

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



Redwood SWCD

1241 E Bridge St.—Suite C
Redwood Falls, MN 56283
Phone: 507-637-2427 EXT 3
Fax: 507-637-6002
redwoodswcd.org

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*

MINUTES FROM THE JULY 14, 2011 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, July 14, 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
Joe Plaetz – Vice-Chair
Donald Steffen – Secretary
Sunny Ruthchild – PR&I

STAFF: Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Al Kokesch

ADOPT AGENDA: Motion by Steffen, second by Plaetz to approve the revised agenda with addition of: Technical Approval Authority (TAA) for Kristy Zajac and Contribution Agreement for wetlands. Motion carried by all voting yes.

MINUTES: Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2011 board meeting as sent. Motion carried by all voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

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STATE COST SHARE:

The three contracts the board pre-approved at the last meeting were certified by the technical representative and paid prior to June 30, 2011.

CWL-79-07	Robert Kemmerer	Grade Stabilization	\$17,021.82
4-10	Mike Christensen	Farmstead	\$ 680.92
BS4-08	Vilo Dahmes	Native Buffer	\$ 2,835.37

Board chair signed contracts.

District:

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

9-10	Willard Pfarr	Farmstead	\$ 400.00
10-10	Brian Vanderviere	Farmstead	\$ 436.00

Motion carried by all voting yes

2010 Clean Water Funds

Motion by Plaetz, second by Ruthchild to approve final payment for the following completed project:

CWF-10-10	Eric Nelson	Intakes	\$2,700.00
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Motion carried by all voting yes.

2008 Clean Water Legacy - 319 Funds:

Motion by Ruthchild, second by Plaetz to approve final incentive payment for the following contracts:

CWL-01-08	Rollie Winter	Nutrient Mgmt.	\$3,750.00
CWL-06-08	Wallace Paradis	Nutrient Mgmt.	\$3,750.00
CWL-07-08	Brad Paradis	Nutrient Mgmt.	\$3,750.00
CWL-12-08	Schardin Farms	Nutrient Mgmt.	\$3,750.00
Centrol		TSP	\$6,000.00

Motion carried by all voting yes.

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BILLS PAYABLE: Motion by Plaetz, second by Steffen to approve payment of all bills through July 14, 2011 totaling \$82,702.07. Motion carried by all voting yes.

REPORTS:

Karen Wilhelmi entered the meeting at 8:26 a.m.

Education Coordinator – Wilhelmi 1) Tree planting and matting. 2) Working on items for environmental fair. 3) Put together display for Redwood County Fair, set up booth, checked booth daily, and took down booth. 4) Working on display and setting up schedule for Farmfest. 5) Helped out with Woman's Day. 6) Updated Web-site.

Karen Wilhelmi left the meeting and Kristy Zajac entered the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

District Technician – Zajac 1) First day on the job had wetland issues. One in the city of Redwood Falls and one in Swedes Forest Twp. where Dunnick Brothers have a gravel operation. 2) Attended wetland delineation training for one week. 3) Working with the Walk-In Program. To date we have 4 applications totaling 640 acres. 3) Working on proposals for county ditches. 4) Developed a new map of each township that shows where all the easements are located in the county. 5) Went out on DRN well monitoring. 6) Working with Eric on RIM spot checks and sending out follow-up letters as needed. 7) Working on tree policy and species list. 8) Attended Ecological GIS tool training in Marshall. 9) Have had several requests for farmstead shelterbelts, so in the process of making site visits. 10) Gave presentation at Woman's Day. 11) Completing forms to have access to NRCS Computers and programs. 12) Helped out with one tree planting. 13) Cleaned out tree facility.

TECHNICAL APPROVAL AUTHORITY (TAA): Motion by Ruthchild, second by Steffen to authorize chair to sign the TAA for Kristy Zajac. Motion carried by all voting yes.

Kristy Zajac left the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

District Administrator – Bernhardson 1) Attended June Clean Water Council Meeting. Governor Dayton re-appointed me to serve on the Clean Water Council for another term. 2) Helped with and emceed Woman's Day. 3) Met with a group of individuals including Springdale Township board regarding an excess water issue that leads to erosion and water damage to roads. 4) Working with several other counties on developing theme and display for Farmfest. 5) Worked on fair theme. 6) Worked on budget for 2012. 7) State shutdown has caused only a few issues with the easement programs. 8) Finalized projects that needed to be completed by June 30, 2011. 9) Working with Kristy on tree program and tree policy.

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REPORTS continued:

10) Storm caused a little damage to tree facility, but was able to get it fixed. 11) Erick Peterson, Conservation Corp Apprentice has been working, however if state budget isn't settled he may be done on Friday until the budget is resolved. 12) Our office is helping with a Pasture Management Workshop that will be held Monday, August 8, 2011. 13) We received notice that we may have to pay 99.63% of Judy's unemployment benefits.

Al Kokesch left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

RCRCA: Steffen reported on the June 20, 2011 meeting.

TSA: Heiling reported on the June 29, 2011 meeting.

Area V Meeting: Heiling and Ruthchild reported on the June 16, 2011 meeting.

Brian Christiansen entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Don Steffen left the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

NRCS: See attached report.

Jeff Potter entered the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT FOR WETLAND INITIATIVE: Christiansen and Bernhardson explained what the Prairie Pothole Wetland Initiative entails. Motion by Plaetz, second by Potter to authorize the District Administrator to sign the contribution agreement and any other documents associated with the wetland initiative. Motion carried by all voting yes.

Brian Christiansen left the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

MILEAGE RATE: As of July 1, 2011, the mileage reimbursement rate was raised to 55.5 cents per mile.

LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING: The local stakeholders and workgroup meeting for Redwood County is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2011 at the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls.

BWSR ACADEMY: BWSR Academy is scheduled for October 25-27, 2011 at Breezy Point. Motion by Ruthchild, second by Plaetz to authorize Bernhardson and Zajac to attend the BWSR Academy.

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SWCD GOVERNANCE 101: MASWCD is hosting a conference entitled SWCD Governance 101 at the Alexandria Holiday Inn September 12-13. Motion by Plaetz, second by Heiling to authorize Potter and Ruthchild to attend.

2012 BUDGET: Budget committee met and developed the budget for 2012. Motion by Plaetz, second by Ruthchild to approve the 2012 budget and authorize the budget committee to present it to the county commissioners. Motion carried by all voting yes.

OTHER BUSINESS: Motion by Plaetz, second by Potter to move the September board meeting to September 15, 2011. Motion carried by all voting yes.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be Thursday August 11, 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.

Supervisor