

Rural Revival Minutes: February 28, 2022
Freeman City Library

Directors Present: Dennis Lehmann, S. Roy Kaufman, Brent Brockmueller, Dee Millar, Andre Eisenbeis

Directors Absent: Lillie Eisenbeis, Richard Ensz, Larry Eisenbeis

Members Present: Beth Kaufman, Phillip Eisenbeis, Glen Wollman, Lyle Preheim, Tim Eisenbeis, Dennis Jurkovich

Guests Present: Dan Gering, Joy Erdman, Bonnie DeNino

Minutes: A correction was made that Larry Eisenbeis was present for the meeting. Minutes from the February 24th meeting were approved (Andre moved, Dee seconded, the minutes were accepted).

Treasurer's Report: Andre reported the current balance is \$6877.66.

Committee Reports:

1. Land Access

- Representatives from the Land Access group met Austin Unruh & Stan Ortman about the lease agreement. Austin was willing and signed the new agreement.
- A meeting needs to be had with the Northern Prairies Land Trust about placing the land in a permanent conservation land trust.

2. Local Foods

- Brent shared that the Farmers Market is actively recruiting vendors. Currently there are 12 vendors interested in participating. Waiting to hear back from 7 vendors from 2021 and 4 from prior years. Conversations are being had about whether a move to the swimming pool park will be needed due to the number of vendors and because some vendors have expressed interest in changing locations.

3. Education

- No report.

Other:

- Lyle shared that Ben Brockmueller would be willing to come to the next meeting in March with the possibility of Ben sharing with the broader community. Also shared that one of the articles in Acres magazine was by an acquaintance of Ben's, Dr. Erin Silva (Cereal Rye and Soybean Success, March 2022).
- Charlie Johnson was suggested as a potential presenter on the topic of organic farming.
- Brent shared about articles in the Tr-State Neighbor (January 28, 2022). One article was about bale grazing by a Tripp County, SD farmer, Van Mansheim, and the other was about regenerative agriculture in Nebraska, with Dan Gillespie.
- A second addendum has been submitted for the 501(c)(3) application.

- Beth attended The Northern Plains Sustainable Ag Conference in Fargo, ND, with a group from Dakota Rural Action. Highlights included attending a keynote presentation by Gabe Brown, along with several other workshops on building community food webs, interseeding to increase insect diversity, marketing strategies, research on perennial flax, and mental health awareness. Beth also enjoyed connecting with farmers committed to sustainable ag practices and seeing what others are doing in the region.
- Beth and her family will eventually be looking for a farmer(s) interested in farming their land. The desire would be for those 40 acres to be farmed no till and with no pesticides.
- Tim shared about a free virtual event, Exploring How Regenerative Practices Can Heal Our Planet, March 15-18 (www.soilregensummit.com).
- Dan shared about his current farming while also working full time in Sioux Falls. Works to farm with cover crops and in a regenerative manner.

Adjournment: Dee. moved, Dennis J. seconded, meeting adjourned. Next meeting: Monday, March 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Brent Brockmueller, secretary.