



Freeborn Soil & Water
Conservation District
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007-1816
Phone: 507-373-5607 Ext. 3
FAX: 507-373-7654
www.freebornswcd.org

Minutes of Regular Meeting of Board of Supervisors July 10th, 2008

- I. **The meeting was called to order** at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Don Kropp in our office conference room located at 1400 W. Main St., Albert Lea, MN.

Those present were as follows:

Don Kropp, Chairman
Cole Pectorious, Vice Chairman
David Ausen, Treasurer
Obert Haldorson, Secretary

Don Flatness, Dist. Manager
Mark Schaetzke, Dist. Technician
Ed Moffett, NRCS D.C.

Absent:

Chris Dahl, Supervisor

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- Minutes of the June 12th regular meeting were approved as presented on **a motion made by Pectorious and seconded by Haldorson**. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, Ausen and Haldorson. Opposed- None. **The motion carried.**

III. Treasurer's Report:

- The treasurer's balance as of June 30th, 2008** was \$7,773.45 in checking and \$220,862.13 in savings. **A motion approving the report as read and authorizing payment of the routine monthly bills listed was made by Haldorson and seconded by Pectorious**. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, Ausen & Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried.**
- Our upcoming 2009 SWCD Budget Presentation to the County Board of Commissioners was discussed. Three (3) different budget scenarios that had been prepared by staff were reviewed and discussed. After considering the proposals, **a motion was made by Haldorson and seconded by Ausen to request \$147,500** in County Funds for 2009. This represents a 4.6% increase over last year's allocation. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, Ausen & Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried**. Our presentation will be heard on Wednesday, August 13th at 1:30 P.M.

IV. State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information:

- David Thundstedt, (contract# CWL07-01) has completed his waterway project and has requested final payment. After reviewing the invoices received etc. and the cost share voucher, **a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Pectorious authorizing final payment in the amount of \$1,433.00**. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, Ausen & Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried.**

Total cost of the project was \$1,910.00. The cost share amount @ 75% is \$1,433.00. This voucher will be forwarded to the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) board for further review and payment. It's funded by a grant received by GBERBA.

V. New Business:

- Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist gave his agency report to the board. He began by stating that an Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Sign-up period was held in June. He received 4 applications for practices including Grass Waterways, Water and Sediment Control Basins and No-till. These were forwarded to the area office for funding approval. He also said Wayne Miller may receive “disaster funding” through EQIP to repair the rock lined waterway and drop spillway structure that sustained some damage during the recent heavy rains in that area.

He informed the board of a “Cooperative Agreement” he has been working on with SWCD Staff. Our district could potentially earn up to \$10,500.00 if our staff completes the various work elements listed in the agreement. Ed also discussed the need for a local RC&D project. He asked the board to consider appointing a committee to meet and try to come up with ideas for a project. He would like to see a ‘brainstorming’ session at a future meeting.

- The Supervisors reviewed and signed the “Farmer Award” scoresheet. This needs to be completed and mailed to MASWCD by August 22nd. Don Flatness presented a list of 3 potential candidates for the “Outstanding Conservationist Award” to be presented during the state convention. Those named on the list included Bruce Andersland, Sec. 19 of Nunda Twp., Robert Hansen, Sec. 27 of Freeborn Twp. and Joel Stensrud who lives in Sec. 2 of Carlston Township. After reviewing the descriptive paragraphs outlining each individuals conservation accomplishments, **a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Ausen to select Joel Stensrud as the award winner.** Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen & Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried** Mr. Stensrud and his wife will be invited to attend our 2008 MASWCD State Convention to be held in the twin cities in early December to receive his award.
- Chairman Kropp then asked for reports from various individuals attending meetings during the last month. Obert Haldorson reported that the Minnesota River Basin Board is having a conservation tour on July 21st. County Commissioners, SWCD Supervisors and Staff, plus other agency people are invited. He further stated that a joint GBERBA Policy Board and Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow in Mankato.
- Written reports on several other meetings were distributed by Flatness. They included the Area 7 Resolutions Meeting attended by Kropp, Haldorson and Flatness, the MASWCD Leadership Institute attended by Brenda, the MACDE Employees Meeting attended by Mark and Don F and the Cedar River TMDL Development Meeting attended by Don F in Hollandale earlier today. These reports were reviewed and discussed and will be attached to these minutes.
- Correspondence received from MPCA regarding offering our SWCD the opportunity to comment on an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for John Perschbacher’s Hog Farm and a Rule Revision for Underground Storage Tanks was read. Our board reviewed the information but did not choose to comment on either of them.
- Minutes received from the Turtle Creek Watershed, Board of Managers Meeting held June 17th was reviewed.
- Mark Schaetzke asked the board for authorization to attend an upcoming Cultural Resources Training Session to be held in St. Cloud. NRCS provides the training at no cost. However, our district would have to pay for lodging, food and travel costs. After some discussion, **a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Pestorius to authorize Mark’s attendance at the training and pay his lodging, meals and travel expenses.** Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen and Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried.**

- Don Flatness informed the board the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has increased the allowable mileage rate from 50.5 cents to 58.5 cents per mile effective July 1st. After some consideration, **a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Haldorson to increase the mileage rate for our supervisors and staff to 58.5 cents per mile.** Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen and Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried.**

VI. Adjournment:

There being no further business, **a motion to adjourn was made by Pestorious and seconded by Ausen.** Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen and Haldorson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held Thursday August 14th beginning at 7:30 P.M. at our SWCD Office.

These are preliminary minutes subject to board approval at our next regular monthly meeting.

Obert Haldorson, Secretary

Date