

# SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



## Redwood SWCD

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### MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 9, 2010 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

#### Supervisors

Chair  
Mike Hewitt  
District V  
(507) 859-2406

Vice Chair  
Donald Steffen  
District II  
(507) 648-3485

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, December 9, 2010 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  
Donald Steffen- Vice-chair  
Tom Morley – Secretary  
Joe Plaetz - Treasurer  
Ralph Heiling – PR&I

**STAFF:** Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Gary Dahms

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Motion by Heiling, second by Steffen to approve agenda with the addition of Conservation Apprenticeship Academy Opportunities. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2010 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

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**STATE COST SHARE:**

*FY 2008 Clean Water Legacy:*

Motion by Steffen, second Heiling to approve the following contracts for payment:

CWL-66-08	Nancy Hewitt	Waterway	\$3,806.68
CWL-6708	Harold Hewitt	Waterway	\$ 881.25
CWL-77-08	Kevin Eisenmenger	Intakes	\$1,350.00
CWL-86-08	Dallas Dolan	Intakes	\$1,200.00

Motion carried by all with Hewitt abstaining.

*FY 2010 Clean Water Fund:*

Motion by Plaetz, second by Morley to approve cost share payment from the 2010 Clean Water Funds:

CWF-04-10	Dan Warner	Intakes	\$ 225.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

Motion by Heiling, second Morley, to accept the following requests for cost share assistance:

CWF-16-10	Anthony Kramer	Basins	\$ 2,515.50
CWF-17-10	Bradley Paradis	Basins	\$12,614.18

Motion carried by all voting yes.

**BILLS PAYABLE:** Motion by Plaetz, second by Morley to approve payment of all bills through December 9, 2010 totaling \$34,264.48. Motion carried by all voting yes.

We will be paying supervisors as of December 31, 2010, so we ask that you turn in your voucher as soon as you have attended your last meeting for 2010.

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### **REPORTS:**

Karen Wilhelm entered the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

*Education Coordinator:* Wilhelmi - 1) Worked on State Cost Share, Native Buffer, CWL files and CWF files. 2) Completed the Water Plan Newsletter and it was printed in the paper on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. 3) Helped NRCS with scanning, mailing out and miscellaneous office work. 4) Updated website. 5) Helping process Riparian buffer program paper work. 6) Working on Environmental Fair for 2011. 7) Sent out News Releases for NRCS and SWCD. 8) Entered information into eLink. 9) Working with FSA on updating deeds and death certificates. 10) Worked with Marilyn on Annual Plan of Work. 11) Help out wherever needed.

Karen Wilhelmi left and Judy Schulte entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

*Technical:* - Schulte 1) Measured DNR wells. 2) Working on typical WCA issues and held TEP meeting. 3) Worked with BWSR engineer to resolve tilling problems on a RIM contract. 4) Working on designs, landowner meetings, and state cost share contracts for the 2011 tree program. 5) RIM scenarios for flood disaster. 6) Surveyed with Area II. 7) Sent RIM shape file to Assessor. 8) Completed security and Ag Learn Training on federal computer. 9) Attended State Convention. 10) Writing grant for Conservation Corp Apprentice program. 11) Working on getting grant agreement for funded CPL Grants. 12) Will be writing general CRP conservation plans for Redwood and Murray counties. 13) Helped Brian locate problem areas in CSP plans. 14) Met with Hogan family to review conservation issues and possible programs that could resolve the issues. 15) Working with DNR for cost share on wildlife planting site. 16) CCRP Scenarios. 17) Cleaned and organized new shed, collaborating with RCRC and DNR to make room for everyone's equipment. 18) Surveyed Sediment Basins with Brian for State Cost Share. 19) Created watershed layer and pulled tract numbers for education grant that recently was funded allowing Karen to contact all landowners and operators within the watershed.

Judy Schulte left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

*District Administrator:* Bernhardson 1) Attended Clean Water Council meeting and Steering Committee meeting. My term as chair ends at the end of the year. 2) Continue to process RIM Riparian Bufferstrip contracts. 3) Based on another email Redwood SWCD will complete CRP plans for Redwood and Murray Counties. 4) Received \$1,000 grant from Minnesota River Board of Civic Engagement Proejct. 5) Attended Legislative Committee meeting, Area V Meeting, MRBI Meeting and State Convention. 6) Developed resolution and new budget for Comprehensive Plan. 7) Working on 2011 Annual Plan of Work. 8) Met with Tom Stotesbary to go over 2009 Audit. 9) Gave presentation to Lucan Lyons.

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REPORTS: (continued)

*RCRCA:* Steffen reported on the November 15, 2010 meeting.

*AREA V Meeting:* Steffen reported on the November 18, 2010 Area V meeting.

*State Convention:* Heiling reported on the MASWCD State Convention

*County Commissioner:* 1) AMC's Annual conference Sunday-Thursday. Theme was working together. 2) This is his last meeting and Dahms thanked everyone for all the information acquired that has helped him learn about the importance of soil and water conservation districts and natural resource protection at a local level.

Brain Christiansen entered the board meeting at 10:25 a.m.

*NRCS:* See attached sheet

Brain Christiansen left the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

**AUDIT REPORT:** Board received and reviewed the 2009 audit completed by CPA Tom Stotesbary. Motion by Heiling, second by Plaetz to accept the audit as presented and authorize the signing of the letter indicating the information is correct to the best of the board and district administrators' knowledge. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**RESOLUTION FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** Motion by Plaetz, second by Morley to approve the resolution adopting Redwood County's Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan as the Comprehensive Plan for the district. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**1026 CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT:** Gary Watson, State Conservationist in Charge of Field Operations, inquired to see if Redwood SWCD would possibly be interested in entering into a Contribution agreement to process certain 1026's. Further correspondence will come from NRCS.

**RCRCA JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT:** RCRCA is requesting a 30 month joint powers agreement allowing for the agreements to get back into a 2 year cycle. Motion by Heiling, second Morley to authorize Steffen to sign the RCRCA agreement. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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**CONSERVATION APPRENTICESHIP ACADEMY OPPORTUNITY:** Working through the Minnesota Conservation Corp, 30 individuals will be hired to work in soil and water conservation districts and Technical Service Areas from May 23 – August 19, 2011. Purpose of the program is to allow these individuals an opportunity to interface with individuals that are placing conservation on the land. Redwood SWCD will be applying for one of the positions.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be Thursday January 13, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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Supervisor