

District Meeting Minutes

1/20/2021 Blue Jay's, Egan, SD.

Those present were Jacob Brehmer and Reid Squires of Brookings County, Darcy Albert and Tami Severson Miner County, Chris Lilla of Minnehaha County, Cori Kaufmann of McCook County, Deb Blanchette of Lake County, DeAnna Berke and Kendra Eng of Moody County, and Maggie Purinton of Kingsbury County.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tami Severson. DeAnna Berke posed the question to the group regarding who handles drainage and tiling in each of the respective counties. Moody County's Emergency Manager is retiring and the Equalization & Zoning offices might be tasked with those responsibilities. Cori Kaufmann of McCook county stated that their highway department handles that with the State.

The new soil tables were brought up for discussion. Brookings County was a part of the pilot study and had initially planned on implementing them but an issue with Incode has put that project on hold. Incode and the State have been in communication. The project is going to be a bigger undertaking than what was expected. Other counties that use Incode have expressed that they will be waiting until the problem is solved before such a large undertaking. Minnehaha County is looking at possibly implementing the new tables in June.

Reappraisals and new construction were discussed. Most counties are planning on going back to normal procedures in 2021. Very few counties in our district reported actually having issues with people allowing access to homes and reappraisal work was able to continue on as normal.

Brookings County informed the group that their town & township meetings prior to equalization time had been cancelled for the year. McCook County meetings are also cancelled. Other counties were encouraged to check into the meetings in their own counties as it could change information distribution for equalization boards.

Chris Lilla brought up Senate Bill 70 at the state legislature this year. He stated that looks like it is just cleaning up a lot of the language that applies to us. The other legislation that applies to equalization was also discussed.

Equalization time and assessment notices were discussed. Members talked about how they are incorporating the new language that is to be included with assessment notices. Some counties are printing on the back of each page, adding an additional page of just the new verbiage, or enclosing the information on a colored slip.

There are a number of job openings within our district at this time. Hiring and open positions were discussed.

The next meeting will be held in April and hosted by Brookings County. Motion to adjourn by Chris Lilla, seconded by Jacob Brehmer. Tami Severson declared the meeting adjourned at 12:35PM.