

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



“Helping bring YOU clean water”

Redwood SWCD

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MINUTES FROM THE MAY 13, 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 8:00 a.m., on Thursday May 13, 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 Morley to adopt the agenda with the following additions: Audit, Training, Fair, Water Management Summit, email list and personnel position. Motion carried by all voting yes.

MINUTES: Motion by Steffen, second by Heiling to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2010 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

GRANT AGREEMENTS: Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz to authorize Chair Hewitt to sign the FY 2010 Cooperative Weed Management Grant for \$61,944 and the Clean Water Funds Grant for \$75,000. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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STATE COST SHARE:

District: At the request of the landowner, Motion by Plaetz, second by Heiling to cancel John Hogan's request (4-09 and 1-10) for cost share assistance for a field windbreak. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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

4-10	Mike Christensen Fmstd.	\$1,000.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

Motion by Plaetz, second by Morley to accept the following request:

5-10	Sunny Ruthchild Bio-Retention Basin	\$4,207
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Motion carried with Mike Hewitt Abstaining. TSA is providing technical service.

FY2007 Clean Water Funds - 319:

At the request of the landowner, motion by Morley, second by Heiling to cancel Murl Rupp's request (CWL-55-07) for cost share assistance. Motion carried by all voting yes.

FY 2008 Clean Water Legacy:

Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to accept the following request for cost share assistance from the 2008 Clean Water Legacy funds:

CWL-76-08	Howard Nelson	Waterway	\$3,150.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes. Cottonwood SWCD technical support.

Payment: Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to approve payment of the following completed cost share contracts:

CWL- 70-08	Nettiewyynnt Farms	Waterway	\$ 2,830.94
CWL-01-08(2 nd)	Rollie Winter	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-02-08(2 nd)	Leonard Runck	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-03-08(2 nd)	Troy Runck	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-04-08(2 nd)	Ralph Weber	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-05-08(2 nd)	Mike Anderson	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-06-08(2 nd)	Wallace Paradis	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
CWL-07-08(2 nd)	Brad Paradis	Nut. Mgt.	\$ 3,750.00
Centrol	TSP		\$10,500.00

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Motion carried by all voting yes.

FY 2010 Clean Water Fund: The following applications will be approved contingent upon State approving the 2010 Clean Water Fund Grant Agreement.

Applications - Motion by Heiling, second Morley to accept the following requests for cost share assistance.

CWF-01-10	Cory Jensen	Grid Sampling	\$2,000.00
CWF-02-10	Willard Pfarr	Grid Sampling	\$2,000.00
CWF-03-10	Kenneth Andres	Grid Sampling	\$1,000.00
CWF-04-10	Dan Warner	Intakes	\$ 900.00
CWF-06-10	Steve Bush	Grid Sampling	\$1,000.00
CWF-07-10	Roger Engler	Intakes	\$1,500.00
CWF-08-10	Melvin Willie	Intakes	\$3,000.00
CWF-09-10	Brent Johnson	Basins	\$4,791.00

Technical Approval will be as follows: Control for CWF-01, 02, 03 and 06. RCRCA for CWF-04, 07 and 08. NRCS for CWF-09.

Motion carried by all voting yes.

BILLS PAYABLE: Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to approve payment of all bills totaling \$79,168.23 through May 13, 2010. Motion carried by all voting yes.

REPORTS:

Brian Christensen entered the meeting at 8:37 am

NRCS: See attached report

Brian left the meeting at 9:06

Judy Schulte entered the meeting at 9:07

Technical: 1) Continue to Work on making improvement to front native garden. 2) Trees were delivered 3) Measured wells twice. 4) Finishing up project that I had been working with DNR Private Lands specialist before he left to take another job. 5) Met with native buffer applicants. 6) Working on becoming a Certified Forest Stewardship Planner. 7) Finished getting tree matter ready. 8) New tires on tree planter. 9) Bundled trees for two days and had two tree pickup days, one in Redwood and one in Olivia. 10) GPS'ed one buffer strip site. 11) Gave away trees at Earth Days. 12) Half done with tree plantings. 13) Seven matting jobs to do. 14) Several tree site visits. 15) Helped staff an exhibit at Earth day. 16) Attended Water Management update meeting. 17) Attended Hydrology training. 18) Made one tree delivery to landowner in Renville. 19) Few WCA applications. 20) Trying to finish MRAP tile inventory. 21) Conservation plans for RIM Riparian

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REPORTS: (continued):

Buffer. 22) Developed re-installation plan for practices. 23) GPS'ed and surveyed WRP/RIM sites to help determine eligibility. 24) LiDar training. 25) Continue to work on rain garden in Milroy. 26) Completed residue checks for district and some for NRCS. 27) Continue to send out CRP scenarios. 28) Continue to make list of those interested in the RIM Riparian Buffer strip program. 29) Continue working to get SAFE sign ups. 30) Finished Buckthorn brochure.

