

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 17, 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, Robert Joachim (NRCS), Tom Kaase (County Commissioner)

Leutink called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

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

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY12-06 Norris Storlie, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$349.70
2. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-17 Melvin Meiners, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00
3. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-19 Karroll Gudmundson, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00
4. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY12-01 James Wendel, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$480.00
5. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-14 Scott Wilson, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$615.00
6. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-18 Randy Ness, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$960.00

7. Approve payment of Part 1 of 4 of Root River Landscape Plan to Zach Reusch in the amount of \$4,850.00
8. Approve payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-15 Evan O'Connor, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$635.60
9. Consider approval of State Cost Share Contract FY12-04 Mike Benson, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$897.60
10. Consider approval of State Cost Share Contract FY12-05 James Priebe, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$882.00

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

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity report

Willford had nothing to report.

Hazel was not present.

Mensink had nothing to report.

Leutink reported doing the statement opening and check review on May 1st.

Gossman reported attending the "Tap into the Root" meeting.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

a. 2012 Tree Sales Summary

Serfling had prepared a three year comparison of tree income and expenses. Income was significantly higher this year compared to the previous two years due to increased sales of potted stock.

3. Administrator's report

a. Conservation Corps Apprentice

Rasmussen reported the Conservation Corp Apprentice that was previously selected turned down the position. The position will be filled by Corey Michaels. He will be starting on approximately June 14th in order to allow his current employer time to find a replacement.

b. BWSR Biennial Budget Request

The Biennial Budget Request (BBR) is a new budgeting process for BWSR which will allow the legislature to appropriate money as needed for FY14 and FY15 according to the funding requests. Spreadsheets are formula driven and amounts are determined by the entries, but there is the option to put in additional amounts if excess funds are available. Funding requests will be submitted for state cost share and the Natural Resources Block Grant.

Competitive grants requests will be submitted for cover crops, structures, feedlots, grazing and nutrient management.

The BBR needs to be completed by the end of June. The board will approve or modify the application at the June meeting. This BBR request will replace the annual planning process currently in place.

c. Recognition of Anne Koliha for ten years of service
Rasmussen recognized Koliha for her ten years of service to the District with a certificate and \$25.00 gift card to Cabela's.

4. NRCS

Joachim reported Byam is still detailed to Wabasha County but will be returning to Fillmore on June 4th and White is on maternity leave for the next two months.

Joachim is working on CSP contracts and EQIP contracts, 25 of which have been approved and another 9 or 10 are waiting for ranking. Fifty compliance checks need to be completed. New planning software will be used starting in September or October and a great deal of clean-up work will need to be completed on the files before that time.

Joachim reviewed the Cooperative Working Agreements between NRCS and the SWCD which is done on an annual basis.

5. County

Kaase reported a Congressional Hearing was held in the County Boardroom with Tim Walz and Congressman Runyon regarding the proposed Veteran's Cemetery. Fillmore is being considered as a model for other areas. Due to a land ownership problem, the start date for the cemetery will be moved back a year as the June deadline will be missed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider approval for Chair to sign the Secretary's Report from April 12, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to give approval for the Chair to sign the Secretary's Report from the April 12, 2012 Regular Board Meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider approval of Secretary's Report from the April 12, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the Secretary's report from the April 12, 2012 Regular Board Meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider sponsorship of the following 4-H Award Programs:

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 Water/Wetland	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Water/Wetlands	\$20.00
Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve sponsorship of the following 4-H Award Programs:

Champion Exploring the Environment	\$20.00
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Champion Fishing Sports	\$20.00
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Reserve Champion Water/Wetlands	\$20.00
Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00
Reserve Champion Wildlife/Biology	\$20.00

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

4. Consider approval to invest \$91,800.00 from SE SWCD Technical Support JPB Sub-recipient Grant

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Gossman to consider approval to invest \$91,800.00 from SE SWCD Technical support JPB Sub-recipient Grant. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to SWIFT Contract #20217, formerly #B41954, with the MN Department of Agriculture to extend to 9/30/12 and add \$6,000.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Gossman to approve Amendment #1 to SWIFT Contract #20217, formerly #B41954, with the MN Department of Agriculture to extend the expiration date to 9/30/12 and increase the contract amount by \$6,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider amendment of subcontract with Mower SWCD for the Root River: From Field to Stream Partnership to extend to 9/30/12 and add \$2,000.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the amendment of subcontract with Mower SWCD for the Root River: From Field to Stream Partnership to extend the expiration date to 9/30/12 and increase the contract amount by \$2,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider approval of Amendment 1 to SWIFT Contract #23797 with the MN Pollution Control Agency revising the budget and work plan for the Root River Comprehensive Strategy

