

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



“Helping bring YOU clean water”

Redwood SWCD

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Staff
Marilyn
Bernhardson
District
Administrator

Kari Clouse
Office
Assistant

Judy Schulte
District
Technician

Karen
Wilhelmi
Education
Coordinator

MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 13, 2009 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 8:00 a.m., on Thursday, August 13, 2009, by chair Mike Hewitt. The meeting was held in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Hewitt – Chair
Don Steffen – Vice-Chair
Tom Morley – Secretary
Joe Plaetz - Treasurer
Ralph Heiling – PR&I

STAFF: Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Gary Dahms

BOARD OF SOIL AND WATER RESROUCES: Mark Hiles

ADOPT AGENDA: Motion by Heiling, second by Plaetz to adopt the agenda with the addition of: Topic ideas for a RFP and BWSR Report. Motion carried by all voting yes.

MINUTES: Motion by Steffen, second by Heiling to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2009 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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STATE COST SHARE:

FY 2007 Clean Water Legacy - 319 Funds

At the request of the landowner, motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to cancel the following request for cost share assistance:

CWL-72-07	Dennis Rasmussen	Intakes	\$1200.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to approve the following request for cost share assistance:

CWL-78-07	Kelly Sik	Intakes	\$ 900.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes. RCRCA will provide technical assistance on contract CWL-78-07.

FY 2008 Clean Water Legacy

Motion by Morley, second by Steffen to approve payment for the following cost share contracts:

CWL-22-08	Wallace Hedman	WW	\$11,868.48
CWL-23-08	Wallace Hedman	WW	\$10,049.33
CWL-37-08	Diane Jensen	Dam	\$14,790.00

Motion carried by all voting yes.

Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz to accept the following requests for cost share assistance:

CWL-63-08	Arnold Stelter	Intakes	\$ 300.00
CWL-64-08	Herb Kreft	Basins	\$ 8,116.56
CWL-65-08	Kelly Sik	Intakes	\$ 900.00
CWL-66-08	Nancy Hewitt	WW	\$ 4,533.75
CWL-67-08	Harold Hewitt	WW	\$ 1,305.00

Motion carried with Hewitt abstaining. Due to Hewitt's relatives receiving cost share, contracts were signed by Vice-Chair Steffen.

RCRCA will provide technical assistance on contracts CWL-63-08 and CWL-65-08 and NRCS will provide technical assistance on CWL-64-08, CWL-66-08 and CWL-67-08.

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BILLS PAYABLE: Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to approve payment of bills through August 13, 2009 totaling \$57,366.27. Motion carried by all voting yes.

REPORTS:

Office Assistant is not available for report.

Education Coordinator is not available for report.

BWSR REPORT: Hiles – 1) From Clean Water Funds there was 1.25 million in technical and administrative. These funds were used to match 319 funds. 2) October 1, 2009 is the tentative date to make requests for new Clean Water and other funds, with a closing date in December and decisions on funding will be made in January. 3) New Local Water Management guidance will be coming out. 4) New calculators for eLINK. 5) BWSR received 9 million for RIM/WRP from the Lessard-Sam Council. 6) August 8th new WCA rules went into effect. 7) Will be rewriting state cost rules and RIM rules. 8) Out of the legislative session BWSR ended up with 13 different programs that they need to administer. Two of the programs are RIM; RIM Riparian buffers and RIM Wellhead Protection. 9) Also from the legislative session, BWSR will add two new board members; an additional representative from a city and one representing townships.

Judy Schulte entered the meeting 8:20 a.m.

Technical Report: Schulte 1) Finished the native garden in front of the building. 2) Have 8 rock outcrop signups and possibly could get 3 more. Applications will be scored on August 31st. 3) Completed 2nd round of Junior Rangers. 4) Had two days of WCA training. 5) Completed final step for Linc Pass, which will allow me to access the federal computer system. 6) Helped with Grassland Reserve Program. 7) Working on several WCA issues. 8) Looked at two sites in Lyon County for wetland issues due to their technician being out of office. 9) Developed display for Emerald Ash Borer/Buckthorn removal. 10) Worked at Farmfest in both the district booth and the farm bill tent. 11) Working on RIM spotchecks. 12) Attended strip till workshop and office had display. 13) Ordered trees for 2010.

WCA: Lange Mitigation Application – Staff presented information for the request by Robert Lange to mitigate 3.2 acres of wetland. Motion by Steffen, second by Heiling to approve the wetland mitigation plan for Robert Lange. Motion carried by all voting yes.