Judy Schulte left the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

District Administrator: Bernhardson 1) Attended Clean Water Council meeting and Steering Committee meeting. 2) Working on Clean Water Fund budget to be presented to the legislature next session. 3) Met with County Staff and contractor on building site for storage building. 4) Worked with the City of Redwood Falls to get building permit. 5) Worked on updating implementation section of Redwood Water Management Plan. 6) Held task force meeting to get input into water management update. 7) Prepared work plan information for Clean Water Fund Grant and Native Buffer Grants so we could input them into eLINK. 8) Prepared all paperwork for tracking Clean Water Funds and Native Buffer Funds. 9) Worked with Shannon Fischer to develop grant application we submitted for three sub-watersheds in the Middle Minnesota Watershed. 10) Met with new State Conservationist Don Baloun. 11) Participated in a Webinar with NACD to work on NACD's Strategic Plan. 12) Worked with Tabor Hoek to develop a packet of materials to show Legislature the complexity and thoroughness of how the RIM program is implemented at the state and local levels. 13) Sent in several ownership changes for RIM. 14) Continue to process our Riparian Buffer strip RIM applications. So far we have over half of them paid or very close to be paid.

Karen Wilhelmi entered the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Education: Wilhelmi 1) Working on cost share files and spreadsheets for various cost share programs. 2) Assist NRCS with scanning mailings and other items as needed. 3) Updated website. Recently added election information. 4) Assist in processing RIM Riparian Buffer program paperwork. 5) Staff an exhibit for Earth Day at the Armory. Went really well. Had many sign up for trees we gave away. 6) Ecology bus was at Cedar Mountain of Morgan and St. Anne's in Wabasso. Pictures will be placed on the web site. 7) Helped edit water management changes. 8) Help customers with tree and matting orders. 9) Developed brochure and sent it out for Woman's Day which will be held June 16, 2010 at the Prairie Event Center in Marshall. 10) Gave presentation to Boy Scouts on what is an SWCD. 11) Ordered badges for Farmfest. 12) Working to get items ordered to give away at Farmfest. 13) Sent our several news releases for NRCS and SWCD.

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REPORTS (continued):

Karen Wilhelmi left the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

RCRCA: Steffen reported on the April 19, 2010 meeting.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Dahms – 1) Thanked district for participating in Earth Day.

PICTOMETRY: County purchased Pictometry, an aerial photography program, and I have been informed that the district would have to pay a fee to have access to the program. Discussion was held.

STORAGE FACILITY: Thank you to the County highway department for taking down the tree and preparing the ground for the building. Building permit has been secured and we are now ready for the contractor.

SUPERVISORS ELECTION PROCESS: Reminder that filing period is open May 18, 2010 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2010.

SERVICE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT: Service Cooperative has refined the joint powers agreement for group employee benefits. Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to authorize chair Hewitt to sign the new joint powers agreement. Motion carried by all voting yes.

FILE CABINET: We are in need of an additional 5 drawer filing cabinet to file our RIM contracts. Staff has checked pricing. Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to purchase file cabinet. Motion carried by all voting yes.

TSA EVALUATIONS: Board discussed the evaluation process for TSA staff. Board indicated they would accept what staff recommended for Hoogendoorn. Form will not be completed for Skoglund as staff did not work with him this past year. Board signed evaluation forms.

Area V MEETING: The June Area V meeting will be held June 17, 2010 at the Canby VFW and in the afternoon will tour points of interest in Yellow Medicine County. Need to call in with numbers by June 1st.

WATER MANAGEMENT MEETINGS: Motion by Steffen, second by Morley to pay compensation and mileage for Heiling when attending any water management update meeting. Motion carried by all voting yes.

AUDIT OF 2009 BOOKS: We are required to have our books for 2009 audited. Letters for bids were sent out. Bid we received was from Thomas W. Stotesbery, LTD for \$2,650. Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz to recommend Stotesbery to complete our 2009 audit. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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TRAINING REQUEST: There is a four day training entitled "Water, Wildlife and the Human Connection" being offered for the cost of \$50.00. Karen Wilhelmi has requested permission to attend. No motion was made for approval.

FAIR: Redwood County Fair will be July 8-11, 2010. We are requesting that board members bring to the next meeting times they can staff the booth.

WATER MANAGEMENT SUMMIT: MASWCD, AMC and MASWD are hosting a Water Management Summit for local governments on July 12, 2010 at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud. They would like chair and manager to attend.

EMAIL ADDRESSES: MASWCD is requesting a list of SWCD Supervisors email addresses. County Commissioner Dahms has requested to be on the email list. Ralph Heiling will remain on the list.

PERSONNEL POSITION: Motion by Steffen, to eliminate the Education/Coordinator position. Discussion followed. Motion by Plaetz, second by Heiling to table motion. Motion carried with Steffen and Morley voting against.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be June 10, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Supervisor