the reservoir.
- The presentation was well done which changed Mr. Randy Kreil's mind on the project.
- *Was there any contact with private companies to develop this project and generate stream credits?* No. Not aware there was a mitigation requirement in North Dakota for streams with the Corps of Engineers.
- *What is the time frame for this project?* The Corps of Engineers is a cooperating federal agency as is the US Fish and Wildlife Service so a nationwide permit is ready at any time.
- With that particular nationwide stream restoration, channelization is not allowed. This project is the opposite of channelization because it involves un-channeling the river.
- *What is used to raise the channel that will not wash out in the future?* There is a downstream rock ripple structure with a pile wall at the upper end and that goes across the valley. Upstream within the channel itself is redesigned ripples according to geomorphic river restoration design requirements. Because it is down to the shale layer there is no natural gravel that should be at the bottom of the channel. One expense is to purchase gravel at one of the pits to match the current riverbed. The gravel composition upstream is known and a total of two feet of gravel will be brought in. Concern about a large road fill and narrow bridge opening in the valley which is why three more pile structures will be buried below the channel.
- With four feet of snow there could be major flooding issues this Spring. Within the last three years there has not been much flooding, but there was still massive erosion.
- Funding for construction needs to be known before all this money is spent on surveying because if construction does not begin right away it will just have to be resurveyed.

20-10 (B) Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,970,000

Project Summary: Increase water supplies, implement fencing for rotational grazing systems, and utilize cover crops to provide current and future drought resiliency to approximately 60 landowners and tens of thousands of acres.

Mr. Eric Rosenquist gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *On your budget for funding source, it states \$1.2m in-kind by landowners. Will cash also be involved in that funding source?* The landowners pay for the development of the property and 60% of the invoices.
- *Purpose of the grant states to improve well development on both State or Federal lands. Can that be expounded upon?* There are certain instances in western North Dakota where people have access to Federal grazing.
- *How will these grazing practices regarding soil/range health be maintained versus this being a short-term remedy?* Our Soil Conservation partners put together a grazing plan for each landowner, so it is not just putting a well on the land because the owner needs one. All participants are being asked to work with their local Soil Conservation districts to ensure this is a sustainable plan.

- *A grazing plan is one part, but implementing it is another so is this an adaptive process?* The recent drought really brought awareness to a lot of producers regarding resilience in their grazing plans. And numerous producers want to participate in rotational grazing.
- From a financial perspective, the goal of the Board is to ensure that producers are conserving resources versus just providing water. *Do the Soil Conservation Districts follow up to determine if that grazing system designed for the producer was implemented successfully?* Yes, there is follow-up to ensure everything was done to the appropriate specifications.
- *Are the Soil Conservation Districts more of a subcontractor because the Districts are delivering the work based upon the guidance by the Natural Resources Trust?* Yes.
- *Electricity is normally not approved with NRCS practices so what is the justification for the electricity?* Aware that accessing electricity for these sites is very expensive so try to use solar panels as much as possible. Within the budget is also a cash match from the Natural Resources Trust for those items that are not approved.

20-11 (C) North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,016,500

Project Summary: Cost-share for wetland restoration/creation, grazing systems, cover crops, and grass seedings to achieve natural resources and agricultural benefits.

Mr. Terry Allbee gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *Explain how the North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2 and Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II are two separate projects versus one project?* Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II has a different focus area, primarily in the western part of the State or Bakken expansion. North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2 has partnerships within the Soil Conservation Districts. The two projects are very complimentary though and do cross paths sometimes, but it is beneficial to have those both to choose from when talking with landowners on what will best suit their needs. Also, the demand is extremely high. The water component begins the conversation with landowners about how to maximize production and provide the wildlife benefits.
- *Substantial funds have been granted, but not all of the funds have been used so there are expectations during the next grant round on completion of these projects.* Also, understand the demand and need due to environmental impacts were greater than expected. During the first phase of this project, there was \$600k available for grazing systems. A little under \$300k has been spent to date and that is expected to be closer to \$500k by the end of 2022. It is tough to get to the finish line on some of these projects though because every landowner has unique family, financial, and operational circumstances.
- Funds allocated at 80-90% is more palatable than 30-40% at year five. It does take time to work with landowners and devise a timeline.