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve Amendment 1 to SWIFT Contract #23797 with the MN Pollution Control Agency revising the budget and work plan for the Root River Comprehensive Strategy. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Authorize Administrator to sign subcontract with U of M Center for Changing Landscapes (Root River Comprehensive Strategy) in the amount of \$20,000.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Gossman to authorize the Administrator to sign the subcontract with the U of M Center for Changing Landscapes (Root River Comprehensive Strategy) in the amount of \$20,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Discuss priorities for Hiawatha Valley RC&D

The Hiawatha Valley RC&D is looking for guidance from SWCD's on what their priorities should be. After discussion, the board agreed with Rasmussen that the priorities for Fillmore are grazing, cover crops and forestry which will be conveyed to the RC&D.

10. Consider amendment to State Cost Share Contract FY11-12 John Hanson extending the completion date to December 31, 2012

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve the amendment to State Cost Share Contract FY11-12 John Hanson extending the completion date to December 31, 2012. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Leutink. Opposed: none. Abstained: Willford. Motion carried.

11. Consider approval of State Cost Share Contract FY11-10 Brian Hazel, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$216.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Gossman to approve State Cost Share Contract FY11-10 Brian Hazel, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$216.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of AgBMP loan application for David Hovey, No-till planter, in the amount of \$88,500.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the AgBMP loan application for David Hovey, No-till planter, in the amount of \$88,500.00. Affirmative: Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Abstained: Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider bid from Pamela Ristau CPA for 2012 Financial Audit Services

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to approve the bid from Pamela Ristau CPA for 2012 Financial Audit Services in the amount of \$3,400.00. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Discuss travel for Grazing Specialist to attend out-of-state conferences

Rasmussen reported the Grazing Specialist has been asked to attend conferences in Fargo, North Dakota and Orlando, Florida. Discussion followed regarding the costs involved and reporting of time.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the Grazing Specialist to attend the conference in Fargo, North Dakota at a maximum expense of \$500.00. More information on the Florida trip will be brought to the next meeting for a decision. Affirmative: Hazel, Willford, Mensink, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Discuss recommendations for Outstanding Conservationist (District 4-Pam)

Staff had made suggestions for Outstanding Conservationist which Rasmussen reviewed with the Board. After discussion, four names were chosen to obtain more information about. The information will be brought back to the next meeting and this year's outstanding conservationist will be chosen.

5. Consider approval to transfer \$4,929.06 from District Funds to Compensated Absences per year end computations

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the transfer of \$4,929.06 from District Funds to Compensated Absences per year end computations. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Discuss MASWCD resolutions

Three resolutions were reviewed and changes made.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to make changes as discussed and approve the submittal of Resolution 12-01, Education and Information Regarding the Importance of 2B Ag Land. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Gossman to approve the submittal of Resolution 12-02, Expanding Rim Priorities. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Mensink to make the changes as discussed and approve the submittal of Resolution 12-03, Linking Conservation Compliance to ARC. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider approval of Livestock Waste Management Contract CWF FY12-2 Vern Ristau, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$80,000.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Mensink to approve the Livestock Waste Management Contract CWF FY12-2 Vern Ristau, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$80,000.00. Affirmative: Mensink, Willford, Gossman, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider approval of AgBMP loan application for Vern Ristau, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$100,000.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the AgBMP loan application for Vern Ristau, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$100,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider approval of Amendment to BWSR FY11 Mississippi River Basin Initiative Grant (PO#17637) extending the expiration date to June 30, 2013

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the Amendment to BWSR FY11 Mississippi River Basin Initiative Grant (PO#17637) extending the expiration date of June 30, 2013. Affirmative: Gossman, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Willford volunteered to come in for the statement opening and check review on Friday, June 1st.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard Leutink
Board Chair