



*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

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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	Mark Schaetzke, District Manager/Tech.
Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary	Brenda Lageson, Office/Assistant Manager
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor	Lindsey Zeitler, District Technician
	Jarod Schamaun, District Technician
	Gary Kurer, NRCS District Conservationist

**Absent:**

Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair  
Dave Ausen, Treasurer

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

- **Minutes of the February 9<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

II. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017**, was \$7,151.33 in checking and \$711,343.26 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer with the addition of Stadheim reimbursement of \$215.98. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

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

- The State of MN acting through Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) is requiring a Masters Joint Powers Agreement between BWSR and the Freeborn SWCD with deliverables to be invoiced for reimbursement changing the way the Easement Delivery Grant is distributed. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer authorizing board signature to enter into this MJPA. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- The State of MN acting through SE SWCD Technical Support Joint Powers Board and entering into a sub agreement with the Freeborn SWCD to assist the Area Certifier for the MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP). After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing board signature to enter into the sub agreement. . Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**IV. New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report was presented as printed by Kurer. His report included the status of EQIP, CSP, CRP, WRE/ACEP, staff position, and the Client Gateway for Ag Customers.
- Staff presented the 2016 Annual Report and 2017 Annual Plan to the board. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. to approve reports as presented, post to SWCD website, and to distribute accordingly. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff request authorization to attend an all employee meeting in Austin on April 6. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing staff attendance. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Heers, Jr., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Manager's report was given by Schaetzke. He has been working with NRCS on a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) application for one of our local landowners, he then shared with the board the latest 2017 Capacity work plan.
- Heers, Jr. and Schaetzke attended a Cedar 1 Watershed 1 Plan (1W1P) meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> in Austin. Heers, Jr. was elected board treasurer for the policy board. Meetings are planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.
- Reviewed a MN Department of Natural Resources permit for dredging Fountain Lake. No comments we offered by our board.
- Staff has scheduled five (5) public buffer informational meetings throughout the county for the week of March 27 – 31<sup>st</sup>. Staff is also working on scheduling a meeting with other agencies and/or stakeholders for a consensus in adding other waters to the current buffer map.
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
  - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**V. Adjournment:**

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017** 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,

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Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date