



**MINNESOTA
SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

*Minutes of the December 13, 2018 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 – Chair, Larry Cowing – Vice Chair, Linda Meschke – member,
and Clair Schmidt – member

Absent: Tyler Ask – member

Others present: Ashley Brenke – District Manager, Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner Liaison,
Greg Johanson – Farm Bill Technician, Betsy Norland – District Conservationist, and
Dustin Benes – Technician

Additions to Agenda

New Business

Storage Shed Lease
County Wage Survey
Strategic Plan Review

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

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the November 8, 2018 Secretary's Report, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

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

Bills to Pay

NACD Dues

NACD Dues are due, Gold status level is \$775.00

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

Usual and Customary Bills

A motion was made by Cowing to pay any usual and customary bills, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Programs

Cost-Share Programs

State Cost-Share

Completed Projects

CS #21-16 Stephan Melson 2
Township: Cedar
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$700.00
Cost Share Requested: \$350.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$700.00
Cost Share Due: \$350.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$350.00 for CS #21-16, second by Schmidt.
Motion carried unanimously.

CS #22-16 Wendell Rode
Township: Manyaska
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$873.76
Cost Share Requested: \$436.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$873.77
Cost Share Due: \$436.00

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve payment of \$436.00 for CS #22-16, second by Cowing.
Motion carried unanimously.

CS #26-16 Loren Schoewe
Township: Galena
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$1,220.00
Cost Share Requested: \$610.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,265.00
Cost Share Due: \$610.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$610.00 for CS #26-16, second by Schmidt.
Motion carried unanimously.

CS #9-18 Paul Philipp 1
Township: Fox Lake
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$925.00
Cost Share Requested: \$462.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,012.41
Cost Share Due: \$462.00

A motion was made by Cowing to approve payment of \$462.00 for CS #9-18, second by Schmidt.
Motion carried unanimously.

CS #11-18 Paul Philipp 2
Township: Fox Lake
Project: Well Sealing
Project Bid Amount: \$675.00
Cost Share Requested: \$337.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$708.40
Cost Share Due: \$337.00

A motion was made by Meschke to approve payment of \$337.00 for CS #11-18, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendment

CS #12-18 Bob True
Township: Center Creek
Project: Waterway
Project Bid Amount: \$2,000.00
Cost Share Requested: \$1,500.00
Time Amendment: 12/31/2020

A motion was made by Meschke to approve a time amendment for CS #12-18, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

Capacity – Clean Water Funds

Completed Project

CF #4-18 John Ufer
Township: Waverly
Project: Cover Crops 3 years 75 Acres
Project Bid Amount: \$13,500.00
Cost Share Requested: \$13,500.00
Eligible Project Cost: \$13,500.00
Cost Share Due: \$13,500.00

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve payment of \$13,500.00 for CF #4-18, second by Meschke. Motion carried unanimously.

Flood Recovery (DRAP)

New Project

DRAP #5-16 Leslie Flohrs
Township: Galena
Project: Streambank
Project Bid Amount: \$55,000.00
Cost Share Requested: \$41,250.00

A motion was made by Meschke to encumber \$41,250.00 for DRAP #5-16, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendments

DRAP #2-16 Ebeling 1
Township: Cedar
Project: Waterway
Project Bid Amount: \$5,000.00
Cost Share Requested: \$3,750.00
Time Amendment: 12/31/2019

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the time amendment for DRAP #2-16, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

DRAP #3-16 Ebeling 2
Township: Cedar
Project: Waterway
Project Bid Amount: \$10,000.00
Cost Share Requested: \$7,500.00
Time Amendment: 12/31/2019

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the time amendment for DRAP #3-16, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

DRAP #4-16 Hoovel Properties
Township: Elm Creek
Project: Waterway - CRP
Project Bid Amount: \$34,000.00
Cost Share Requested: \$17,000.00
Time Amendment: 12/31/2019

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the time amendment for DRAP #4-16, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

Grant Programs

2019 Buffer and Capacity Grant agreements

2019 Capacity Grant is for \$100,000 and the 2019 Buffer Grant is for \$35,000.00.

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

Clean Water Funds Grant

A Clean Water Funds grant was approved by BWSR for the Dutch Creek watershed doing projects and BMP's. Currently Four Grants have been approved for the Dutch Creek Watershed. Landowners should also be reminded about the MAWQCP.

Old Business

2017 Audited Financial Statement

We received the 2017 Audited Financial Statement, a yearly comparison shows we have had an increase in funds. The district is financially good this year.

A motion was made by Meschke to approve the 2017 Audited Financial Statement, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Tree Program

Currently no date is set for the tree day's open house, due to construction uncertainties.

Bulk order of trees was submitted on 12/12/2018.

Meschke has a tractor available for rent @ \$7.80 an hour during the spring season. We should contact the conservation clubs to see if they have funds available for landowners to plant windbreaks or shelterbelts.

Office Lease/Remodel

No blueprints or estimates at this time.

MASWCD Convention

The convention was held on 12/10 and 12/11, Gerald Lorenz was the Area winner for Outstanding Conservationist.

New Business

2019 Summer Intern

Conservation Corps doesn't have funding to support interns. Cost of hiring an intern through them is about \$6,000.00. Fox Lake Conservation League has expressed interest in funding an intern.

A motion was made by Meschke to hire an intern independent of Conservation Corps up to \$6,000.00 and seek funding support through local conservation clubs, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Plan

The County AIS Prevention Plan was presented and goals for 2019 were discussed.

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the AIS Prevention Plan, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 Annual Plan

A draft of the annual plan was handed out and discussed. Review the plan and approve at the January board meeting.

2019 Personnel Wages

The 2019 proposed wage schedule was discussed.

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the 2019 proposed wage schedule recommended by the personnel committee, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

County Wage Survey

Martin County has hired a consultant to look at their wage schedule and review all job descriptions. This will assure all employees are being paid fairly. SWCD was asked if we wanted to participate.

A motion was made by Meschke to participate only if SWCD is included in the original proposal or contract, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 Budget

A proposal for the 2019 budget was discussed.

A motion was made by Cowing to approve the 2019 Budget proposal, second by Schmidt. Motion carried unanimously.

Strategic Plan

A review of the strategic plan will be discussed at the January meeting.

Storage Shed Lease

The cost of the storage shed lease increased to \$3,420.00.

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

Reports

Special Meetings

Area 6 meeting – Meschke

Martin SWCD hosted the meeting at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 60 people attended. Flohrs welcomed all attendees.

MASWCD State Convention - Brenke

All but one resolution passed. Crop insurance incentive for cover crops resolution failed.

County Commissioner Report – Flohrs

Continue to work on drainage issues and levy has been set at 2.94.

District Conservationist Report – Norland

See handout.

District Manager Report – Brenke

Staff reports were distributed and discussed.

Water Plan Advisory Committee – Beckman

The next Water Plan meeting will be 10:00 am on December 20, 2018 at the water treatment plant.

Water Plan/WCA Report – Benes

One possible wetland violation reviewed within City limits.

I-90 project Notice of Decision received.

Two Notice of Application sites within City of Fairmont were reviewed for wetland boundaries.

SCTSA – Schmidt

No meeting.

GBERBA – Brenke

The last meeting was a joint Policy/Technical meeting on November 9, 2018

Adjourn

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ Date Approved

_____ Secretary-Treasurer