



Freeborn Soil & Water
Conservation District
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS February 12th, 2009

I. **The meeting was called to order** at 1:30 P.M. by Chairman Don Kropp in our district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN.

II. Those present were as follows:

Don Kropp, Chairman	Don Flatness, District Manager
Cole Pectorious, Vice Chairman	Brenda Lageson, District Administrative Assistant
Chris Dahl, Board Secretary	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
	Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist

ABSENT:

Dave Ausen, Treasurer
Roger M. Nelson, Supervisor

III. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

- Minutes of the January 8th regular meeting were approved as presented on a motion made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

IV. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of January 31st, 2009**, was \$3,037.19 in checking and \$322,424.55 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

Discussed Area 7 MASWCD dues. A motion was made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl to pay the Area 7 MASWCD dues for 2009 in the amount of \$500.00. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

V. **State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information. . .**

- One new application for state cost share assistance was received. Darlene Borneman, has requested assistance on a grass waterway project in Bath Township, Sec. 35. Estimated cost is \$3,400.00, maximum cost share at 75% would be \$2,550.00. After some discussion, a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pectorious to approve the contract application with maximum cost share not to exceed 75% of project cost or \$2,550.00, whichever is less. The contract will be assigned # FY09-04. Project is to be completed by 12/31/10. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Keith Kuiters (contract # FY09-01) has submitted a request for a contract amendment and partial payment for work completed to date on his project. The amendment asks that the original cost estimate be increased from \$5,200.00 to \$8,580.00. This would increase the maximum cost share amount from \$3,900.00 to \$6,435.00. The reason stated for the increase was that the waterway outlet location was changed and overall length increased. This affected the tile footage and earthwork quantities needed. In addition, a tile inlet and 3 rock barriers were added to protect the upper end of the waterway.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Pestorious and seconded by Dahl to increase the project estimate to \$8,580 and resulting 75% cost share maximum to \$6,435.00. All other provisions of the contract are to remain unchanged. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

Kuiters also requested partial payment for tile and an inlet installed last fall along the waterway. He brought in bills for tile installed totaling \$8,063.83. However, he installed a larger size than was needed for the waterway. This was discussed with Kuiters and the "approved" tile cost was reduced to \$3,857.20 (see voucher & attachment). After reviewing this information, a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorious approving a partial payment in the amount of \$2,892.90 representing 75% of the approved cost. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

VI. New Business:

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. Ed reported that we are still waiting for farm bills rules. He also reported on CRP, acres in the nation and the potential for acres coming out of CRP. He and Dave Ausen attended the Hiawatha Valley RC & D meeting in Rochester on January 26th, there was some discussion of them putting on a potential educational grazing workshop this year that our district may help sponsor.
- Don Flatness reported on the Se Tech Support – Joint Powers Board meeting Dave Ausen and he attended on January 29th in Rochester. They held elections for new officers for 2009 and made committee appointments. Dave was appointed to the Prioritization Committee assuming Obert's former position. There was a PowerPoint presentation on the re-alignment of the Technical Service Areas within the state. Our area will not be affected. Committee reports, budget proposal and a flood recovery presentation rounded out the meeting.
- Don F. then gave a report on the GBERBA Technical committee meeting he attended on January 28th in Mankato. Brian Williams from the MN Dept. of Ag gave a presentation on the MN Nutrient Management Initiative. Election of officers was then held. Discussion was held regarding the upcoming GBERBA Annual Meeting. Their Clean Water Legacy Grant application was approved. Then other routine monthly cost share items were completed and the meeting adjourned.
- Don Kropp reported on the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) Annual meeting he attended February 11th in Waseca. Several agencies participated in 3 panel discussions covering Water Quality Topics. There were nine (9) counties represented.
- Don F. reported on the Shell Rock River WD Advisory meeting he attended on Friday, February 6th. Discussion included fish barriers, south industrial park, water & sewer in the old Stables area and Clean Water Legacy funds that may be available for aerators that pump in oxygen. McGhie & Betts gave a PowerPoint presentation.
- Supervisors and Staff discussed ideas regarding our Annual Report and Plan that are due to BWSR by March 15th.
- Discussion was held on donating trees to Girl Scout Troop #41005 for planting on Earth Day. A motion was made by Pestorious and seconded by Dahl to donate twenty (20) bare root Red Splendor Crabapple trees. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff asked for authorization to purchase Trees and Shrubs of MN book from U of MN Press for \$59.95. A motion was made by Pestorious and seconded by Dahl to purchase this book for office use. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Read letter from Steve Sunderland, MASWCD President re: Revision of MASWCD Area Boundaries.
- Reviewed WCA resolution to come before the County Board next Tuesday, Feb. 17th.
- Employees are requesting authorization to attend the SEMACDE Annual Employee Meeting to be held Tuesday, March 10th at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch in Stewartville. Registration is \$14.00 per person. A motion was made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl authorizing employees to attend. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Read the Turtle Creek Watershed minutes from the January 20th meeting.
- Reviewed well records.

VII. Adjournment:

- There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, March 12th, 2009** at 7:30 P.M. at our SWCD office at 1400 West Main, Albert Lea.

These are preliminary minutes subject to board approval at the next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Respectfully submitted,

Chris Dahl, Board Secretary

Date