



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

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**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:**

Don Kropp, Chairman	Mark Schaetzke, District Manager/Tech.
Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair	Brenda Lageson, Office/Assistant Manager
Dave Ausen, Treasurer	Lindsey Zeitler, District Technician
Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary	Jarod Schamaun, District Technician
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor	

**Absent:**

Gary Kurer, NRCS District Conservationist

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

- **Minutes of the August 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Wittmer and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. **The motion carried.**

**IV. Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**, was \$6,188.91 in checking and \$843,103.44 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, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**V. Grant Program Actions and/or Information:**

- The FY2018/19 BWSR Grant Agreement is available. This is a two year agreement, the funds will be released for FY18 as soon as the workplans are approved by BWSR. Staff asked for the boards input on what should be included in the workplans. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer to approve and sign the grant agreement with the staff completing the workplans for board review at the next regular meeting. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff gave a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP3) update. Our office submitted five (5) applications and all were accepted. Staff is working on submitting additional applications.
- Staff has been working with BWSR regarding the Farmers Choice Cover Crops (FCCC Pilot Program) we are trying to implement. Funding will be provided with County Funds included in the match for the 17 Capacity Funds using NRCS or other professionally accepted ecological practice guidance. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Dahl to provide a one-time \$500 seed reimbursement incentive per producer to try cover crops with local funding, total funds not to exceed \$8,000. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**VI. New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report included updates on several programs; EQIP 18, CSP, CRP and WRP/WRE. Also a there's a new acting ASTCFO – Gary Watson who is also covering areas 4 and 5.
- Manager's report was given by Schaetzke. Buffer Outreach compliance letters were sent out to approximately 175 landowners. Meetings attended included; Governor's 25 X 25 Town Hall, BWSR listening session, GBERBA Tech., Budget presentation to County Commissioner's, and Kuitert's Field Day
- Supervisors Kropp and Ausen also attended the Budget presentation. Schamaun and Zeitler also attended Kuitert's Field Day. Schamaun attended a week long conservation planner course.
- Staff reviewed the 2018 Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT) insurance coverage documents with the board.
- MASWCD 2017 resolutions were voted on and staff will submit to the state office.
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
  - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> meeting

**VII. Adjournment:**

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, October 12<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**