



**Freeborn Soil & Water  
Conservation District**  
1400 West Main Street  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
Phone: 507-373-5607 Ext. 3  
[www.freebornswcd.org](http://www.freebornswcd.org)

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**I. The meeting was called to order** at 4:00 P.M. by Chairman Don Kropp in our district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN. Kropp introduced guest Casey Madson.

**II. Those present were as follows:**

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Don Kropp, Chairman              | Mark Schaetzke, District Manager/Tech.   |
| Dave Ausen, Treasurer            | Brenda Lageson, Office/Assistant Manager |
| Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary | Lindsey Zeitler, District Technician     |
|                                  | Jarod Schamaun, District Technician      |

**Absent:**

- Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair
- Colin Wittmer, Supervisor
- Gary Kurer, NRCS District Conservationist

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

- **Minutes of the January 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**II. Treasurer’s Report:**

- **The treasurer’s balance as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**, was \$2,102.51 in checking and \$736,645.90 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer’s report as read and payment of bills was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Lageson has checked into the SWCD being able to accept credit cards. The information she received is there would be no charge to the SWCD, but the customer would pay a minimum of \$1.00 or up to 3% of their purchase (whichever is more) to use this service. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen for staff to pursue this service. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**III. State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information:**

- Manager Schaetzke announced that Jeffrey Wayne has completed his Water & Sediment Control Basin project and is requesting final payment:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Prev. Partial Pmt.</u>	<u>Federal CRP Pmt.</u>	<u>Final Pmt.</u>
FY15-02	Wayne, Jeffrey	638	\$9,550.58	\$904.50	\$2,109.60	\$4,148.50

- After some discussion, a motion approving a final payment of contract# FY15-02 in the amount of \$4,148.50 not to exceed 75% of the total eligible cost or whichever is less was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen. Funds were piggy-backed by CRP. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Supervisors reviewed 2017 capacity work plan as prepared by staff and prioritized items.

- Casey Madson, Freeborn Co. Farmer was here to present a cover crop cost sharing/reimbursement program. He stated that it is sometimes difficult for farmers to try something new and this might be a good fit for a portion of the SWCD's 2017 Capacity Grant funds. Supervisors agreed to give it some thought and wanted the full board to decide on.

#### IV. New Business:

- NRCS Agency report was presented as printed by Kurer. His report included the status of EQIP, CSP, CRP, ACEP, staff position, and the Client Gateway for Ag Customers.
- Zeitler reported on the Soil Health Winter Workshop that the Freeborn Area Soil Health Team held on Jan. 26 at Wedgwood Cove here in Albert Lea. It was well attended with very good speakers.
- Schamaun attended an Engineering training with Zeitler in Rochester on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. He also attended a Soil Health Workshop held in Blue Earth, MN on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Schaetzke reported on several things he has been involved with this past month including; New Richland flood control, SE Managers meeting, Operational Agreement Pilot w/ NRCS, Buffers, Cover crops, Minnesota Ag Water Quality Incentive Program and the SE Joint Powers Board, and One Watershed One Plan with Cedar Watershed.
- Schaetzke would like to organize a partner panel to discuss "Buffers and Other Waters" that need to be added to the current buffer map. Staff would like input from other agencies in what other water bodies should be included.
- Schaetzke then talked about holding some informational public meetings for Freeborn County residents that may require compliance with the Buffer Law. A motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing expenses for room rental, refreshments, etc. related to these upcoming meetings. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Heers, Jr. also reported on the SE JPB. All regular business was taken care of. New staff have been hired to help with workload, discussed smaller feedlots.
- SWCD Day at the Capitol is being held March 20-21<sup>st</sup>. A motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen authorizing supervisors and staff to attend as their schedules allow and reimburse allowable expenses. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
  - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting

#### V. 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, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017** at 1:30 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,

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Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date