Upon completion of all the presentations, Chairman Bina opened the meeting for public comment on any of the projects. No comments were made.

There was general discussion by the OHF Advisory Board on Grant Round 20 applications as follows:

20-1 (D) Carrington Area Healthy Communities Coalition: Playground Renovation, \$95,000

- Thought this was a good application for the community.
- Unfortunate that no one was here to provide a presentation, but it looks like a straightforward application to support the \$10k requested.

20-2 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Cover Crop & Livestock Integration Project III, \$1,609,000

- Address the concern of there being large amounts of awarded dollars approved, but have not been spent. Completely understand the longevity of these projects, but even 80-90% complete would be good before coming back to the Board for additional funds. The length of time requested for each project is stated on the summary sheets. Some projects are over a ten-year period so those could be prorated over that time frame. Recommendation regarding future contracts and that a certain percentage is spent before applying for additional grant funding. As an Advisory Board, we want to see action so improvements in this area are needed. Although, it does take years to sometimes bring these projects into fruition and if the funding has not been spent it means there was a hold-up. It would be beneficial with these allocated funds each grant round to have the date of each grant round and when the funds were first issued versus stating how many years.
- How are the progress of each of these projects communicated to the Board? There needs to be better communication with the Board members about the status of projects where funds have been allocated, but nothing or only a minimal amount has actually been spent.
- The goal is to somehow find a way to improve on the process of implementation so results are able to be reviewed quicker.
- If projects want to continue, there needs to be additional projects waiting in the background. Especially if they are good projects that are meeting the requirements of OHF.
- It would be beneficial if Board members knew where applicants were in the process. Such as maybe only 30% was allocated, but the project was delayed for two years and it would take five years for completion.
- Is that something that the individual applicants would provide to the Board such as a yearly progress report? The Industrial Commission does get additional information via a report when there is a request for payment which does get posted on the website.
- Once reports are received by the Industrial Commission on significant grants, along with being posted on the website, that information could also be emailed out to each Board member.
- Once additional phases of a project are coming forth to the Board, there could be a report provided that would show the amount and percentage that has been allocated and spent to date.
- In the past has staff been funded? There are guidelines and what percentage of staffing is eligible for funding. There needs to be justification provided in the application as to why staff dollars are needed. Staffing requests have been between 1-2% which is minimal compared to what is needed.

20-3 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Grasslands Enhancement Project Phase II, \$315,750

- No comments.

20-4 (C) Golden Valley County Water Board: Odland Dam Sedimentation & Nutrient Removal Project Phase 2, \$1,296,720

- One of the Board members in college worked at the summer fisheries in Dickinson during the summers of 1978 and 1979 and one of the lakes tested each year was Odland Dam. No matter the day or time, there was always someone there fishing and many are from both Montana and North

Dakota. From Odland Dam, there is a long distance to the next sustainable water area in any direction.

- There are always families out there enjoying the recreation. If the dam is not repaired, the fishery will be lost this winter.
- Concern over the precedent being set by removing sediment from water basins. How many more of these projects will be coming forth to the Board? Also, how does the Board define which ones have and do not have merit? Nothing needs to be debated about sedimentation or poor water quality, but there are probably numerous other bodies of water in the same situation. Do these have a conservation management plan attached?
- All of these sedimentation projects needing remedial action should be supported. This particular project has had 80 years of sediment. If there is recreational support for these types of projects, those should be supported by the Board.
- What is the protection upstream to stop sedimentation and how is the area around the lake being protected? The Game & Fish Department has an easement until 2043 to work on watershed for the Save Our Lakes program. As long as this is included in the application, these projects should be funded.
- This is not the first sedimentation removal project funded by the OHF. The last one was a community orientated project, so it was funded.

