

Rural Revival Minutes - March 22, 2021

Et Cetera Meeting Room, Freeman

Directors Present: Dennis Lehmann, Larry Eisenbeis, Dee Millar, Andre Eisenbeis, Lillie Eisenbeis, Dennis Jurkovich

Directors Absent: Richard Ensz, Brent Brockmueller

Members Present: Glen Wollman, Philip Eisenbeis, Tim Eisenbeis, S. Roy Kaufman,

Web Meeting: The meeting was also a web meeting via Zoom due to the coronavirus.

Minutes: The Minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Dee Millar, seconded by Andre Eisenbeis, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Account balance \$6,264.17. Paid \$75 for Freeman Community Development Corporation membership. \$682.33 is designated for the farmer's market. \$884.40 is the yearly rent on the trust land.

Committees:

Land Trust/Access

Roy contacted the North Prairie Land Trust to see if they would be interested in working with us. They will get back with Roy. The main job of the trust would be to manage the easement.

Education:

No report

Local Foods:

Lillie met with Brent and Angie. Brent will be posting information on Facebook and in local newspapers. The plan is to sell T-shirts promoting the farmer's market and Freeman. The South Dakota Specialty Producers Association has a reimbursement grant up to \$450 for farmer's market signs. We need a new sign on highway 81. Placing a A-frame sign in the street is not allowed in Freeman. There is an empty lot where a A-frame sign could be placed. A Rural Revival booth is being considered at the farmer's market but volunteers are needed. Fees for 2021 are \$50 for the season or \$10 per week with the first week free. Plan to open the first Wednesday in June. There was some discussion about competing with Salem which has a large farmer's market on Wednesdays.

Butcher Shop:

Report by Tim – Matt and Tim have been putting hours into the project. They met via Zoom with some local producers and Sheri Rath. The Value Added Producers grant is a matching grant available after the grant is approved. Matt is

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producing a business plan. FCDC has grants. The deadline for applying to FCDC is the end of May. Right now the project has two focus areas – custom processing and creating an original brand of meat. The organization will be either a LLC or a Coop. A Coop would need at least 20 committed local producers within 60 miles. How do we contact local people? Possibilities are newspaper, radio and word of mouth. There are some expenses. Tim is looking for volunteers to make phone calls local producers seeking those interested. Tim would supply the call list.

Motion made by S. Roy Kaufman, seconded by Dee Millar to authorize the spending of up to \$500 on the butcher shop project. Passed unanimously.

A medium size butcher plant (150 head per day) is going up west of Yankton and a large plant is going up near Canton.

Freeman Community Development Corporation: Rural Revival is now a member. Dennis Lehmann will check the meeting schedule so we can send a representative.

Next Rural Revival Meeting: The next meeting will be on April 26

Adjournment: Moved by Philip Eisenbeis, seconded by Dee Millar and passed

Respectfully submitted by Dennis Jurkovich, Secretary