



MINNESOTA SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the July 14, 2016 Board Meeting Martin Soil and Water Conservation District Fairmont, Minnesota

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

Members Present: Linda Meschke, Judy Beckman, and Darwin Roberts

Members Absent: Tyler Ask – Chair and Clair Schmidt, Jr. – Vice Chair

Others Present: Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner, Jesse Walters – Outreach Coordinator, Ashley Brenke – District Manager, Greg Johanson – Farm Bill Technician, Ben Cottrell – NRCS, and Dustin Benes – Technician

Changes or Additions to Agenda

Discussion regarding Roberts payment request for lodging – will be covered in additional bills to pay.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Roberts to approve the June 9, 2016 Secretary's Report, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

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

Bills to Pay

A motion was made by Roberts to approve \$100.00 donation for 4H Blue Ribbon Auction at The Martin County Fair, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

Roberts would like approval for payment of \$294.84 for 2 nights of lodging in Minneapolis for NACD Conference. Roberts will submit paid receipt with next Supervisor Compensation sheet. A motion was made by Beckman to approve \$294.84 for two nights lodging, second by Meschke. Motion carried, Roberts abstained.

Cost-Share Programs

State Cost-Share

Completed Projects

CS #13-14

City of Fairmont Critical Area Planting

Project Bid Amount: \$5,000.00
Cost-Share Requested: \$3,750.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,765.00
Cost-Share Due: \$1,323.00
Slippage: \$2,427.00
Other funds: (MCCC, FLF) \$ 442.00

A motion was made by Roberts to approve payment for CS #13-14, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

New Projects

CS #20-14 Charles Kuntz Well Sealing

Project Bid Amount: \$1,775.00

Cost-Share Requested: \$ 887.00

A motion was made by Beckman to encumber \$887.00 for CS #20-14, second by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #21-14 Gary Anderson Well Sealing

Project Bid Amount: \$750.00

Cost-Share Requested: \$375.00

A motion was made by Roberts to encumber \$375.00 for CS #21-14, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

CS #22-14 Caven's Landing Well Sealing

Project Bid amount: \$815.00

Cost-Share Requested: \$407.00

A motion was made by Roberts to encumber \$407.00 for CS #22-14, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

Clean Water Fund

New Project

CWF #7-14-Well Dennis Anderson Well Sealing

Township: Galena

Project Bid Amount: \$700.00

Cost-Share Requested: \$350.00

A motion was made by Beckman to encumber \$350.00 for CWF #7-14-Well, second by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Programs

MDA Bioreactor Grant ends July 29, 2016, final report is being worked on.

Old Business

Buffer Initiative

BWSR approved the draft guidance documents. DNR has sent out new buffer maps. Martin County and Martin SWCD have submitted comments to the maps but DNR has not changed them. Buffer meeting was held June 20. Working with other Martin County staff has been very helpful.

Strategic Plan Review

Roberts stated we should have further discussion on the plan in August with the full Board present. Goals for the plan: outreach and education, more events, tracking phone calls, better customer service, and continue partnering with NRCS.

2017 Budget

Budget was approved in June.

Discussion about BWSR additional funds with County increased funds to District. This would be a three year commitment. Long term this would be more dollars available for projects in the County.

CWF FY17 Grant Applications

Drafts of the grant applications will be sent out. Grant applications are due August 8th. First grant application for \$115,000.00 to focus on the NE part of the County and vegetable crop growers to plant cover crops. Second application for projects in the Dutch Creek Watershed/Fairmont Chain of Lakes in the amount of \$275,000.00.

A motion was made by Roberts to approve the dollar amounts applying for, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Martin County Fair

Martin County Fair begins the week of August 15. No DNR fish tank this year. Buffers, cover crops, and AIS display will be the focus. FSA expressed interest in taking shifts at the booth. Discussion about getting bags to hand out.

A motion was made by Roberts to approve purchasing \$15.00 shirts for staff with logo, second by Beckman. Motion carried unanimously.

Groundwater Monitoring Grant Agreement

MN DNR grant agreement for \$1,200.00 to monitor groundwater in 5 wells.

A motion was made by Beckman to approve the grant agreement, second by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Special Meetings

Area 6 meeting was held in Winthrop and buffers were the main topic discussed. One resolution was passed to raise supervisor per diem from \$75.00 to \$100.00, and \$55.00 to \$70.00. Per diem rates are set by Legislation.

Meschke discussed July 28, 2016 Elm Creek Watershed meeting in Fairmont with field tour and NWQI.

County Commissioner Report – Flohrs

The Commissioners are currently working on drainage and working on the budget.

District Conservationist Report – Cottrell

Working on CRP site inspections.

EQIP deadline is August 19, 2016.

CSP and RCPP EQIP are waiting for approval.

DC position in Martin County has closed. No one has been hired yet.

Attended Local Work Group meeting.

District Manager Report – Brenke

See handout

Water Plan Advisory Committee – Beckman

Next meeting will be in August.

Water Plan/WCA Report – Walters

The last meeting was a field tour that visited four sites.

At the Martin County Fair we will promote public comments for the Water Plan.

SCTSA – Brenke

Brenke and Ask attended the last SCTSA meeting. With the TSA's new capacity funding they have hired a Technician and Administrator.

GBERBA – Roberts

Gave an update on the last meeting. GBERBA is currently applying for project funding.

Adjourn

Meeting was declared adjourned by Meschke at 11:04 am.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ Date Approved _____ Secretary-Treasurer