20-5 (C) Hettinger Research Extension Center: Southwestern North Dakota Pheasant Initiative, \$74,297

- Like the fact that a local chapter came to the Board for funding instead of being mandated by the national organization. If a fire crew is hired, burning occurs on the same day they come into town regardless of the wind. This organization burns on calm days when there is a crew available. In that area, there have been a lot of fires started by the Forest Service.
- Like to see these types of projects come forth where the organization has its own crew.
- Good tie with the local Pheasants Forever group, but also a lot of credibility with the Research Center. Fires are a very valuable conservation tool, and this could be a learning tool in that fires need to be in a controlled setting.
- A good portion of this project will be on private land, but there is still value in funding because of the drift off of the birds to other areas.
- What is the opinion from the Game & Fish Department on trying to enhance non-native species of both birds and wildlife? Pheasants are a very valuable species in North Dakota and are discussed frequently in wildlife management areas. The Department is never in favor of tilling up native prairie to benefit a pheasant though. Tilling up areas where there does need to be some disturbance and the opportunity is available benefits numerous wildlife.
- Pheasants are a bird of sport so having a hard time approving this project since these birds are not native species.
- Diversified grassland will also benefit more than just pheasants. During the boom of CRP western Walsh County became full of CRP which later became one of the best hunting spots in the State so some habitat is better than no habitat.

Break for lunch

20-6 (A) North Dakota Forest Service: Sheyenne River State Forest Access Improvement Project, \$45,000

- The Board has struggled with trails in the past, but this one is an outdoor trail which is nice. This project is different from building a sidewalk down the main street of a city.

- The location of this project is in the southeastern part of the State where recreational activities are limited and the proximity to the State park might increase visitation.
- This area has the only national trail in North Dakota and any enhancements will benefit the entire State.

20-7 (D) City of Center: Center Pedestrian Trail Extension, \$120,329

- Issue with the fact that the trail is going to the General Store.
- The City of Center actually has a trail system and it is unfortunate their Parks & Recreation is across Highway 25. As a result, every activity involves children having to cross the Highway.
- How is this project different from the other project in Underwood that was not funded? With the Underwood project, it was a one-way path to the Dollar General. Great River Energy donated concrete so the path was still created. In Center, the path connects the ball fields. Located near the path is their pool on the outside of town so kids could cross from the pool to the ball diamonds along the proposed diamonds.

20-8 (D) City of Dunseith: City of Dunseith Park Upgrade Project, \$75,000

- Previous applications with basketball courts were denied because it was viewed as maintenance.
- Believe in the benefits of Parks & Recreation, but do not think this project which consists of a basketball court and a volleyball net is applicable for the Outdoor Heritage Fund. There are other funding sources available for these types of projects.
- The Outdoor Heritage Fund does not involve bleachers because sitting down versus being active is not what the program is about.
- Previously, the applicant was told their application was incomplete and they were invited to present again. So how does the Board respond to the applicant again and can the Board designate \$10,000 for their actual park equipment? Projects have been approved before with a contingency. Outdoor recreation is one of the directives of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. The challenge with the Board has been to find a conservation component to that recreation plan and basketball, volleyball courts, softball fields, etc. did not seem to fit into the plan. More nature-based parks in a less urban environment in the community with nature-based play equipment and trails fits better into the plan. Outdoor recreation to most includes fishing, hunting, and boating. Regarding trails, a big component is access and if there is not a hard surface trail there are people with mobility issues that experience difficulty. With investing State money, it is a better investment to install hard surface trails.
- Are the directives put together by the State Legislature? Yes. Directive D states conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas so this provides room for OHF to fund this project.
- Sometimes these projects are the only avenues children will have regarding outdoor recreation. Children may not have access to hunting and fishing, but they will have access to their community park.
- Playgrounds, parks, trails, and campgrounds were all mentioned in the OHF introduction video. Only the cost of the actual playground equipment itself can be included in the budget.
- Even though there are other grant programs available for funding, the programs are very competitive and difficult. And small communities are challenged in meeting the demands of writing a sufficient grant application. Each program also has different match requirements which all need to be taken into account. State parks manage some programs, but not all. Applicants are applying for OHF grants because of difficulty completing these projects within their community.
- Park District Facility Renovation grant through Parks & Recreation authorized \$5 million to park districts for both repairs and renovations. A total of \$32 million in total project costs is what was

