



*Freeborn County 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
July 20th, 2016**

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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:

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| Don Kropp, Chairman | 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:

Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair

III. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

- **Minutes of the June 15th 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- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

IV. Treasurer's Report:

- **The treasurer's balance as of June 30th, 2016**, was \$9,585.64 in checking and \$564,569.77 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- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

V. Cost Share Actions and/or Information:

- Viktora presented a cost share payment request from Jeff Wayne. He has mostly completed his project and is requesting a partial payment. Some more earthwork is needed when the crop comes off this fall. He is requesting payment for the seeding costs and earthwork completed thus far.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Partial Payment</u>
FY15-02	Wayne, Jeffrey	638 Water & Sediment Basin	\$1,206.20	\$904.50 FY2015

After reviewing this request for a partial payment a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen approving a partial payment in the amount mentioned above not to exceed 75% of the total or whichever is less. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Viktora then presented a cost share payment request from Sean Kraushaar. He has completed his project and is requesting final payment.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Final Payment</u>
FY15-01	Kraushaar, Sean	638 Water & Sediment Basin	\$3,248.00	\$455.00** FY2015

After reviewing this request for cost share assistance a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen approving the project with the final payment amount mentioned above not to exceed 75% of the total or whichever is less. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.** **This project was also funded with Federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) dollars.

- Schaetzke informed the Board of Supervisors of some additional BWSR Capacity Funding availability for Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs). These dollars will be distributed with a work plan adjustment and grant agreement amendment. Future additional dollars in Capacity Funding will need a county appropriation increase in funding to SWCDs for matching funds. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to sign grant amendment and return to Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

VI. New Business continued:

- NRCS Agency report given by Kurer. His report included status on EQIP, CRP, CSP, WRP, and personnel changes.
- Schaetzke received a soil loss ordinance complaint. He described the steps that need to be taken. He will first make a site visit and proceed with the process.
- Schaetzke reports that there is funding available through the SE MN Technical Joint Powers Board (JPB) with a sub agreement for cover crop incentives. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen approving this sub-agreement with the JPB. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

He then presented two (2) contract requests for consideration from Jesse Larson and Scott Lightly. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen pending approval by the JPB. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Our SWCD was approached by the Shell Rock River Watershed District (SSRWD) to provide some technical assistance for a Clean Water Fund Grant they applied for and received for a Pickerel Lake Restoration project. At this time they are asking for a contribution agreement between our two agencies. After reviewing the agreement a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to sign this agreement and return to SSRWD. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Freeborn County Drainage Authority with the Turtle Creek Watershed District have asked our SWCD to partner in a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Clean Water Fund – Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant. At this time they are asking for a letter of intent to partner. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Ausen to sign the letter of intent. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Zeitler is requesting authorization to attend a Conservation Planning training to be held Aug. 23 -26 in Hinckley, MN. A motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing attendance and to reimburse allowable expenses. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Meetings and/or trainings attended during the past month. . . .
 - Kropp - GBERBA
 - Heers, Jr. and Schaetzke – Area Resolutions meeting
 - Schaetzke – BWSR Buffer Law update, GBERBA tech. meeting, and SWCD Managers meeting
 - Schaetzke, Viktora & Zeitler – Held an informational meeting for stakeholders in the Winnebago WS
 - Zeitler – Plant ID training
- Staff prepared a 2017 draft budget for board consideration. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer to approve budget as prepared for presentation to the County

Commissioners. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Fairbooth ideas were discussed. We shall feature buffers, no-till drill, soil health and pollinators.
- A list of Outstanding Conservationist candidates were brought before the board of supervisors. We had several qualified candidates again this year. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer to choose Richard Stadheim, Jr. to be honored at our state convention this December. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Buffer Law discussion was held. Including; Policy documents are available for comments until July 27, Public meeting will be held July 28, Fairlane Bldg. – Fairgrounds, and Regional buffer workshops are being held Aug. 1 in Rochester, and Aug. 8 in Mankato.
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
 - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their July 19th meeting
 - Cedar River W.D. from their April 15th 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- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, August 11th, 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