



MINNESOTA SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the March 9, 2017 Board Meeting Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Fairmont, Minnesota

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

Members present: Clair Schmidt Jr. – Chair, Tyler Ask – Member, Larry Cowing – Member, and Linda Meschke – Member

Absent: Judy Beckman – Vice Chair

Others present: Ashley Brenke – District Manager, Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner Liaison, Jesse Walters – Outreach Coordinator, Greg Johanson – Farm Bill Technician, Betsy Norland – NRCS District Conservationist, Gary Watson – NRCS ASTC-FO, and Dustin Benes – Technician

Changes or Additions to Agenda
None

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the February 9, 2017 Secretary's Report, second by Ask. 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

Benes Expense Reimbursement, \$6.00

Invoice for fuel bill from Martin County Highway Department, \$263.97

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of additional bills, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

Programs

Cost-Share Programs

State-Cost Share

Completed Projects

CS #3-17

Marv Schultze 1

Township:

Tenhassen

Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$600.00
Cost Share Requested: \$300.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$610.00
Cost Share Due: \$300.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$300.00 for CS #3-17, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #4-17 Marv Schultze 2
Township: Tenhassen
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$600.00
Cost Share Requested: \$300.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$610.00
Cost Share Due: \$300.00

A motion was made by Ask to approve payment of \$300.00 for CS #4-17, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Programs

We may have a special meeting to approve final payment of the Robert Adams project. If so, Ashley will contact the Board.

Old Business

Buffer Initiative

A County or Watershed District may elect jurisdiction to enforce the buffer law.

CREP

Agencies are currently working on details.

2016 Year End

Year end reports are being finalized. Deadline is March 15.

Capacity Work Plan

Capacity work plan was approved last month. Discussion on purchasing two new computers and potentially using Capacity funds.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve purchase of two desktop computers, compatible with NRCS specifications up to \$2,000.00 per computer, max \$4,000.00, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Elm Creek Monitoring Contract

PCA has contracted with us for \$20,474.00 to continue monitoring Elm Creek. Funds will cover staff time, lab results, and training for the next two years, 2017 and 2018.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the Elm Creek Monitoring Contract with PCA, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

Comprehensive Plan/Water Plan adoption

A motion was made by Meschke to adopt the County Water Plan as the District's Comprehensive Plan for ten years, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

Watonwan River Watershed – One Watershed, One Plan

GBERBA is applying for a planning grant through BWSR for One Watershed, One Plan in the Watonwan River Watershed.

A motion was made by Ask to approve the resolution supporting the planning grant, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Area VI Meeting

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 29, 2017, in Le Center at Traxler's from 9am to 3pm.

Reports

Special Meetings - Brenke

A summary report by Beckman was handed out discussing the Area VI Chair meeting she attended on February 14, 2017. Suggested topics for presenting at future meetings: hydro conditioning, Legislative update in March, and Operation Agreements with NRCS.

County Commissioner Report – Flohrs

County continues to work on drainage.

Mentoring and Kinship have shared offices for 1 year.

Working with the MN DOT for a 4 way stop on 263 and County Road 26 by Welcome.

District Manager Report – Norland

Report was handed out

Civil Rights, EEO Discussion with partners (revised February 2017), affirmation of review signed by SWCD supervisors, staff and DC.

Gary Watson discussed Operational Agreements and computers.

District Manager Report – Brenke

See handout

Water Plan Advisory Committee

Water Plan meeting will be held March 30, 2017 at 7pm in the SWCD office.

SCTSA

No meetings.

GBERBA


Policy meeting will be March 10, 2017. Next Technical meeting is March 22, 2017.

Adjourn

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

April 13, 2017 Date Approved  Secretary-Treasurer