received in grant applications from 101 different park districts. So there definitely is a need in the State for funding these types of projects, especially considering most of these parks were completed in the 70's and 80's. There is also Land and Water Conservation funding which has an encumbrance and assists parks in difficult locations. Regarding tribal members, there is distrust in the governance taking away land.

- The law states: The following projects are not eligible for funding, unless there is a finding of exceptional circumstances by the Industrial Commission: ...Construction or refurbishment of indoor/outdoor athletic courts and sports fields.

20-9 (C) Tongue River Restoration: Pembina County Water Resource District, \$703,700

- Alarming to review initially because the vision was just of a river going down the Tongue River between the dams. The proposal and explanation were well executed in the application.

20-10 (B) Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,970,000

- No comments.

20-11 (C) North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,016,500

- No comments.

Chairman Bina asked the voting Board members to complete all scoring sheets and turn them in to Ms. Fine.

Clarification was provided that if a Board member states \$0 amount on the tally scoring sheet it is an indication that they are not in favor of funding and numerical amounts indicate the Board member is in favor of some level of funding.

It was stated that even though Mr. Claeys does not vote on funding he had filed a conflict of interest form for the project submitted by the North Dakota Forest Service.

Chairman Bina listed the two applications that received less than seven votes for funding which include application numbers: 20-7 and 20-8.

It was moved by Kuylen and seconded by Amundson that the following applications not be forwarded to the Industrial Commission for funding:

- **20-7 (D) City of Center: Center Pedestrian Trail Extension; \$120,329**
- **20-8 (D) City of Dunseith: City of Dunseith Park Upgrade Project; \$75,000**

On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Dokken, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, and Kuylen voted yes; Crooke, Dewald, and Retterath voted nay. The motion carried.

20-1 (D) Carrington Area Healthy Communities Coalition: Playground Renovation, \$10,000

It was moved by Retterath and seconded by Dewald that the Playground Renovation, submitted by the Carrington Area Healthy Communities Coalition be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$10,000. On a roll call vote, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Amundson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	

Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-2 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Cover Crop & Livestock Integration Project III, \$1,609,000

It was moved by Dewald and seconded by Hutchens that the Cover Crop & Livestock Integration Project, submitted by Ducks Unlimited be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$1,609,000. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-3 (B) Ducks Unlimited: Grasslands Enhancement Project Phase II, \$315,750

It was moved by Hutchens and seconded by Crooke that the Grasslands Enhancement Project Phase II, submitted by Ducks Unlimited be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$315,750. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	

Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-4 (C) Golden Valley County Water Board: Odland Dam Sedimentation & Nutrient Removal Project Phase 2, \$971,720

It was moved by Kuylen and seconded by Kreil that the Odland Dam Sedimentation & Nutrient Removal Project Phase 2, submitted by the Golden Valley County Water Board be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$971,720. On a roll call vote, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Amundson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-5 (C) Hettinger Research Extension Center: Southwestern North Dakota Pheasant Initiative, \$74,297

It was moved by Crooke and seconded by Kuylen that the Southwestern North Dakota Pheasant Initiative, submitted by Hettinger Research Extension Center be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$74,297. On a roll call vote, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Amundson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	

Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-6 (A) North Dakota Forest Service: Sheyenne River State Forest Access Improvement Project, \$45,000

