

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

4:45 P.M.

USDA Service Center

SWCD Office

Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Hazel, Pam Mensink, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: Leonard Leutink, Tim Gossman.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling

Willford called the meeting to order at 4:55 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

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

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve the August, 2016 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Secretary's Report – August 11, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Secretary's Report – September 1, 2016 Special Board Meeting Minutes

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

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity reports

Willford reported attending a cost share committee meeting and the County Board Meeting on August 23rd, the Soil Health Team Tour on August 31st and the Special Board meeting on September 1st. He also met with a group of people from Sweden and discussed farming.

Hazel reported attending a Cost Share Committee meeting and the County Board meeting on August 23rd, the Soil Health Team Tour on August 31st, and the Special Board meeting on September 1st.

Mensink reported attending the Special Board meeting and doing the statement opening and check review on September 1st.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

- a. Supervisor Volunteer for 6th Grade Conservation Field Day
Willford volunteered if he was driving the bus for the Fillmore Central students. Mensink said she could help with the lunch.

3. Administrator's report

- a. Root River 1W1P update

The 1W1P public meetings were held on September 7th and 8th with 36 attending the Stewartville meeting and 32 the Caledonia meeting which included staff and committee members. The policy work group will meet to review the comments and recommended changes for the Policy Committee to approve. Hopes are that the plan can be presented to the BWSR Board at their meeting in December to discuss the process and approve the plan.

- b. WCA shared services update

Rasmussen attended a meeting with BWSR and Wabasha and Winona SWCDs to continue planning for sharing WCA services. The plan needs to be ready by October 1st to keep going forward. She will be talking to the County to figure out how the WCA funding will work, as will the other SWCDs. Another meeting will be scheduled for October to review the draft job description. The WCA employee will be housed in Winona County with hopes to tie the position to a Winona County job and make it full time.

- c. County Board budget meeting report

Hazel, Willford and Rasmussen presented the budget request to the County. There was no opposition to the request. It has not yet been approved.

- d. Technology update

Rasmussen met with staff to go over programs and what the technology needs are for each. A meeting with neighboring counties and company representatives to demo their products will be scheduled.

- e. N BMP Outreach Grant renewal

The N BMP Outreach Grant ends in December. The workplan and budget is being developed with MDA to continue the plots. The grant funds half of Boyum's time. Additional duties will be added to equal 50% of his time.

- f. Conservation Corps Minnesota crew project at the County Office Building

The Conservation Corps crew will be working on the project at the County Office Building the week of September 26th. Approval was obtained to use remaining Nature Conservancy grant funds for the project. Mainly shrubs will be planted. Some sand and soil will be needed also as an infiltration test indicated very slow infiltration.

4. NRCS

Bronson provided a written report:

- CRP Sign-up 48 completed. NRCS completed all plans and met the September 9th deadline
- EQIP 2017-1 Application period closed August 19th, 2016
- End of the Fiscal Year 2016 is September 30, 2016

5. County

No County representative was present.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider partial payment of DNR Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2016-3-RP-083 Robert Wick, Pond with Pipe in the amount of \$2,000.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve partial payment of DNR Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2016-3-RP-083 Robert Wick, pond with pipe, in the amount of \$2,000.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider Technical Assistance percentage from FY2017 State Cost Share Grant

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to set the percentage at 20% for technical assistance from the FY2017 State Cost Share Grant. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider Operational Policy Handbook revision of State Cost Share Policies

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve the revisions to the Operational Policy Handbook for State Cost Share Policy as presented. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider Fillmore SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contracts as listed below:

CC-16-06	David McCabe	Cover Crops	121.22 acres	\$3,000.00
CC-16-07	Luke McCabe	Cover Crops	32.56 acres	\$975.60
CC-16-08	J&H AG LLC	Cover Crops	100 acres	\$4,000.00

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve the following Fillmore SWCD 2016 Cover Crop Incentive Program Conservation Practice Assistance Contracts as listed below:

CC-16-06	David McCabe	Cover Crops	121.22 acres	\$3,000.00
CC-16-07	Luke McCabe	Cover Crops	32.56 acres	\$975.60
CC-16-08	J&H AG LLC	Cover Crops	100 acres	\$4,000.00

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

The Board discussed the rules for cost share in relation to a father and son each having a cost share contract if they farm as one entity.

4. Consider attendance and expenses for Fall Area VII Supervisor/Employee meeting

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve attendance and expenses for the Fall Area VII Supervisor/Employee meeting. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider registration and lodging for staff to attend 2016 BWSR Academy

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve registration and lodging for staff to attend the 2016 BWSR Academy. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Review Fillmore County policy re: stipend for cell phone use

Rasmussen explained that Thomas had requested a stipend for cell phone use, but changed his mind and now wanted a separate phone for work calls, which had been approved by the board last August.

7. Consider Resolution 16-03 "Local Stakeholder Session for Implementing Major Watershed Plans"

Rasmussen explained the RC&D is willing to facilitate a meeting between multiple agencies to help determine the outcome of them working together to implement watershed plans. The RC&D asked for a resolution of support.

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve Resolution 16-03 "Local Stakeholder Session for Implementing Major Watershed Plans" in support of the Hiawatha Valley RC&D seeking funding for this meeting. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider transfer of \$6,271.82 to District for travel and overhead costs and \$970.00 to non-grant personnel from the Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network Account (WPLMN) to close the account

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve the transfer of \$6,271.82 to District for travel and overhead costs and \$970.00 to non-grant personnel from the Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network Account (WPLMN) to close the account. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider CWF FSP Phase II Implementation Conservation Practice Assistance Contract CC16-10 Dave Scheevel, Milk house Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$3,250.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve the FSP Phase II Implementation Conservation Practice Assistance Contract CC16-10 Dave Scheevel, Milk house Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$3,250.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Board members discussed the issue of providing cost share to individuals that don't own the land or facility on which a project is being installed.

10. Consider 319 Feedlot VI Grant Cost Share Contract F6G-06 Dave Scheevel, Milk house Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$6,500.00

Motioned by Mensink seconded by Hazel to approve 319 Feedlot VI Grant Cost Share Contract G6G-06 Dave Scheevel, Milk house Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$6,500.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Mensink to approve the September, 2016 payables. Affirmative: Hazel, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Monday, October 3rd. Hazel volunteered.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Travis Willford
Board Chair