

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 12, 2012

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, Robert Joachim (NRCS), Tom Kaase (County Commissioner)

Mensink called the meeting to order at 4:41 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

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

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the December, 2011 Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Hazel entered the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the October – December 2011 supervisors vouchers. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Kaase entered the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Secretary's Report – December 15, 2011 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approve payment of \$500.00 to Abigail Stocker, 2011 College Scholarship Recipient
3. Approve payment of SE MN MASWCD 2012 dues in the amount of \$500.00

4. Approve payment of 2012 Envirothon donation in the amount of \$175.00
5. Approve payment of 2012 annual contribution to SE SWCD Technical Support JPB in the amount of \$500.00

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

IV. REPORTS

5. County

Kaase reported on a meeting he had just attended in Winona regarding silica sand. Representatives of Minnesota and Wisconsin counties were present. Topics of discussion included the impact of transportation on area roads, the amount of use and return of the water, restoring the topsoil of the land back to its original use, contracts to landowners and issues with land on the border of mining areas in relationship to transportation uses. Groups are networking to develop best management practices and to correct previous mistakes. The County board will address this issue in 2012 as a priority.

V. OLD BUSINESS

3. Discuss plan for maintenance of Willow Creek flood control structures

The board discussed who is responsible for and will perform the maintenance of the Willow Creek flood structures as the original and updated agreements are rather vague. Yearly inspections need to be done to cut trees or do minor erosion work. It was suggested that \$1,000.00 per year could be set aside for maintenance and if it isn't used could remain in the budget. Consensus was to set up a meeting with representatives from the county highway department, commissioners, SWCD staff and supervisors, landowners, and county attorney. Hazel and Leutink volunteered to be on the committee and Duane Bakke will be asked to participate from the commissioners. Grooters and Rasmussen will set up a maintenance schedule and bring to the meeting.

Kaase left the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

IV. REPORTS, Continued

1. Supervisor's activity report

Willford reported not being able to attend the Holistic Management Seminar in February due to his work schedule.

Hazel reported attending Winter Crop Days on January 11th in Caledonia. He thought Dawn Bernau and Kevin Kuehner did a good job with their presentation.

Mensink reported doing the statement opening and check review on January 1st.

Leutink had nothing to report.

Gossman had nothing to report.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. Frac sand mining update

b. Rush-Pine watershed group

The Rush-Pine watershed has set up a non-profit organization. A meeting is scheduled for January 24th to discuss the structure of the group and review names to have on the council. Jerry Hildebrandt will help facilitate the meetings.

c. Root River Landscape Plan

The signed contract for the Root River Landscape Plan has been received. Requests for Proposals are due back by January 27th to choose a contractor with the plan being completed by the end of the year.

4. NRCS

Joachim reported EQIP contracts were being accepted with ranking to be done next week. CSP contracts are being finalized as well as new applications being accepted. Tiling requests continue to come in.

Joachim explained wetland mitigation banking and that BWSR is setting up a bank for agricultural use only.

V. OLD BUSINESS, Continued

1. Consider closeout of 2010 SE Minnesota Flood Engineering Subcontracting Grant Agreement

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to approve the closeout of 2010 SE Minnesota Flood Engineering Subcontracting Grant Agreement. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider amendment to State Cost Share Contract FY11-10 Brian Hazel, Farmstead Windbreak reducing the contract amount by \$272.00 to \$216.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the amendment to State Cost Share Contract FY11-10 Brian Hazel, Farmstead Windbreak, reducing the contract amount by \$272.00 to \$216.00 due to a change in the windbreak design. Affirmative: Gossman, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Abstained: Hazel. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

Chair Mensink called for nominations for chair. Mensink nominated Leutink for chair. Motioned by Gossman seconded by Hazel to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Leutink. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman. Willford, Mensink, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Joachim left the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Chair Leutink called for nominations for Vice-chair. Mensink nominated Willford for vice-chair. Motioned by Gossman seconded by Hazel to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Willford. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Gossman, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Chair Leutink called for nominations for Treasurer. Leutink nominated Gossman for Treasurer. Motioned by Hazel seconded by Willford to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Gossman. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Gossman, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Chair Leutink called for nominations for Secretary. Willford nominated Hazel for Secretary. Motioned by Mensink seconded by Willford to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Hazel. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Gossman, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Appointment of Committees

Chair Leutink appointed the following committees:

Personnel:	Leutink, Willford
Cost-share:	Leutink, Hazel
Finance:	Willford, Gossman
Education:	Mensink, Leutink
Fillmore County Water Plan Advisory:	Gossman, Mensink
Area VII SRF Joint Powers Board:	Mensink, Willford
EQIP Local Work Group:	Willford
Hiawatha Valley RC&D:	Leutink, Mensink
Building Committee:	Gossman, Hazel

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve the changes made to the committees. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Hazel, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Set board meeting date and time

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to schedule 2012 board meetings for the Thursday following the second Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at the SWCD office. Affirmative: Hazel, Willford, Mensink, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Set per diem and mileage rates

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to set the mileage rate for 2012 at the current Internal Revenue Service rate and set the per diem rate at \$75.00 per day. It was noted that the current IRS rate is \$.555 per mile and reimbursements would follow any 2012 federal changes to the rate. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Willford, Mensink, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Select District Depositories

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to select Security State Bank, Wykoff; Canton State Bank, Canton; Bank of the West, Mabel; First State Bank, Fountain, First Southeast Bank, Harmony; Home Federal Savings Bank, Spring Valley; First State Bank Minnesota, Spring Valley; Root River State Bank, Chatfield; Security State Bank, Spring Valley; Associated Bank of Lanesboro, Lanesboro; Associated Bank, Rushford; Rushford State Bank, Rushford; Security State Bank, Ostrander; F & M Community Bank, Preston as depositories. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider payment of annual MASWCD dues in the amount of \$2,525.00

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Gossman to approve payment of the annual MASWCD dues in the amount of \$2,525.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider State Cost Share Contract FY11-17 Melvin Meiners, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve State Cost Share Contract FY11-17, Melvin Meiners, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider State Cost Share Contract FY11-18 Randy Ness, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$960.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve State Cost Share Contract FY11-18 Randy Ness, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$960.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider State Cost Share Contract FY11-19 Karroll Gudmundson, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00 using \$111.12 from FY2011 funds and \$368.88 from FY2012 funds

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve State Cost Share Contract FY11-19 Karroll Gudmundson, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00 using \$111.12 from FY2011 funds and \$368.88 from FY2012 funds. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Consider attendance at MASWCD Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Gossman to approve attendance for anyone wishing to go to the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve the January 2012 payables. Affirmative: Mensink, Hazel, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Hazel volunteered to come in for the statement opening and check review on Wednesday, February 1st, 2012.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Hazel