It was moved by Kuylen and seconded by Erickson that the Sheyenne River State Forest Access Improvement Project, submitted by the North Dakota Forest Service be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$45,000. On a roll call vote, Bina, Crooke, Dokken, Dewald, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Amundson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-9 (C) Tongue River Restoration: Pembina County Water Resource District, \$703,700

It was moved by Retterath and seconded by Kuylen that the Tongue River Restoration, submitted by Pembina County Water Resource District be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$703,700. On a roll call vote, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Amundson and Dokken voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken		X
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	8	2

20-10 (B) Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,970,000

It was moved by Kreil and seconded by Crooke that Grazing Resiliency in the Bakken (GRB) II, submitted by the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$1,970,000. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Dokken, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

20-11 (C) North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2: North Dakota Natural Resources Trust, \$1,016,500

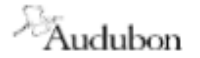
It was moved by Hutchens and seconded by Dewald that the North Dakota Partners For Wildlife Project 2, submitted by the North Dakota Natural Resources Trust be recommended to the Industrial Commission for Outdoor Heritage Fund funding in the amount of \$1,016,500. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Dokken, Hutchens, Kreil, Kuylen, and Retterath voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Rachel Retterath	X	
Total	9	1

OHF Advisory Board member Retterath left the meeting at this time.

Consideration of amendments to three previously awarded Audubon Dakota projects. It was noted that none of these requests will include additional money to the original applications.

Contract 011-129 – Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox – reallocate funding within the approved budget as follows:



Stutsman County PMT Original Budget

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match (Cash)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	SCSCD Match (In-Kind)	Landowner Match (40%)	Total Project Expense
High Diversity Seeding	\$174,820		\$62,532			\$54,015	\$291,367
Seeding Labor	\$223,650		\$63,900			\$85,200	\$372,750
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System	\$461,652	\$60,000	\$109,944			\$217,824	\$849,420
Invasive Species Removal	\$83,368					\$55,578	\$138,946
Administration			\$4,541		\$20,000		\$24,541
Indirect Costs (24.66%)				\$848			\$848
Total Costs	\$943,490	\$60,000	\$240,917	\$848	\$20,000	\$412,617	\$1,677,872

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match (Cash)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	SCSCD Match (In-Kind)	Landowner Match (40%)	Total Project Expense
High Diversity Seeding	\$91,124		\$43,785			\$4,295	\$139,204
Seeding Labor	\$ -		\$3,429			\$ -	\$3,429
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System	\$839,101	\$ -	\$249,162			\$399,479	\$1,487,742
Invasive Species Removal	\$13,265					\$8,843	\$22,108
Administration			\$4,541		\$20,000		\$24,541
Indirect Costs (24.66%)				\$848			\$848
Total Costs	\$943,490	\$0	\$300,917	\$848	\$20,000	\$412,617	\$1,677,872

Ms. Sarah Hewitt gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- Initially the goal was to affect 4,200 acres at a cost of \$500,000. How were three times that amount of acreage able to be affected with the same amount of money? The budget was originally based on the average for smaller projects and fencing smaller areas increases the per dollar acre. More acres were able to be affected because there were more larger projects. Able to interact with more landowners and producers and find more acres than initially planned for in Stutsman County.

- *What was the reason for the invasive species that were or were not being targeted?* Funding was for both spraying and chemical removal. Landowners and producers are given the choice to do cost share for grazing infrastructure or invasive species removal and their first choice is grazing infrastructure for the water. With that cost share, landowners and producers need to complete removal of woody invasive species on their own without any resources which posed challenges due to not having funding or labor.
- *Does woody invasive species mean Russian Olive, buckbrush or snowberry?* Russian Olive, but it is challenging to find the resources to assist.
- *What year was Grant Round 11 and what years were planned to complete this project?* Grant Round 11 was approved in 2018 and the years planned for completion was 2018-2020.
- *What percentage of this funding has already been allocated?* Allocated means there are agreements set up and supplies waiting to be used which has been fully spent. Approximately \$130,000 or 25% of new projects where there just needs to be an agreement written up to be implemented. By the beginning of the summer there could be 75% of the funding spent.
- *If this would have gone as planned, the funding would have already been allocated except restoration versus invasive species dollars were spent? Yes. So would like to move the invasive species dollars to the restoration dollars? Yes.*

