



MINNESOTA SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the June 8, 2017 Board Meeting Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Fairmont, Minnesota

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

Members present: Judy Beckman – Vice Chair, Linda Meschke – Member, Larry Cowing – Member,
and Tyler Ask – Member

Absent: Clair Schmidt Jr. – Chair

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

Changes or Additions to Agenda

Old Business Cell phones

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

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the May 4 Secretary's Report, second by Cowing. Motion
carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Ask to approve the Treasurer's Report, second by Cowing. Motion carried
unanimously.

Bills to Pay

Gerald Lorenz submitted a bill for \$772.35 for propagating native plants.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$772.35 to Gerald Lorenz, second by Ask.
Motion carried unanimously.

Programs

Cost-Share Programs

State Cost-Share

Completed Projects

CS #13-17

Bryce Freking

Township:

Lake Belt

Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$1,047.82
Cost Share requested: \$ 523.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$ 997.82
Cost Share Due: \$ 498.00
Slippage: \$ 25.00

A motion was made by Ask to approve payment of \$498.00 for CS #13-17, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

GBERBA

New Project

46-01 Larry Cowing
Township: Center Creek
Project: Cover Crops
Project Bid Amount: \$1,350.00
Cost Share Requested: \$1,012.50

A motion was made by Meschke to encumber \$1,012.50 for 46-01, second by Ask. Motion carried. Cowing abstained.

Grant Programs

CWF FY14 Interim Report

A motion was made by Ask to approve submitting the CWF FY14 Interim Report, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Monitoring DNR Wells Groundwater

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the contract to monitor DNR wells, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

FY18 Farm Bill Assistant Contract

BWSR approved \$29,250.00 for FY18 Farm Bill Assistant Grant.

A motion was made by Meschke to accept the grant agreement, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Cellular Phones

The cost of getting 2 field smart phones would be \$98.00 a month. The plans include 800 minutes, unlimited data, and unlimited texting.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve getting 2 field smart phones, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Buffer Update

Installing a buffer on public water can be extended until July, 2018 but the landowner must have an authorized waiver and a plan.

Funding for Martin County to do enforcement of the Buffer law would be \$137,000.00 for FY18 and \$172,000 in FY19.

MASWCD Resolution

Resolution for collaboration on GIS/GPS Training.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the resolution, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Other Waters' Resolution

Walters completed a map for the "Other Waters list". Classification for other waters does not require a buffer but is highly recommended for water quality. If applying for funding, these areas should be on the other waters list. The purpose of "Other Waters Resolution" is to adopt a Summary of Watercourses for inclusion in Local Water Management Plan.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the Resolution, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

2018 Budget

Flohers would like to see a list of project goals and a pie chart of where all funds currently come from to the District.

A motion was made by Ask to submit the proposed budget to the County, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Area VI Meeting

Next Area VI meeting will be held June 29.

Operational Agreement

The District will complete an Operational Agreement with NRCS. The goal is to foster cooperation between NRCS and Districts to work together for conservation implementation.

Nonstructural Practice Policy

Review of draft Policy for nonstructural practice cost share.

Make change to include a 25% incentive payment for cover crops on same field 3 years straight.

A motion was made by Cowing to approve the nonstructural practice policy, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Special Meetings

Corn Growers – Walters

District is partnering with Corn Growers and University of Minnesota to host a Nitrogen Smart Conference/Meeting.

County Commissioners Report – Flohrs

Starting to work on the Budget.

Continue to work on Drainage and Buffers.

Thanked the District for cleaning out and planting natives at the courthouse.

District Conservationist Report – Norland

Norland distributed an updated program summary. Following programs discussed; EQIP, CSP, RCPP, CRP, ACEP, Program Outreach, Wetland Determinations, and future meetings/trainings.

District Manager Report – Brenke

Legislative session has ended and Capacity funding and \$61 million for CREP passed.

Supervisor training for SWCD Governance 101 if anyone is interested.

MASWCD has leadership training available.

Governor Dayton will be holding town hall meetings across the state to discuss plans for water quality improvement.

Water Plan Advisory Committee

Next Water Plan meeting will be June 29 at 7:00 pm.

SCTSA

Next meeting will be June 21.

GBERBA – Ask

Certainty has incentive payments.

319 Grants are available for cover crops.

Next Executive meeting is June 9th and next Technical meeting is June 28th.

AIS Billboard and Towels

Benes is working with LAMAR and Wildlife Forever on a Billboard. A motion was made by Meschke to approve a billboard, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Towels designed by Visual Identity with Martin SWCD Logo. A motion was made by Meschke to approve purchasing towels, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

A motion by Ask to adjourn meeting, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am

Respectfully submitted,

July 13, 2017 Date Approved Dustin Benas Secretary-Treasurer