

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



“Helping bring YOU clean water”

Redwood SWCD

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MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 8, 2009 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Supervisors

Chair
Donald Steffen
District II
(507) 648-3485

Vice Chair
Mike Hewitt
District V
(507) 859-2406

Secretary
Thomas Morley
District I
(507) 641-3742

Treasurer
Joseph Plaetz
District IV
(507) 747-2803

PR & I
Ralph Heiling
District III
(507) 249-3568

Staff
Marilyn
Bernhardson
District
Administrator

Kari Clouse
Office
Assistant

Judy Schulte
District
Technician

Karen
Wilhelmi
Education
Coordinator

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, January 8, 2009 by chair Donald Steffen. The meeting was held in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF: Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Gary Dahms

OATH OF OFFICE: Mike Hewitt, vice-chair administered the oath of office to Joseph Plaetz, Donald Steffen, Ralph Heiling and Tom Morley.

ADOPT AGENDA: Motion by Heiling, second by Plaetz to adopt the agenda with the following additions: Legislative Day at the Capitol, Green Corridors Initiative, and Cooperative Agreement with NRCS for Copier use. Motion carried by all voting yes.

MINUTES: Motion by Hewitt, second by Morley to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2008 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

STATE COST SHARE:

District: Motion by Heiling, second by Morley to approve payment for the following completed cost share contract:

5-08

Glen Soupier

FWB

\$ 627.75

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FY 2007 Clean Water Legacy: Motion by Hewitt, second by Plaetz to approve payment for the following 2007 clean water legacy contracts:

CWL-39-07	Robert Boerboom	Intakes	\$1,350.00
CWL-48-07	George Landuyt	Intakes	\$2,189.07
CWL-51-07	Lee Potter	Intakes	\$ 225.00
CWL-56-07	Richard Nerem	Intakes	\$ 450.00

Motion carried by all voting yes.

FY 2008 Clean Water Legacy: Motion by Heiling, second by Morley to approve payment of the following 2008 clean water legacy contracts:

CWL-16-08	Richard Nerem	Intakes	\$2,100.00
CWL-20-08	Duane Knott	Dam Repair	\$9,528.07
CWL-36-08	Randy Schenk	Waterway	\$1,458.50
CWL-40-08	Lee Potter	Intakes	\$ 300.00
CWL-43-08	Rick Johnson	Intakes	\$ 300.00

Motion carried by all voting yes.

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

CWL-45-08	Brent Imker	Intakes	\$2,400.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

RCRCA will provide technical assistance for CWL-45-08.

BILLS PAYABLE: Motion by Morley, second by Plaetz to approve payment of bills through January 8, 2009 totaling \$38,331.14, plus Glen Soupir for \$627.75 and Best Business Products for \$109.47. Motion carried by all voting yes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Chair Steffen turned over the meeting to Bernhardson.

Chair: Bernhardson asked for nomination for chair. Motion by Steffen to nominate Mike Hewitt for chair. Question was asked three times. Motion by Heiling, second by Steffen for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Mike Hewitt as Chair. Motion carried by all voting yes. Bernhardson turned the meeting over to Chair Hewitt.

Vice-Chair: Motion by Morley to nominate Don Steffen for Vice-Chair. Question was asked three times. Motion by Heiling, second by Plaetz for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Don Steffen as Vice-Chair. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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Secretary: Motion by Heiling to nominate Tom Morley as Secretary. Question was asked three times. Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Tom Morley as Secretary. Motion carried by all voting yes.

Treasurer: Motion by Steffen to nominate Joe Plaetz for Treasurer. Question was asked three times. Motion by Heiling, second by Steffen for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Joe Plaetz for Treasurer. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PR&I: Motion by Plaetz to nominate Ralph Heiling for PR&I. Question was asked three times. Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot for Ralph Heiling for PR&I. Motion carried by all voting yes.

DESIGNATE DEPOSITORY: Motion by Plaetz, second by Heiling to designate Minnwest Bank, M.V. as the safekeeping entity of all deposits, including deposits that exceed FDIC insurance limits and designate Edward Jones as financial broker for investments where a broker's certificate will be requested. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PETTY CASH CUSTODIAN: Motion by Steffen, second by Heiling to designate the office assistant as custodian of the petty cash funds. Motion carried by all voting yes.

