



MINNESOTA  
SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

*Minutes of the January 12, 2017 Board Meeting  
Martin Soil and Water Conservation District  
Fairmont, Minnesota*

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

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

Others present: Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner Liaison, Jesse Walters – Outreach Coordinator, Lawrence Sukalski, Ashley Brenke – District Manager, Rich Perrine – Technician, Greg Johanson – Farm Bill Technician, Nikki Maronowski – FSA, Betsy Norland – NRCS District Conservationist, and Dustin Benes – Technician.

**Elections**

A motion was made by Meschke to elect Schmidt as Chair, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Meschke to elect Beckman as Vice Chair, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

**Supervisor Committee Assignments**

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve all committee assignments, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Institution Designation**

A motion was made by Beckman to approve check signing authority for Judy Beckman and Clair Schmidt, Jr. at State Bank of Fairmont and remove Darwin Roberts, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve signing authority for Judy Beckman and Clair Schmidt, Jr. at Profinium and remove Darwin Roberts, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve State Bank of Fairmont and Profinium as Martin SWCD's financial institutions, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Changes or Additions to Agenda**

### **Old Business**

- FSA/CRP
- Personnel Committee
- Vehicle Repair

### **New Business**

- Legislative Days
- Landscape Resiliency/Climate Adaptation
- Judicial Ditch 20
- NACD & MASWCD Dues
- Storage Shed Lease

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

### **Secretary's Report**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the December 8, 2016 Secretary's Report, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Beckman to approve the December 20, 2016 Special Meeting Secretary's Report, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

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

### **Additional Bills to Pay**

No additional bills to pay.

Meeting was turned over to Schmidt as Chair.

### **Cost-Share Programs**

#### **Certainty**

##### Incentive

Landowner: Willow Creek Farm  
Township: Verona, Faribault County  
Project: Certification  
Eligible Project Cost: \$300.00  
Cost Share Due: \$300.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$300.00 for Certainty Incentive, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **State Cost Share**

##### Completed Projects

CS #7-17 Marlyn Walterman  
Township: Fairmont  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$860.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$430.00  
Eligible Project Cost: \$860.00  
Cost Share Due: \$430.00

A motion was made by Ask to approve payment of \$430.00 for CS #7-17, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #8-17                    Arlen Bock  
Township:                Waverly  
Project:                    Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount:    \$1,672.50  
Cost Share Requested: \$836.00  
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,672.50  
Cost Share Due:         \$836.00

A motion was made by Beckman to approve payment of \$836.00 for CS #8-17, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Cancelation

CS #19-15x                Bob Carlson  
Township:                Cedar  
Project:                    Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount:    \$800.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$400.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the cancelation of CS #19-15x, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

New Projects

CS #9-17                    Calvin Mattson  
Township:                East Chain  
Project:                    Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount:    \$960.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$480.00

A motion was made by Meschke to encumber \$480.00 for CS #9-17, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #10-17                 Calvin Mattson  
Township:                East Chain  
Project:                    Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount:    \$6,110.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$1,000.00

A motion was made by Meschke to encumber \$1,000.00 for CS #10-17, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #11-17                 Bob Carlson  
Township:                Cedar  
Project:                    Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount:    \$800.00  
Cost Share Requested: \$400.00

A motion was made by Beckman to encumber \$400.00 for CS #11-17, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

**Grant Programs**

**Buffer Implementation Grant Agreement**

A motion was made by Ask to approve \$35,000.00 grant agreement for Buffer Implementation, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

## **MAWQCP - GBERBA**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the agreement with GBERBA to provide technical assistance under MAWQCP, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### **Buffer Initiative**

Walters has updated BuffCAT with parcel compliance and letters are being sent out to those that are not in compliance.

### **Office Furniture**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve purchasing 12 new chairs @ \$275.00 per chair, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Beckman to approve purchasing a white board for \$166.00, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

### **2017 Annual Plan**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the 2017 Annual Plan, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Job Descriptions**

Brenke reviewed with staff their job descriptions and will give the Personnel Committee copies.

