



# MINNESOTA SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

## *Minutes of the August 10, 2017 Board Meeting Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Fairmont, Minnesota*

**Meeting called to order by Schmidt at 9:00 am**  
**The Pledge of Allegiance**

Members present: Clair Schmidt Jr. – Chair, Judy Beckman – Vice Chair, Linda Meschke – Member, and Larry Cowing – Member

Absent: Tyler Ask – Member

Others present: Alyson Eversman – Conservation Corps Intern, Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner Liaison, Ashley Brenke – District Manager, Greg Johanson – Technician, and Dustin Benes – Technician

### **Changes or Additions to Agenda**

**Old Business** Strategic Plan Review

**New Business** AIS Ambassador Contract

A motion was made by Beckman to approve the additions to the agenda, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Secretary's Report**

Changes in the Williamson section, adding “The current easement location will not require a buffer.” Motion by Beckman to approve the July 13, 2017 Secretary's Report with corrections, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Motion by Beckman to approve the Treasurer's Report, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Bills to Pay**

No additional bills to pay.

### **Programs**

#### **Cost-Share Programs**

##### **State Cost Share**

##### *Completed Projects*

CS #14-17

Township:

Mary Rosenthal 1

Silver Lake

Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$1,047.82  
Cost-Share Requested: \$523.00  
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,045.95  
Cost Share Due: \$522.00  
Slippage: \$1.00

Motion by Meschke to approve payment of \$522.00 for CS #14-17, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #15-17 Mary Rosenthal 2  
Township: Silver Lake  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$1,107.82  
Cost-Share Requested: \$553.00  
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,121.94  
Cost Share Due: \$553.00

Motion by Beckman to approve payment of \$553.00 for CS #15-17, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

*New Projects*

CS #22-17 Ryan Schmidtke  
Township: Silver Lake  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$775.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$387.00

Motion by Beckman to encumber \$387.00 for CS #22-17, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #23-17 Troy Olson 1  
Township: Fox Lake  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$500.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$250.00

Motion by Meschke to encumber \$250.00 for CS #23-17, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #24-17 Troy Olson 2  
Township: Fox Lake  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$500.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$250.00

Motion by Beckman to encumber \$250.00 for CS #24-17, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

**Clean Water Fund FY13**

*Amendment*

CWF #2-13 Darwin Roberts  
Township: Center Creek  
Project: Streambank  
Project Bid Amount: \$60,000.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$45,000.00

Time Amendment: 12/31/17

Motion by Meschke to approve the time amendment for CWF #2-13, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Clean Water Fund FY14**

#### *New Project*

CWF #4-14-SWT Dean Maschoff  
Township: Rutland  
Project: Treatment Wetland  
Project Bid Amount: \$10,000.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$7,500.00

Motion by Beckman to encumber \$7,500.00 for CWF #4-14-SWT, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### **Strategic Plan**

November meeting will include a review of the Strategic Plan. Copies will be emailed in October.

#### **Buffer Initiative**

Landowners are in daily to discuss buffers.

Two landowners have signed waivers for extensions until July of 2018 – must have reason why they need extension.

A buffer task force has been set up with County Commissioners, SWCD, Drainage Authority, and Planning and Zoning. Ask and Cowing are the District Board Representatives.

#### **Martin County Fair**

Martin County Fair booth will display Aquatic and Terrestrial Species, CREP, and Buffers.

#### **Nitrogen Smart Meeting**

August 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 – Noon at the Knights of Columbus is the Martin County Nitrogen Smart Conference.

### **New Business**

#### **MASWCD Awards / Outstanding Conservationist**

Nominations must be submitted by September 15. Nominees included Darwin Roberts for Outstanding Conservationist and Mary Don Kislingbury for Urban Conservationist.

#### **Murray County Work**

Murray County would like to hire us for posting easement boundary signs at given GPS points. Our estimate for the work is \$900.00.

#### **Fall Seeding and Seeding Equipment**

Johanson received quotes for a new John Deere Gator. Same HPX model as we have.

Custom seeding rate and drill rental rates should be reviewed.

Motion by Meschke to approve purchasing an HPX model John Deere Gator for the quoted price of \$9,080.87, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Staff Trainings**

A free Conservation Planning course, hosted by BWSR and NRCS, in Red Wing will be held for 4 days.

Motion by Beckman to approve hotel and meals for one staff, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously. The staff member will be reimbursed as soon as possible for the charges.

DNR Stream Ecology training in Blue Earth, September 11 – 13. Three day course at \$300.00 per person. Motion by Beckman to approve one staff to attend training, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

**Fall Volunteer**

In the middle of September, a volunteer will begin through NRCS Earth Team Volunteers. He will also be job shadowing/volunteering for Martin SWCD under the NRCS program.

**DNR AIS Ambassador Contract**

Eversman, Walters, and Benes all completed the Ambassador Training. DNR needs a signed contract to be AIS Ambassadors at boat landings.

Motion by Beckman to approve signing the DNR contract, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

**Buffer Cost-Share**

\$60,000.00 is available for installation of buffers or alternative practices.

Need to set a policy for installing buffers, \$300.00 per acre CAP. Haying only outside of the nesting season, May 15-August 1. Only pays for the compliant width of buffers. Alternative or structural practices will be 75% Cost Share. Signing authority delegated to staff.

Motion by Meschke to set policy for \$300.00 per acre for vegetative buffer, 75% cost share for alternative or structural practices, and allow staff signing authority, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

***District Manager Report***

See handout

***Water Plan Advisory Committee - Beckman***

Next Water Plan meeting will be September 28 at 2:00 p.m.

***SCTSA – Schmidt***

No meeting since June.

***GBERBA - Brenke***

Next Policy meeting is August 11. Next Technical meeting is August 23.

**Adjourn**

Motion by Meschke, second by Cowing to adjourn meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:37am.

Respectfully submitted,

September 14, 2017 Date Approved Dustin Benes Secretary