

**DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, October 13, 2016

4:30 P.M.

USDA Service Center

SWCD Office

Preston, MN 55965

***Minutes***

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Leonard Leutink, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Hazel, Pam Mensink.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling, Jessica Bronson (NRCS),  
Bob Picket (Supervisor Elect)

Willford called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. A quorum is present.

**I. AGENDA**

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**II. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the September, 2016 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

1. Payment of SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract CC16-02 Brit Schriever, 64.19 acres, Cover Crops, in the amount of \$1,925.70
2. Payment of SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract CC-16-05 Jerry Bergey, 43.0 acres, Cover Crops, in the amount of \$1,720.00
3. Payment of SE MN Cover Crop Soil Health Contract F-LCCMR16-03 Simon Farms, LLP, 90.07 acres, Cover Crops, in the amount of \$4,043.24
4. Payment of Fillmore SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract CC-16-07 Luke McCabe, Cover Crops, 32.52 acres, in the amount of \$975.60
5. Payment of Fillmore SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Contract CC-16-06 David McCabe, Cover Crops, 100.0 acres, in the amount of \$3,000.00

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

**IV. REPORTS**

1. Supervisor's activity reports

a. MASWCD Area 7 recognition of retiring Supervisors  
Retiring supervisors were recognized at the Area 7 meeting. Rasmussen presented a framed certificate to Leutink. Mensink wasn't present to receive hers.

Willford reported attending a Personnel Committee meeting.

Leutink had nothing to report.

Gossman reported attending the 1W1P Public Hearing in Stewartville. He is on the advisory board for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers and attended a meeting in Pennsylvania where they discussed modification of farm programs for 2017-2018.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. Root River 1W1P update

The policy committee reviewed the comments and responses from the state agencies and public hearings and gave approval for the plan to be submitted to BWSR for review.

b. Plat Books

Rasmussen reported the new plat books have arrived. Ten copies were taken to the Recorder's office for sale there.

c. WCA shared position update

A decision regarding the WCA shared position is being delayed by Winona and Wabasha Counties. Winona doesn't want to make a decision until after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Wabasha is taking back the WCA duties from their county and is not interested in sharing a position. Rasmussen has been talking with Mower County to see if they are interested in sharing the position as most of the wetland work is in the western part of the County.

d. Regional discussion about organizational collaboration

A group of area managers met with representatives from RC&D, the Water Resources board, the Joint Powers board, and BWSR to discuss ways to share funding. These organizations are either lacking adequate funding or growing out of their original role. A presentation is planned for November at the Water Resources Board meeting informing Commissioners what SWCDs are doing.

e. MDA Targeted Township Testing Program

A draft work plan has been sent by MDA to test the private wells in each township in Fillmore County. The proposal is for \$70,000.00 with \$20,000.00 for staff time. Components of the program include developing a mailing list,

outreach and education and coordination with the Olmsted County lab for testing.

f. Flood damage reporting to BWSR  
BWSR wants information from SWCD districts in 23 counties listing flood damage to existing and new practices and cost estimates to repair the damage by October 19<sup>th</sup>.

4. NRCS

Bronson reported FY17 has started. She stated a huge amount of conservation was completed in FY16. NRCS is operating under a continuing resolution. There is a new CSP program starting. Staff will be attending Tool Kit Training. Fall construction is underway. There will be a continuous CRP signup on a first come, first service basis.

5. County

No County representative was present.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Consider approval for Chair to sign Secretary's Report from September 14, 2016

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to grant approval for the Chair to sign the Secretary's Report from the September 14, 2016. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider approval of Secretary's Report from the September 14, 2016 Regular Board Meeting

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve the Secretary's Report from the September 14, 2016 Regular Board Meeting. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider payment of SE MN Cover Crop Soil Health Contract F-LCCMR16-01 Brian Hazel, 46.22 acres, Cover Crop, in the amount of \$2,270.33

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the payment of the SE MN Cover Crop Soil Health Contract F-LCCMR16-01 Brian Hazel, 46.22 acres, Cover Crop, in the amount of \$2,270.33. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider purchase of replacement vehicle

State pricing for a new 2017 pickup is \$32,650.00 which includes the recommendation of a larger motor for better resale value. The district will pay 10% of the cost, \$3,250.00, with the balance of \$29,385.00 coming from the Local Capacity Grant. The board discussed whether the Colorado should be traded now or in the spring when another vehicle purchase is in the budget.

