

# SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



## Redwood SWCD

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### MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 11, 2011 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

#### Supervisors

Chair  
Ralph Heiling  
District III  
(507) 249-3568

Vice Chair  
Joseph Plaetz  
District IV  
(507)747-2803

Secretary  
Donald Steffen  
District II  
(507) 648-3485

Treasurer  
Jeff Potter  
District I  
(507) 641-3087

PR & I  
Sunny Ruthchild  
District V  
(507) 629-8276

#### Staff

Marilyn  
Bernhardson  
District  
Administrator

Kari Clouse  
Office Assistant

Kristy Zajac  
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, August 11, 2011 by Chair Ralph Heiling. The meeting was held in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ralph Heiling – Chair  
Donald Steffen – Secretary  
Jeff Potter - Treasurer  
Sunny Ruthchild – PR&I

**STAFF:** Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Al Kokesch

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Motion by Potter, second by Ruthchild to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Ruthchild, second by Potter to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2011 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ruthchild indicated a local producer is using a spray to spray his crop that came from flowers. Would like to know if there is information available about the affects of fracking on groundwater. Bernhardson indicated that the Clean Water Council will be having presentations on groundwater the next two or three months and will ask questions about fracking.

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**STATE COST SHARE:**

We have final financial reports completed for three cost share programs: 2008 Native Buffer Cost share, 2008 State Cost Share Program and 2009 State Cost Share program. Motion by Steffen, second by Potter to approve all three final financials reports and authorize the chair to sign them. Motion carried by all voting yes.

*2008 Clean Water Legacy - 319 Funds:*

Motion by Potter, second by Steffen to approve payment for the following completed cost share contract:

CWL-93-08	Curtis Jenson	Intake	\$300.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

*2008 Clean Water Legacy – BWSR Funds:*

Motion by Steffen, second by Potter to approve final payment of the following completed cost share contract:

CWL-76-08	Howard Nelson	Waterway	\$ 75.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

At the May board meeting we approved 4 separate cost share contracts for Roger Pfarr. We need to make changes in three of the four contracts.

CWL-91-08 – We need to switch from grassed waterways to two water and sediment control basins. No fund changes.

District 2-11 – Reduced cost estimate as they located a closer outlet. Cost share fund will be reduced by \$5,874.30.

District 11-10 – We need to change the project from a grassed waterway to a water and sediment control basin. We also need to approve an amendment to increase the cost share by \$3,433.10 due to extra earthwork and the addition of 550' of tile. Motion by Steffen, second by Ruthchild to approve the amendment. Motion carried by all voting yes.

**BILLS PAYABLE:** Motion by Ruthchild, second by Potter to approve payment of all bills through August 11, 2011 totaling \$20,115.71. Motion carried by all voting yes.

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### **REPORTS:**

Kari Clouse entered the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

*Office Assistant* – Clouse 1) Payroll and associated reports. 2) Accounts payable and other items for monthly financials. 3) Materials for the board meetings. 4) Information for 2012 budget. 5) Working with cost share to prepare final eLINK reports for August deadline. 6) Prepared financial report for state auditor's office. 7) Put together items for CPA to complete our 2010 audit. 8) Helped with fair and Farmfest display and setup. 9) Sent out tree replacement postcards. 10) Mailing payment notices for EQIP, WHIP and CSP contracts. 11) Help process 1026's. 12) Sent monthly rain gauge information to state climatologist office.

Kari Clouse left the meeting and Karen Wilhelmi entered the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

*Education Coordinator* – Wilhelmi 1) Redwood County fair. 2) Finished with planting trees and have one matting left. 3) Helped put rock in back half of storage shed and put equipment back. 4) Farmfest – set up, prepared booth each day and took down. 5) Re-did grazing workshop information from Cottonwood County to promote Pfarr's farm in Redwood County. 6) Continue to work on environmental fair. 7) Prepared new mailing for sub-watershed.

Karen Wilhelmi left the meeting and Kristy Zajac entered the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

*District Technician* – Zajac 1) Spot checks and letters for easement holders. 2) Revised tree order form and ordered trees for spring of 2012. 3) Have completed 9 site visits for shelterbelts. 4) Attended EQIP stakeholders meeting. 5) CRP teleconference. 6) CRP scenarios. 7) Pre-CRP site checks and toolkit plans. 8) Prepare for 1026 processing. 9) Several WCA issues. 10) Attended grazing workshop. 11) Clean Water on line training and started working on grant application. 12) Site visit for prairie planting.

**TREE PROGRAM POLICY:** Suggested changes to the tree program policy were reviewed. Motion by Potter, second by Ruthchild to adopt the new tree program policy effective August 11, 2011. Motion carried by all voting yes.

Kristy Zajac left the meeting and Erick Peterson entered the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

**Conservation Corp Apprentice:** Peterson 1) Gave a little background about himself and talked about what he has done since he started.

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REPORTS *Continued*:

Erick Peterson left the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

*District Administrator* – Bernhardson 1) We selected John Hogan as our conservation farmer for 2011. Met with the Hogan family. 2) Wrote an article for Gazette edition for Farmfest. Helped plan, set up and take down booth. 3) Participated in and prepared paperwork from stakeholders meeting and local work group. 4) Continue to work with Area II and county on road retention projects. 5) Balanced all cost share accounts for reports due to BWSR. 6) Working on environmental fair. 7) Met with staff from CCM to review the apprenticeship program. 8) Helped with the grazing workshop at Pfarr's. 9) Continue to process RIM easements and RIM/WRP applications. 10) Participated in an online meeting for applying for grants through BWSR. 11) Met with the city to discuss how to handle wetland issues within the city. 12) Funding RIM and other grants.

*RCRCA*: Steffen reported on the July 14, 2011 meeting.

*County Commissioner: Kokesch* – 1) Discussed county commissioners approval to hold a public hearing to impose a levy for Springdale 21 road retention project. 2) Ditch redeterminations were set for 2012.

Brian Christiansen entered the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

*NRCS*: See attached report.

Brain Christiansen left the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

**2011 MCIT DIVIDEND NOTICE:** Our dividend from MCIT for 2011 will be \$4,033.

Don Steffen talked about the grazing workshop.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be Thursday September 15, 2011 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 10:50 a.m.

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Supervisor