It was moved by Hutchens and seconded by Dewald that the reallocation of funding within the previously approved budget of the Stutsman County Prairie Management Toolbox Project be recommended to the Industrial Commission as outlined in Audubon Dakota request. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Dokken, Hutchens, Kreil, and Kuylen voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Total	8	1

Contract 013-141 – Central Coteau Prairie Management Toolbox – reallocate funding within the approved budget as follows:

CCPMT Original Budget

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	Partner Match	Landowner Match (40%)	Total Project Expense
High Diversity Seeding	\$108,374				\$72,249	\$180,623
Seeding Labor	\$73,206				\$48,804	\$122,010
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System	\$348,294			\$10,000	\$237,880	\$596,174
Administration		\$30,000	\$7,398	\$12,454		\$49,852
Total Costs	\$529,874	\$30,000	\$7,398	\$22,454	\$348,933	\$948,659



CCPMT New Budget

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	Partner Match	Landowner Match (40%)	Total Project Expense
High Diversity Seeding	\$-				\$-	\$-
Seeding Labor	\$-				\$-	\$-
Livestock and Wildlife Friendly Grazing System	\$529,874			\$10,000	\$358,933	\$888,807
Administration		\$30,000	\$7,398	\$12,454		\$49,852
Total Costs	\$529,874	\$30,000	\$7,398	\$22,454	\$358,933	\$948,659

Remaining Grant Funds: \$275,976 for grazing infrastructure

Ms. Sarah Hewitt gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- What part of the project was going to be restored? This project involved cost-sharing of the native grass seed only. There is not a lot of support for landowners/producers to then leave these acres out of production for a few years so the establishment can happen.

It was moved by Kuylen and seconded by Amundson that the reallocation of funding within the previously approved budget of the Central Coteau Prairie Management Toolbox Project be recommended to the Industrial Commission as outlined in Audubon Dakota request. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Dokken, Hutchens, Kreil, and Kuylen voted yes, and Erickson voted nay. The motion carried.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Total	8	1

Contract 017-169 Amend their application which is part of the contract to use ND Department of Trust Lands Rates instead of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Ms. Sarah Hewitt gave a presentation (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available in the Commission files.)

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *The \$67 per acre is the state average, but it is still \$3 below the budgeted \$70, correct? On average \$67 is correct and with this new rate nothing will go over budget.*
- *The same number of acres will still be affected? Yes.*
- *The motion being requested is to switch from the NASS rate to the Department of Trust Land rates? Yes.*

It was moved by Kuylen and seconded by Amundson that the request submitted by Audubon Dakota to change its rate from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to the ND Department of Trust Lands Rates on the North Dakota Conservation Forage Program – Contract 017-169 be recommended to the Industrial Commission for approval. On a roll call vote, Amundson, Bina, Crooke, Dewald, Dokken, Erickson, Hutchens, Kreil, and Kuylen voted yes. The motion carried unanimously.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina	X	
Brian Amundson	X	
Patsy Crooke	X	
David Dewald	X	
Tyler Dokken	X	
Brad Erickson	X	
Tom Hutchens	X	
Randy Kreil	X	
Robert Kuylen	X	
Total	9	0

In response to a question, it was stated that these are policy decisions that cannot be made at the staff level even though the proposed changes do not exceed the dollar amount received which is why the amendment requests were brought to the Board.

Contract 019-196 Amend application to increase grant program reimbursement rate/cost share amount from \$15 to \$25/acre and increase grant program acreage cap from 50 to 160 acres.