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to order a 2017 Chevrolet 1500 Crew Cab pickup at the state bid of \$32,650.00 and trade in the 2005 Chevrolet Colorado. Affirmative: Leutink, Willford, Gossman, Mensink, Hazel. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider Healthy Forests for Healthy Water contract 2014-3-R Amendment 4, Scott and Pam Nielsen, to increase to 14.1 acres in the amount of \$4,582.50

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2014-3-R Amendment 4, Scott and Pam Nielsen, to increase to the contract acres to 14.1 and increasing the contract amount to \$4,582.50. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider payment of healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2014-3-R, Scott and Pam Nielson, in the amount of \$4,582.50

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve payment of the Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2014-3-R, Scott and Pam Nielson, in the amount of \$4,582.50. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Review resolutions

Ballots were turned in for compilation on the master ballot.

2. Consider attendance to MASWCD Annual Convention, December 4-6, 2016

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve attendance to the MASWCD Annual Convention, December 4-6, 2016 for any staff or supervisors that wishes to attend. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider District contribution to employee HSAs per recommendation of Personnel Committee

Rasmussen provided information with different scenarios comparing the two tier with the three tier insurance costs. The recommendation of the Personnel Committee was to stay with the two tier costs and keep the HSA contribution the same as last year - \$1,500.00 for single coverage and \$3,000 for family coverage.

Either at the Annual Planning Meeting or another specially called meeting after the newly elected supervisors are on board, it was suggested that a more in-depth discussion be held on the insurance plans being offered and the costs to the employees. At that time, the three tier insurance costs will be looked at again.

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve a District contribution to each employee with a HSA compatible insurance plan in the amount of \$1,500.00 for single coverage and \$3,000.00 for family coverage. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider FY2017 Buffer Implementation Grant Request for \$30,000.00

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the FY2017 Buffer Implementation Grant Request in the amount of \$30,000.00. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider 2017 NACD dues

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve payment of the 2017 NACD dues in the amount of \$500.00. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider transfer of \$12, 846.68 from MDA RR Small Watershed Project-2 to District for admin and expenses to close the account

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve the transfer of \$12,846.68 from the MDA RR Small Watershed Project-2 account to the District for admin and travel expenses to close the account. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider FSP Phase II Implementation Grant Conservation Practice Assistance Contract BC 16-04 Carter Lee, Grassed Waterways, in the amount of \$18,000.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve the FSP Phase II Implementation Grant Conservation Practice Assistance Contract BC 16-04 Carter Lee, Grassed Waterways, in the amount of \$18,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider sales pricing for 2016-2017 tree program

Serfling provided a spreadsheet showing the increase in the cost of trees for the 2016-2017 program and the potential loss of income due to the increased cost. She asked for guidance on whether to increase the retail pricing or keep it at the 2015-2016 level.

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to increase the retail price of bundles by \$1.00 and the price of each potted tree by \$1.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider Fillmore SWCD Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contract CC-16-09 Mark Spande, Cover Crops, 102.54 acres, in the amount of \$3,000.00

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the Fillmore SWCD Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contract CC-16-09 Mark Spande, Cover Crops, 102.54 acres in the amount of \$3,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Consider FSP Phase II Implementation Grant Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contract BC-CC-16-02 Steve Oian, Cover Crops, 30 acres, in the amount of \$900.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve the FSP Phase II Implementation Grant Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contract BC-SS-16-02 Steve Oian, Cover Crop, 30 acres, in the amount of \$900.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

11. Consider Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2016-2-RP Richard Anderson, Pond Cleanout in the amount of \$1,500.00

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2016-2-RP Richard Anderson, Pond Cleanout, in the amount of \$1,500.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

12. Consider approval for out of state travel for Administrator to LaCrosse, WI, for Friends of the LaCrosse Marsh meeting presentation about Root River 1W1P

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve out of state travel for the Administrator to LaCrosse, Wisconsin to attend the Friends of the LaCrosse Marsh meeting and give a presentation about the Root River 1W1P. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

13. Consider Contract with Johnny Micheel for Services to Write Forest Stewardship Plan for 306 acres and compensation not to exceed \$3,060.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve a contract with Johnny Micheel for Services to write a Forest Stewardship Plan for 306 acres with compensation not to exceed \$3,060.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

## **VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the October 2016 payables. Affirmative: Leutink, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Leutink volunteered.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Mensink, Leutink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Leutink, Jr.