

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 14, 2012
4:30 P.M.
USDA Service Center
SWCD Office
Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Hazel

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling, Anne Koliha, Corey Michaels, (CCA), Jackie Byam (NRCS), Tom Kaase (County Commissioner)

Leutink called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

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

II. TREASURER’S REPORT

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the May 2012 Treasurer’s report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 1. Payment of Cost Share Contract FY10-12 Richard O’Connor, Water and Sediment Control Basin, in the amount of \$3,000.00
- 2. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-15 Evan O’Connor, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$635.60
- 3. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY12-02 Jolyn Mikesh, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$567.00
- 4. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY12-08 William Yahnke, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,620.00

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

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity report

Willford reported doing the statement opening and check detail, filed for re-election and is preparing for the no-till field day at his farm.

Hazel was not present.

Mensink reported filing for re-election.

Leutink reported filing for re-election and attending the MASWCD Resolutions meeting.

Gossman reported attending a Woodland Stewardship meeting and a Tap Into the Root meeting.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. Conservation Corps apprentice

Corey Michaels, the Conservation Corps apprentice, was introduced to the board.

b. Frac sand mining reclamation guidelines

Representatives from six counties met to talk about reclamation guidelines.

Some of the guidelines discussed include:

- If not crop ground before mining, the area cannot be converted to crop ground after.
- Need to have a minimum amount of top soil
- Develop BMPs for coarse/sandy soil
- Develop Pesticide BMPs
- Have a technical evaluation panel of members from zoning, SWCDs, DNR, BWSR review the site
- Do a baseline review of the site before so that after reclamation, there is something to compare to

These guidelines will be further developed and presented to BALMM in August.

c. Report from June 13 resolutions meeting

The resolutions that were voted on at the meeting were distributed for board review. The fall meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-September at Cabelas in Owatonna. Nominations for the executive board are being sought.

4. NRCS

Byam reported CSP is complete. Four MRBI EQIP applications have been approved with ten more waiting for funding. More funding has been applied for. FSA compliance checks are being completed. Some 569-whistle blower complaints have been coming in.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider approval for Chair to sign the Secretary's Report from May 17, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to give approval to the Chair to sign the Secretary's Report from May 17, 2012 Regular Board Meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider approval of Secretary's Report from the May 17, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Willford to approve the Secretary's Report from the May 17, 2012 Regular Board Meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Select 2012 Outstanding Conservationist

The accomplishments of the nominees were reviewed by the board.

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Mensink to select Duschee Hills Dairy as the 2012 Outstanding Conservationist. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Kaase entered the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

4. Consider approval of subcontract amendment for Joel Nelson to extend expiration date to September 30, 2012

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the subcontract amendment for Joel Nelson to extend the expiration date to September 30, 2012. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider BWSR Biennial Budget Request

Rasmussen reviewed the three worksheets – SWCD, NRBG and Competitive Project Funds and Activities which comprise the Biennial Budget Request. These worksheets will provide a guideline for legislators to determine funding for FY14 & FY15. The SWCD cost share and NRBG dollars are already set. The competitive grant addresses eight areas of work. She asked the board to look specifically at the programs and the amount of funding to see if they thought the most important areas were being addressed.

Rasmussen will make necessary changes to the BBR and the board will have the opportunity to review them prior to submittal.

Byam and Michaels left the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

IV. REPORTS

5. County

Kaase reported on the frac sand tour. Two to three months more of work will be needed before a decision can be made regarding frac sand. Outcomes will protect the County and the environment.

The County board met with the prospective new County Engineer, as John Grindland will be retiring at the end of the year.

6. Discuss Fillmore County Fair booth

Ronnenberg will be doing rain barrel demonstrations on Friday and Saturday from 4-6:30 p.m. at the fair. Volunteers are being sought for the radio spot scheduled for Thursday from 4:30-5:00 p.m.

Any other ideas or suggestions for the fair booth should be given to Rasmussen.

7. Authorize signature of revised Amendment 1 to Contract 23797 (formerly B48116) with MPCA for the Root River Comprehensive Strategy

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to authorize the chair to sign the revised Amendment 1 to contract 23797 (formerly B48116) with MPCA for the Root River Comprehensive Strategy. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of AgBMP loan application for Ross Cooper, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$60,000.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the AgBMP loan application for Ross Cooper, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$60,000.00. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider approval of Ground Water Level Monitoring Well Agreement for FY2013

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the Ground Water Level Monitoring Well Agreement for FY2013. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider payment of Grazing Challenge Grant Contract GRO 48 Nathan Redalen in the amount of \$2,050.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve payment of Grazing Challenge Grant Contract GRO 48 Nathan Redalen in the amount of \$2,050.00. Affirmative: Willford, Mensink, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider approval of corrective action plan for State Cost Share Contract FY08-29 Farmstead Windbreak

Rasmussen started out by saying that the name of the contract holder is being withheld so an unbiased decision can be made.

The contract holder planted the windbreak in 2009. Since that time, status reviews have been done which showed the lack of enough trees to satisfy the cost share contract. The contract holder indicated that the trees had been damaged by neighboring kids who were driving their four-wheeler and golf cart through the planted area and from spray drift from the neighboring landowner. The contract holder has replanted trees every year and is still not in compliance with cost share rules.

Grooters talked with Mary Kells, BWSR, who advised him to implement a corrective action plan which would allow repayment of the cost share funds and maintain the trees that remain in the windbreak.

Rasmussen told the board two decisions need to be made: 1. decide how much cost-share should be returned, from 100% to 150% of the original amount, and 2. whether or not the contract holder is eligible for future cost share.

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to have the contract holder pay back 100% of the original cost share, be eligible for future cost share, and approve the corrective action plan for State Cost Share Contract FY08-29 Farmstead Windbreak, . Affirmative: Gossman, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Abstained: Mensink. Motion carried.

5. Authorize Board Chair to sign Phase XII Farm Bill Assistance Grant Request

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to authorize the Board Chair to sign the Phase XII Farm Bill Assistance Grant Request. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Approve letter of support for 319 grant for storm water training classes

Rasmussen reported the letter of support was required by the end of May. SWCD support would include two training classes per year plus \$3,000 in kind support over the next three years for the 319 grant.

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Willford to approve the letter of support for the 319 grant for storm water training classes. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider State Cost Share Contract FY11-20 Mark Fishbaugher, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,260.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve State Cost Share Contract FY11-20 Mark Fishbaugher, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,260.00. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Review 6-month Budget Report and Draft of 2013 Proposed Budget

Rasmussen reviewed the 2013 draft budget with the board. She noted the allocation request from the County remains the same as the last several years and the percentage used for COLA could change from what was used for the proposed budget.

The actuals through May are on track with the amounts budgeted for 2012.

Gossman left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

9. Consider CWF Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant Contract FWQMG FY11-3 Mark Fishbaugher, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$51,000.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Willford to approve CWF Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant Contract FWQMG FY11-3 Mark Fishbaugher, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$51,000.00. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Discuss providing temporary assistance to the Feedlot Program by the Engineering Technician in the absence of the Feedlot Officer

Rasmussen reported the Feedlot Officer is out on medical leave and could potentially be off work for up to eight weeks. Discussion followed on whether the Engineering Technician could provide or has time to provide assistance to the Feedlot Office.

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Willford to agree to help out the Feedlot Office to whatever degree the Administrator feels is necessary. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Monday, July 2nd. Mensink volunteered.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Leutink