



**Freeborn Soil & Water
Conservation District**
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Phone: 507-373-5607 Ext. 3
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
May 12th, 2016**

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Vice Chairman Chris Dahl in our district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN.

II. Those present were as follows:

Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair	Mark Schaetzke, District Manager/Tech.
Dave Ausen, Treasurer	Brenda Lageson, Office/Assistant Manager
Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary	Senja Viktora, District Technician
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor	Lindsey Zeitler, District Technician
	Gary Kurer, NRCS District Conservationist

Absent:

Don Kropp, Chairman

III. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

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

IV. Treasurer's Report:

- **The treasurer's balance as of April 30th, 2016**, was \$2,397.35 in checking and \$629,440.13 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

Staff presented an Easement Implementation Grant agreement from BWSR for signature. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer authorizing Vice Chair Dahl to sign and for staff to return to BWSR for payment. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

V. Cost Share Actions and/or Information:

- Manager Schaetzke announced that Phillip Schmidt is requesting final payment for his Windbreak project.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Final Payment Req.</u>	<u>T&A</u>
FY13-02	Schmidt, Phillip	380 Shelterbelt (1)	\$4,239.45	\$1,795.00	\$359.00

Staff completed a site visit and recommends final payment for this project. After some discussion, a motion approving final payment of \$1,795.00 from the FY13 cost share fund was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Schaetzke then presented a new cost share request from Chris Dahl for state cost share assistance:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost Est.</u>	<u>Encumbered</u>
DRAP15-02	Dahl, Chris	410 Grade Stabilization (1)	\$15,600.00	\$500.00*

After reviewing this request for cost share assistance a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen approving the project# DRAP15-02 with the dollar amount mentioned above. *Note project is approved for Federal EQIP cost share the SWCD will only piggy back the difference not to exceed 85% of the eligible total or whichever is less. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.** As acting Chairman and applicant Dahl abstained from the vote and delegated authority to Treasurer Ausen to sign the cost share contract.

- Viktora then presented a new cost share request from Mike Heilmann for Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) cost share assistance:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost Est.</u>	<u>Encumbered</u>
CWF-R&G-14-24-01	Heilmann, Michael	410 Grade Stab (1)	\$8,003.00	\$6,002.25

After reviewing this request for cost share assistance a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen approving the project#CWF-R&G-14-24-01 with the dollar amount mentioned above not to exceed 75% of the total eligible cost whichever is less. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.** This contract will now be forwarded on to GBERBA for approval.

VI. New Business continued:

- NRCS Agency report given by Kurer. His report included statuses on EQIP, CRP, CSP, and personnel changes. He also reviewed with our board the non-discrimination policy. Scheduled the Local Work Group meeting for June 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
- Schaetzke gave his manager's report. Items included; Shell Rock River WS WRAPS, County Water Plan, and One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) update, Winnebago WS update, and MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) update.
- Staff requests authorization to hold an educational event in the Winnebago WS. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen authorizing expenses to hold this event. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff also requests authorization to advertise and promo in the Freeborn County area the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP). After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing funds to be spent from the MAWQCP grant for these expenses. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff then requested authorization to hold informational meetings regarding the new Buffer Law. A motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing meeting expenses to be spent from the Buffer Law grant. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.**
- Schaetzke then distributed several bid quotes on seed drills. After extensive review a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to purchase the drill from John Deere. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.**

- Viktora gave a report on 2016 tree sales. More trees and shrubs were sold this year (10,700) than last year with the total dollars about the same.
- Lageson reported on the SE Envirothon she attended on May 4. Goodhue High School took top 3 places and will move on to the State Envirothon on May 16. She also gave a short presentation to Albert Lea High School students on May 10.
- Staff has prepared a possible resolution idea to increase CRP payment limits. After some discussion a motion was made Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen approving this resolution and to forward to the SE Area 7 resolutions meeting. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed – None. **The motion carried.**
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
 - Turtle Creek WD minutes from their April 19th meeting
 - Cedar River WD minutes from their March 16th meeting.

VII. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, June 9th, 2016** at 7:00 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,

Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date