



**MINNESOTA  
SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

*Minutes of the February 8, 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, and Tyler Ask – Member

Absent: Clair Schmidt – Member and Linda Meschke – Member

Others present: Jill Sackett Eberhart – BWSR Board Conservationist, Steve Flohrs – County Commissioner Liaison, Betsy Norland – District Conservationist, Kathy Davis – NRCS Clerk, Ashley Brenke – District Manager, and Dustin Benes – Technician

**Additions to Agenda**

**New Business**

**Contract with Houston Engineering**

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

**Secretary's Report**

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

**Treasurer's Report**

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

**Additional Bills to Pay**

January Fuel Bill from the County.

A motion was made by Cowing to approve paying the fuel bill, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

**Programs**

**Cost-Share Programs**

**State Cost-Share**

*Amendment*

CS #4-18      Anna Agerback  
Township:    Lake Fremont

Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$1,922.50  
Cost Share Requested: \$ 961.00  
Amendment: Land Occupier Roy Jensen

A motion was made by Ask to approve the land occupier amendment for CS #4-18, second by Cowing.  
Motion carried unanimously.

*Completed Project*

CS #4-18 Roy Jensen  
Township: Lake Fremont  
Project: Well Sealing  
Project Bid Amount: \$1,922.50  
Cost Share Requested: \$ 961.00  
Eligible Project Cost: \$1,900.00  
Cost Share Due: \$ 950.00  
Slippage: \$ 11.00

A motion was made by Cowing to approve payment of \$950.00 for CS #4-18, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

**Grant Programs – Final Financial Reports**

Six Grants are finished: 2016 Buffer Law, 2017 Conservation Delivery, 2017 Easement Delivery, 2014 Greater Blue Earth Cooperative Weed Management Area, 2013 Clean Water Assistance Grant, and 2014 Clean Water Projects and Practices.

A motion was made by Cowing to approve the Final Financial Reports for the grant programs, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

**Legislative Days**

Legislative Days for SWCD's will be March 12-13. Two staff are currently going to attend.

**Watonwan River One Watershed, One Plan**

Eberhart gave an update on the Watonwan River 1W1P. A Memorandum of Agreement will be reviewed and signed by all members.

A motion was made by Ask to approve the Memorandum of Agreement, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

**Houston Engineering Contract**

A motion was made by Ask to approve the contract with Houston Engineering, second by Cowing. Motion carried unanimously.

**Notary Commission Application**

Notary Commission applications fees are \$120.00. CREP Easement papers need a notary and currently no one in the office has Notary approval.

A motion was made by Cowing to approve a Notary Commission application for Brenke, second by Ask. Motion carried unanimously.

**Blue Earth Watershed Elected Officials Meeting**

There will be an informational meeting on March 14 in Winnebago for Elected Officials.

### **319 Grant Application**

319 Grant Applications are due by March 2. Application would be for the Dutch Creek watershed.

### **East Fork Des Moines Watershed Community Mtg March 6**

An East Fork Des Moines Watershed landowner meeting will be held in Sherburn on March 6.

### **Reports**

#### ***County Commission – Flohrs***

County Commissioner Legislative Days are February 28-March 1  
Discussion has begun on the Martin County Law Enforcement building.  
Martin County Aerial imagery will stay on schedule and be flown in 2019.

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

A report was given on EQIP, CSP, RCPP, CRP, ACEP, Program Outreach, and Wetland Determinations.  
Cody Benschoter is the Earth Team Volunteer.  
Kathy Davis started on January 23 as a clerk contracted by NRCS.  
Operational agreement between NRCS and Martin SWCD update.  
A list of upcoming trainings and meetings.

#### ***District Manager Report – Brenke***

See handout

#### ***Water Plan Advisory Committee - Beckman***

No recent meeting, next one will be held in March, TBD.

#### ***SCTSA***

No recent meeting.

#### ***GBERBA – Ask***

Administration and Technical staff received raises.  
Funds are still available for cover crops and side inlets.  
February 9<sup>th</sup> is the next Executive meeting and February 28 is a Technical meeting.  
The next Policy/Technical meeting will be Friday, March 9.

#### ***State Conservation Planner - Eberhart***

Gave an update on a pilot project for State Conservation Planners. Martin SWCD could be a recipient.  
Currently a work plan and grant agreement is being worked on by BWSR. This will be a joint agreement between BWSR and NRCS.

### **Adjourn**

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

March 8, 2018 Date Approved Dustin Beuer Secretary-Treasurer