### **Personal Committee**

Personnel Committee reviewed the option of an annuity for staff not participating in health insurance. No changes at this time.

### **Vehicle Repair**

We received a quote from D&R Repair to fix gas throttle body for \$192.74. Brakes will also be repaired. Contact all auto dealers in Martin County for quotes to purchase a SUV. Budget for a vehicle in 2017 Work Plan.

A motion was made by Meschke to have repairs done on the Ford Focus, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

### **FSA/CRP - Maronowski**

Update on CRP: there is now a cap of \$300.00/acre.

50,000 more CRP SAFE acres now available in MN.

Four new CRP practices available.

New FSA information delivery notification through email and text messaging.

CRP reenrollment must be completed by August 31 before expiration.

USDA has programs to make it easier to transfer land to the next generation of farmers and ranchers.

Discussion about Palmer Amaranth.

## **New Business**

### **Judicial Ditch 20 – Lawrence Sukalski**

Sukalski presented on the JD20 redetermination of benefits.

There is CREP property which the JD20 tile system runs through that the easement landowners will have to pay benefits for. Mosloskis and others will be paying benefits on the CREP ground, and not able to make any income on the property.

They are benefitting the system by having CREP for water storage.

New CREP disclosure about County tiling systems.

Discussion about drainage law and how viewers look at benefits to the systems.

### **Conservation Update**

The Conservation Update comes out in the Photo Press on January 25, 2017.

### **Open House**

Open house/tree order days will be Friday, January 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, January 28 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

### **Capacity Funding**

Total Capacity Funding for 2017 will be \$106,000.00.

2017 work plan will be reviewed in February - include cover crops \$15,000.00 and budget for a new vehicle.

### **319 Grant Application**

Grant application for \$120,000.00 will focus on Fairmont Chain of Lakes watershed. Main focus on Dutch Creek, but extend to Elm Creek.

A motion was made by Ask to submit the 319 Grant application, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **MASWCD Legislative Days**

Legislative Days will be March 20 and 21 in St. Paul. We will be meeting with Representative Gunther and Senator Rosen on March 21.

### **Landscape Resiliency/Climate Adaptation**

Discussion about agriculture cropping changes and climate change. Dan Shaw, BWSR is looking at how Districts are planning for climate change, etc.

### **NACD & MASWCD Dues**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$775.00 for NACD dues, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Beckman to approve payment of \$3,145.95 for MASWCD dues, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Storage Shed Lease**

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$2,350.00 for storage shed lease, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports**

#### ***Special Meetings***

#### ***MN River Congress – Meschke***

An updated handout for Minnesota River Congress 2016 Resolution Summary was discussed. Handout listed resolutions that were adopted and/or defeated.

#### ***County Commissioner Report – Flohrs***

Martin County and Frontier Communications are partnering to get broadband service throughout the county for \$3.6 million.

Drainage Authority continues to work on drainage projects.

New Veterans Service Office will be in the Lakeview Office Complex on Albion Avenue.

#### ***District Conservationist Report – Norland***

Gave a report about EQIP, CSP, RCPP, CRP, ACEP, Program Outreach, and Wetland Determinations. For new board members, Norland will schedule an appointment to discuss Civil Rights/EEO,

***District Manager Report – Brenke***

Handout from Planning & Zoning regarding building permits and septic systems.  
Currently doing year end reports.

***Water Plan Advisory Committee – Beckman***

Last Committee meeting was held on December 15, 2016.  
The Martin County Water Plan was approved by BWSR. Perrine and Brenke will present the final Plan to the County Commissioners for adoption.

***Water Plan/WCA Report – Perrine***

Discussed Fox Lake Conservation League land acquisitions. The 40 acre Vanderwert parcel will be a County Park in 2018.  
Working on DNR permit to propagate endangered and threatened species.

***SCTSA – Schmidt***

Next meeting will be January 24, 2017.

***GBERBA***

Next GBERBA Policy meeting is January 13, 2017. The organization is moving forward with One Watershed, One Plan in the Watonwan Watershed.

***Adjourn***

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary