



*Freeborn Soil & Water
Conservation District
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 12th, 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 September 14th 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 September 30th, 2017**, was \$2,753.86 in checking and \$793,284.50 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer’s report as read and payment of bills was made by Wittmer, and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- **2016 Draft Audit Report** was reviewed. A motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer approving draft report to be sent to the state auditor. 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:

- Disaster Recovery Assistance Program 1 & 2 (DRAP1 & DRAP2) grants are due to expire 12/31/2017. We still have many projects to be completed that can utilize these funds, staff is wanting to seek 1 year grant extensions for both of these grants from BWSR. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer to apply for the grant extensions. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Zeitler reported that Mr. Fett has completed much of his grassed waterway project and is seeking a partial payment:

| <u>Contract #</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Practice</u> | <u>Project Cost</u> | <u>Partial Payment Request.</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| FY16-01 | Fett, Wayne | 412 | \$8,320 | \$4,576 |

- After some discussion, a motion approving a partial payment of contract# FY16-01 in the amount of \$4,576 not to exceed 75% of the total eligible cost or whichever is less and withhold 20% of cost share until the spoil has been leveled out was made by Wittmer and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Bruce Ness has completed his 1st year cover crop seeding and is requesting a partial payment. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Dahl authorizing a partial payment in the amount of \$2,340 for contract # FY17-CAP-CC-02. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Norman Bangert has completed his 1st year cover crop seeding and is requesting a partial payment. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer authorizing a partial payment in the amount of \$1,800 for contract # FY17-CAP-CC-01. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Mark Brummer has requested buffer seeding cost share. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Dahl authorizing cost share in the amount of \$1,020 and assigned contract # FY18-BUFF-01. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Corrine Schultz has requested buffer seeding cost share. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer authorizing cost share in the amount of \$180 and assigned contract # FY18-BUFF-02. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff gave an update on Buffers. Many landowners have come in to talk with staff to see if they are in compliance and if not what is needed to be. Some have gotten seed plans, applied for the 1 time cost share payment, shown interest in CREP, and others have completed waivers giving them an extension to work on a plan with staff to become compliant by next year.

VI. New Business:

- NRCS Agency report included updates on several programs; EQIP 18, CSP, CRP and WRP/WRE.
- Manager's report was given by Schaetzke. Cedar 1W1P map review, MDA rule map, and a CREP update were discussed.
- Schamaun reports that 42 ReInvest in MN (RIM) inspections have been completed by staff with only 1 violation to report.
- Heers, Jr. reported on the Joint Powers Board (JPB) meeting he attended on October 10th. Discussion was held regarding moving the MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) from the JPB to the MN Water Resources Board.
- Dahl, Schaetzke, Lageson, Zeitler and Schamaun all attended the Fall SE Area meeting at the Hormel Nature Center in Austin, MN on Sept. 20th. Agency reports were given, buffer updates, and a fall fertilizer application restriction presentation given by MN Dept. Ag. After lunch the groups split up with the Employees in one building and Supervisors in another to conduct their business meetings.
- Schaetzke's wetland delineator certification needs to be renewed. After some discussion a motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen to renew his certification. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff provided a copy of the draft workplan for 2018 Buffer grants. After some discussion a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Ausen to approve and submit to BWSR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Staff then provided a copy of the draft workplan for 2018 Capacity grants. After some discussion a motion was made by Wittmer and seconded by Dahl to approve and submit to BWSR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- MASWCD state convention materials were reviewed. A motion was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer authorizing all supervisors and staff to attend reimbursing allowable expenses. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . .
 - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from the Sept. 19th meeting
 - Reviewed Operational and Cooperative Agreements with NRCS

VII. Adjournment:

- There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ausen and seconded by Dahl. 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, November 9th, 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,

Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date