RENVILLE SWCD TREE PROGRAM: Bernhardson and Schulte met with two individuals from Renville SWCD discussing the possibility of Redwood SWCD taking over the plantings of the trees in their county. Discussion went very well. Staff went over some of the items that were agreed to.

Judy Schulte left the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

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District Administrator: Bernhardson 1) Attended Woman's Day meeting. 2) Attended a Clean Water Council Work Group Meeting. Set up a Civic Engagement presentation for Area V Employees. 3) Attended WCA training. 4) Went to St. Paul to complete first step in getting Linc Pass to use Federal Computer. 5) Helped develop display for Fair and Farmfest. 6) Attended Lessard-Sam Council input meeting. 7) Participated in a conference call regarding new RIM Riparian Program and RIM Wellhead Protection Program with a sign up will that start in January. 8) Worked on and finished the draft Data Practice Policy and Draft By-Laws for the district and continue to work on personnel policy. 9) Held an input meeting for possible items to put in a request for proposals for clean water dollars. 10) Went with supervisors to County Commissioners to present 2010 budget. 11) Discussed the tree matting machine.

PROPOSAL REQUEST IDEAS: Bernhardson handed out a list of items that districts put together as potential ideas to be placed in a request for BWSR clean water funds.

REPORTS:

Nathan Blankers entered the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

NRCS: Blankers – 1) Have been with agency approximately 5 years. Will be acting DC till October 1st or until they fill the position. 2) Continue to process wetland determinations. 3) Conservation Steward Program signup will run from August 10 – September 30, 2009. 4) Received funding for three additional EQIP applications. 5) Received funding for one more WHIP contract. 6) Redwood County submitted 8 applications for the Grassland Reserve Program and 4 got funded.

Blankers left the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

RCRCA: Steffen did not attend the July 20, 2009 meeting.

Orientation Report: Plaetz and Morley reported on the supervisor orientation meeting held in St. Cloud July 14 and 15, 2009.

County Commissioner: Dahms – 1) District did present their budget and commissioners have made their first round of budget recommendations. 2) County hopes to be moved in to the new government center by October 1st. College will be able to start August 24th.

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ADDITIONAL STATE COST SHARE: *2008 Clean Water Legacy Funds*

Motion by Heiling, second by Steffen to approve cost share for these additional state cost share applications:

CWL-68-08	Nettiewyynnt Farms	Basins	\$ 2,838.75
CWL-69-08	Nettiewyynnt Farms	Dam	\$11,665.00
CWL-70-08	Nettiewyynnt Farms	WW	\$ 6,682.50

Motion carried by all voting yes. NRCS will provide technical support on CWL-68-08 and CWL-70-08 and Area II will provide technical support for CWL-69-08.

BWSR GRANTS: Office received the grants from BWSR. Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to authorize chair Hewitt to sign the SWCD Base Grant Agreement and the SWCD Farm Bill Assistance grant and forward to BWSR for processing. Motion carried by all voting yes.

2009 MCIT DIVIDEND: Our dividend from MCIT for 2009 will be \$1,906, which will be paid out in mid-November.

STORAGE BUILDING REPORT: Discussion was held regarding findings and discussion about the meeting with Redwood County Commissioners. Steffen and Plaetz reported on what they have found regarding costs of materials, etc.

TMDL PUBLIC MEETING: RCRCOA will be hosting two public input meetings to kick-off the Turbidity TMDL in the Redwood and Cottonwood River Watersheds. One will be at 10:30 a.m. on August 19th at the SWORC near Lamberton and the 2nd will be at 10:30 a.m. on August 20th at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Office in Marshall.

OPEN MEETING LAW TRAINING: Due to low registration the Building a Record and Open Meeting Law training has been cancelled.

BWSR ACADEMY: BWSR is sponsoring a training session November 2-4, at Cragun's Resort. Topic areas include; administration tracking, technical tracking and organization capacity tracking.

DISTRICT CAPACITY: Board reviewed district capacity score sheet. Motion by Heiling, second by Morley to sign the score sheet. Motion carried by all voting yes.

DATA PRIVACY POLICY: Bernhardson handed out copies of the "draft" data privacy policy. Action will be tabled until next month.

DISTRICT BY-LAWS: Bernhardson handed out copies of the "draft" District By-laws. Action will be tabled till next month.

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NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be held September 10, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Supervisor