T & A FUNDS: Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to authorize the use of up to 20% of the State Cost Share funds for technical and administrative costs. We will be entering into a grant agreement in the fall of 2009 for cost share funds for fiscal year 2010. Motion carried by all voting yes.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz to authorize NRCS to provide technical assistance on all best management practices that are installed in Redwood County unless indicated otherwise. Motion carried by all voting yes.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: The following committee appointments were made:

RCRCA – Don Steffen with Tom Morley as alternate.

Personnel – Mike Hewitt and Tom Morley

Budget – Joe Plaetz and Ralph Heiling

Southwest Technical Service Area – Ralph Heiling with Mike Hewitt as alternate.

RC&D – Mike Hewitt with Ralph Heiling as alternate.

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BLANKET MOTION: Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to pay compensation and mileage for supervisors who attend committee meetings, Area V meetings, meetings for supervisor training and mileage for signing checks and to pay employees expenses for attending Area V meetings and authorized training. Motion carried by all voting yes.

REPORTS:

Judy Schulte entered the board meeting at 10:16 a.m. and introductions were made.

TECHNICAL: Schulte – 1) Gave background about herself. 2) Getting orientated to the job. 3) Developed and sending out CRP proposals. 4) With Pfarr, went to Prouty dam site. 5) Attended Rock Outcrop meeting. 6) Developing tree plans and promoting the tree program.

Judy Schulte left the meeting and Karen Wilhelmi entered the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

EDUCATION: Wilhelmi – 1) Attended combined Training for PLT, Project Wet and Project Wild. Thanked the board for sending her. 2) Cleaned out the education closet. 3) Emails to teachers about Envirothon. 4) News release for Sobocinski's. 5) Continue to update the website. 6) Updated contractor and seed vendor lists in the office. 7) Worked on update of 2009 Annual Plan of Work. 8) Will attend a tree focus group meeting.

Karen Wilhelmi left the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR: Bernhardson 1) Attended Clean Water Council meeting. 2) Met with Green Corridor Initiative to discuss proposal. 3) Updated Clean Water Legacy books. 4) Figured T & A funds to be paid to other districts and Area II. 5) Completed the 2009 Annual Plan of Work. 6) Sent letters to individuals that did not get the technician job. 7) Prepared for new technician starting. 8) Attended Rock Outcrop meeting. 9) The employer's share of PERA went up .25%, from 6.50% to 6.75%. 10) Took 2 weeks leave.

NRCS Report: DC was in field so Bernhardson reported. 1) Everything has been completed in Redwood County for USDA audit. 2) EQIP sign up will probably be in March. 3) Continue processing 1026's.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Dahms – 1) Al Kokesch is the chair for 2009 with John Schueller being vice Chair. 2) Five individuals have filed for the vacancy left by Brian Kletscher. A primary election will be required before the special election on February 17, 2009.

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AFFILIATE PROGRAM: A discussion was held regarding potential changes to the affiliate program. It was decided to continue with the program, however instead of a banquet, a tour will be held sometime in early summer. Letters will be sent out to current affiliate members asking them to continue paying their dues and informing them of the change to the program.

COPIER AGREEMENT: A new copier agreement with NRCS was presented. Motion by Heiling, second by Steffen to approve the new copier agreement with NRCS. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PRIVATE LANDS INITIATIVE: Bernhardson discussed a proposal that is being submitted to the Heritage Council by Green Corridor Consulting Inc. for funding of habitat development in the Minnesota River corridor.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING: MASWCD legislative briefing is scheduled for Feb 23rd and 24th at the Kelly Inn. Briefing will be placed on the February agenda.

ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK: Motion by Heiling, second by Plaetz to approve the 2009 Annual Plan of Work.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be February 12, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN. After the meeting the board will discuss new and alternative ways to address conservation in Redwood County.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Motion carried by all voting yes.

Supervisor