

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 18, 2015

4:30 P.M.

USDA Service Center

SWCD Office

Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Leonard Leutink, Pam Mensink, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling, Jessica Bronson (NRCS), Harry Root (County Commissioner), Mitch Lentz (County Commissioner)

Gossman called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to add a closed meeting to the end of the agenda in accordance with Minnesota Statute 13 D to discuss personnel issues.

Affirmative: Mensink, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the agenda, as amended.

Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford. Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Mensink to approve the May, 2015 Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Leutink to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Secretary's Report – May 21, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY13-14 Donna Cooper, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,956.00
3. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY15-07 Terri Morin, Well Decommissioning, in the amount of \$900.00

4. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY15-02 Tom Boelter, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$3,046.61
5. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY15-03 Tom Boelter, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,892.00
6. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY14-05 Rodney Koliha, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$2,460.00
7. Payment of District Cost Share Contract WB14-04 Loren Mathison, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$277.50

Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Abstained: Willford. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity report

Willford reported doing the statement opening and check review. He also attended the cover crop field day near Adams.

Hazel reported attending the cover crop field day at Adams and an LCCMR meeting regarding the grant for a rain simulator.

Mensink had nothing to report.

Leutink reported attending the Forestry Committee meeting in Chatfield, a One Watershed, One Plan meeting in Preston, and the Area 7 Resolutions meeting in Stewartville.

Gossman reported attending the Forestry Committee meeting in Chatfield. A Forestry field day has been scheduled for July 29th at 5:30 p.m. in Chatfield.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. Root River One Watershed, One Plan update

Rasmussen reported that priorities were adopted by the policy committee. Local Water Management committees were also adopted. The Advisory Committee categorized the votes from highest to lowest which are drinking water, streams and rivers, landowner engagement and livability. The next step is to develop practices to implement.

Houston Engineering should have a draft plan at the end of September which will be sent to BWSR at the end of the year. Online surveys are being developed. Fillmore is the farthest ahead of the five pilot projects.

b. Lease update

Rasmussen reported the District's lease ends in July. No indication from USDA when the new lease will be received. She has talked with Chuck Aug to extend the lease with him until something is heard from USDA. Aug will attend the July meeting if he has new information.

c. County fair booth

Serfling reported about the plans that have been made for the fair booth and had photos of banners and displays that are on order. Nitrate testing and sale of bacteria tests is scheduled for Thursday, July 23rd and soil and water experiments for the kids plus the water model will be on Wednesday, July 22nd.

d. East Willow Creek-County Attorney's letter

A letter was received from the county attorney reviewing what the County's position is on the East Willow Creek watershed structures. The County will only maintain two of the structures which are in the county right-of-way. There are four structures built in 1984 which they may be willing to assist the SWCD or landowners with maintenance.

A plan will try to be developed for future issues and to seek funding to help make repairs. The importance of maintenance is realized by all.

e. Legislative Special Session update

Rasmussen reported 11 million in Clean Water Funds (CWF) has been approved to provide \$100,000 to each SWCD. The balance will be allocated to SWCDs based on each county's allocation. BWSR's general fund remains the same, but the CWF budget has increased. Competitive grant applications are due in mid-July.

4. NRCS

Bronson reported she is working on annual status reviews, CRP spot checks, and CSP 15-1 obligations are wrapping up.

A successful Cover Crop Field Day with Mower County was held at the Terry Hamilton farm.

5. County

Root reported the County is starting to look at budgets and keeping them "lean and mean". The purchase of the 2002 Jeep by the District was approved. They are still working on various roads throughout the County. The Extension Committee is meeting to fill Jerry Tesmer's position. The position is open and continuing to receive applications.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider selection of 2015 Outstanding Conservationist

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to select Goldsmith Family Farms as the Fillmore County 2015 Outstanding Conservationist. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider return of slippage from FY2013 State Cost Funds to BWSR in the amount of \$306.29

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Leutink to approve the return of slippage from FY2013 State Cost Share Base Grant Funds to BWSR in the amount of \$306.29. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Review 2015 budget and proposed 2016 Budget

Rasmussen reviewed the current income and expenses through the end of May.

She also reviewed the 2016 budget with the board noting there are many unknowns at this point. It will be reviewed again at a future meeting.

Bronson left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

4. Consider payment of State Cost Share Contract FY14-08 Greg Nash, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$2,400.00

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve the payment of State Cost Share Contract FY14-08 Greg Nash, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$2,400.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Gossman. Opposed: none. Abstained: Willford. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider County allocation request for 2016

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Leutink to keep the 2016 allocation request to the County at \$215,000.00 which is the same as 2015. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider amendment to DNR Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Grant

Rasmussen explained the amendment has not been received yet but it is required to be signed by the end of June. The amendment moves \$50,000.00 to BWSR for payments for cost share practices. This will show that 50% of the grant has been spent by June 30th.

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Willford to approve the amendment to the DNR Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Grant agreement when received. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider Financial Report for closeout of FY12 BWSR State Cost Share Grant

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Leutink to approve the Financial Report for the closeout of the FY2013 BWSR State Cost Share Grant and submit to BWSR. Affirmative: Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider Financial Report for closeout of FY13 BWSR State Cost Share Grant

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Willford to approve the Financial Report for the closeout of the FY2014 BWSR State Cost Share Grant and submit to BWSR. Affirmative: Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider sponsorship of the following Fillmore County 4-H wards:

Champion Exploring the Environment	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Exploring the Environment	\$20.00
Champion Fishing Sports	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Fishing Sports	\$20.00
Champion Forest Resources	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Forest Resources	\$20.00
Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the sponsorship of the following Fillmore County 4-H awards:

Champion Exploring the Environment	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Exploring the Environment	\$20.00
Champion Fishing Sports	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Fishing Sports	\$20.00
Champion Forest Resources	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Forest Resources	\$20.00
Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00

Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider Healthy Forests for Healthy Water contracts:

2015-4-RP	Donald Woxland	FSI-Crop Tree Release (6 ac.)	\$1,650.00
2015-5-RP	Steve Agrimson	FSI-Crop Tree Release (15.7 ac.) and GM-Livestock Exclusion (1,440 ft.)	\$7,197.75

Motioned by Willford seconded by Leutink to approve the Healthy Forests Healthy Water contracts as listed:

2015-4-RP	Donald Woxland	FSI-Crop Tree Release (6 ac.)	\$1,650.00
2015-5-RP	Steve Agrimson	FSI-Crop Tree Release (15.7 ac.) and GM-Livestock Exclusion (1,440 ft.)	\$7,197.75

Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Root and Lentz left the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Mensink to approve the June, 2015 payables. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Wednesday, July 1st. Mensink volunteered.

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Mensink to close the meeting in accordance with Minnesota Statute 13D to discuss personnel issues. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Hazel, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Willford to open the closed meeting at 6:30 p.m. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Hazel, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Present were Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Travis Willford, Leonard Leutink, Pam Mensink, and Donna Rasmussen.

Personnel issues were discussed and plans made to resolve them.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Mensink to re-open and adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Travis Willford