Mr. Tom Bodine, Deputy Agriculture Commissioner, presented the request from the North Dakota Agriculture Department to increase the grant program reimbursement rate/cost share amount from \$15 to \$25/acre and increase the grant program acreage cap from 50 to 160 acres for the North Dakota Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program which had been authorized by the Legislature.

In response to questions, the applicant stated:

- *What practices were producers going to be using to address these soil areas?* Cover crop such as a rye grass or a salt tolerant type of alfalfa.
- This application brought forth questions on the validity of the program and scope with the dollar amounts used and acreage size. At 50 acres and \$15 it is not very incentivizing for landowners/producers. A new application that followed the correct process with a higher dollar amount and acreage might have had a better chance at passing. *Was under the impression this was a cover crop and not a salinity program so which one is it?* Basically both a cover crop and salinity program. The goal of the program is soil health which a cover crop will help. Going back to why the OHF program was established, this is one of those applications that fills all those areas because it benefits the environment, producer, and wildlife. If the Board does not approve the increased rate, it will try and move forward as is.
- *Is there any interest by producers as the project was previously approved?* Visits with numerous soil conservation county staff have occurred to determine how to promote this program. Soil health is a top priority for producers. The project was not very well promoted last year because of the drought. For a livestock producer, forage in high salinity areas could provide feed for this winter and address the local hay supply shortage within the state.
- *Regarding wildlife benefits, the cover crops that would be planted would not be harvested until after the nesting season?* Yes, that is part of the agreement.
- On the technical side, what the Agriculture Department is seeking is in line with what EQIP rates are paying per acre. For the USDA, it gets capped at a dollar amount.

It was moved by Kreil and seconded by Dokken that Contract 019-196 be amended to increase grant program reimbursement rate/cost share amount from \$15 to \$25/acre and increase grant program acreage cap from 50 to 160 acres for the North Dakota Soil Health Cover Crop Grant Program.

	Yes	No
Randy Bina		X
Brian Amundson		X
Patsy Crooke		X
David Dewald		X
Tyler Dokken		X
Brad Erickson		X
Tom Hutchens		X
Randy Kreil		X

Robert Kuylen		X
Total	0	9

It was clarified that if no motion had been made the Advisory Board would not have needed to vote.

Regarding the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman clarification was given that Randy Bina's term on the Board is ending on July 1, 2022 and he is not eligible for reappointment to the Board. Vice Chairman Robert Kuylen has one more year left on his current term.

It was moved by Hutchens and seconded by Kreil that Vice Chairman Robert Kuylen be elected as Chairman for one year and Tyler Dokken be elected as Vice Chairman. All in favor state aye and opposed state nay. All Board members stated aye.

Ms. Rhonda Kelsch provided the following brief update on the Conservation Marketing Project: Federal funding was received for this project and a theme for the North Dakota website has been decided. Next will be the analytics and design phase of the project. The members that are now partners with the project are developing the different partner programs to be categorized. There will be a page specific to the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Goal is to have a visual at the next OHF meeting to share with the Board. The name is Dakota Legacy Initiative, and the tag line underneath is "Preserving North Dakota's Legacy of Agricultural Conservation and Beautiful Lands."

It was announced that the tentative dates for the next OHF Advisory Board meeting are October 13th or October 14th. Mr. Kuylen suggested that October 13th would be preferred because it is a Thursday. The next round of applications is due September 1st.

Ms. Fine stated the Industrial Commission's appreciation for the work that had been done by Chairman Randy Bina and Tom Hutchens, who have been on the Board since it was established and noted that they have done an awesome job serving on the Board. Ms. Fine stated she had enjoyed working with these two Board members over the years. Mr. Hutchens stated it has been great serving on the Board and appreciated all the time that everyone had given to the Board, especially Ms. Fine's. Mr. Bina stated he really enjoyed his time on the Board and commended the Board for the good projects that had been funded throughout the State.

With no further business, Chairman Bina adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.



Randy Bina, Chairman