

# MINUTES

## Mountrail County Soils Committee

December 19, 2018

**Mountrail County Courthouse 101 N Main St. Stanley, ND 58784**

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Committee Members present: Michael Hynek, Charlie Sorenson, Keith Deutsch, Dustin Roise & Luke Lahtinen

Others present: Teresa Captain – Property Assessor, Rory Porth – Property Assessor, and Lori Hanson – Tax Director

### **Purpose of Meeting**

Meeting was called to update the Soils Committee on the timeframe for completing the 2019 agricultural land values utilizing actual use with detailed soils. Review of the Request for Property Ag Land Use Review form for property owners.

### **Slide Presentation**

Rory Porth covered the following points within the slide presentation:

- State of North Dakota Tax Department input on our process – “Taking the time to do it right...”
- Committee members received copies of the NRCS Soils Layer Map, Actual Use Layer Map and a Test Valuation Map. These maps were used in the November 2018 ND Ag Land Valuation Class in Bismarck. Dustin Bakken, ND State Property Specialist used them as part of his presentation.
- Breaking new ground with GIS with ArcMap Online – the ability to publish “single use” maps.
- Information provided to Committee regarding the IAAO/GIS Conference held in September in Minneapolis, Minnesota which was attended by Mr. Porth. He showed and discussed our maps with Margie Cusack – Research Manager of IAAO. (International Association of Assessing Officers)
- Two things resulted from this discussion: Request to submit an article to be published in the Fair & Equitable magazine – IAAO. Request to submit an abstract for evaluation to present Mountrail County’s Ag Land valuation solution at a joint IAAO/URISA GIS/CAMA conference in February, 2019 in Portland, Oregon.
- Acceptance for Rory Porth to present Mountrail County’s Ag Land valuation solution for the conference.

- Agreement to tie NRCS Soils layer to available NAIP Photography – will be using 2017 Soils with 2017 NAIP Photography.
- Chart showing the Township Meeting Attendance.
- On September 18, 2018, all updates based off of 2016 NAIP photography was completed. In November, the Tax office reviewed the entire county using the 2017 NAIP photography and was completed by December 1, 2018. Any changes were submitted to Sidwell for corrections to the actual use layer.
- Presented the steps to complete the agricultural land value process for 2019.
- Discussion was held regarding what information will be provided on Portico Website.
- Information was provided regarding the four soils that have a higher Noncrop value than cropland value.
- Modifiers are not necessary with actual land use.
- Discussion of the Ag Land Use Review Process – swim lane chart was handed out to members.
- Discussion held regarding the involvement of the soils committee during the equalization process. Soils committee will meet in early May to review any completed Request for Property Ag Land Use Review forms.

Mountrail County Tax Equalization office submitted a drafted form of the Request for Property Ag Land Use Review to committee members. Discussion was held regarding necessary changes to the form. A few minor changes were made to the form. A motion was made by Keith Deutsch and seconded by Charlie Sorenson to require the affected area to be 5 acres on the Request for Property Ag Land Use Review. Upon roll call, all voted yes.

Mr. Hynek suggested that we have Sidwell contract information available for the Equalization process.

Information from this meeting will be reported to the Board of County Commissioners by staff members.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Secretary, Lori Hanson