

**Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 15, 2016**

I. Chair Huntley called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members present: Fynboh, Huntley, Krosch, Lonergan. Staff present: Erickson, Johnston, Lembcke, Solemsaas, Staebler and Wiechmann. Others present: Cory Walker, NRCS.

II. Supervisor Krosch moved to approve the agenda. Second by Supervisor Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

III. Supervisor Lonergan moved to approve the minutes from the November regular meeting. Second by Krosch. Passed unanimously.

IV. Financial Matters

A. Lonergan moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by Krosch. Passed unanimously.

B. Krosch moved to approved payment of the following bills. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

1.	Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	82.76
2.	Don Huntley	Supervisor Pay	78.98
3.	Jim Krosch	Supervisor Pay	351.85
4.	Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	159.77
5.	Valnes Rental	December rent	836.33
6.	Bremer Card Services		544.56
	a.	Newsletter postage	264.85
	b.	Employee expenses	209.17
	c.	Conservationist & misc signs	49.06
	d.	Drone parts	21.48
7.	Stevens County Highway		242.65
8.	Traverse SWCD	Fabric	5480.00
9.	Morris Cooperative	Gas/diesel	160.95
10.	Town & Country	Supplies	29.90
11.	Agassiz Seed	Seed inventory	1809.61
12.	Chokio Review	Advertising	39.60
13.	HPS Rental	PortaPots Conservation Day	171.00
14.	Grant County Herald	Bulk mailing permit	53.44
15.	Iceberg Web Design	Web hosting & email	29.99
16.	The Body Shop	Tractor repair	355.84
17.	UMM Duplicating	newsletter printing	767.63
18.	Ranger Randee	SWELL Coordinator fee	2500.00
19.	Metro Sales	Copier Lease	228.58
20.	Mobiz Computers	Batter backups	384.72
21.	Federated Telephone	Internet	69.95
22.	Valnes Rentals	Mowing Arboretum (CLWP)	400.00
23.	West Central Trophies	Plaques	126.65

V. Old Business

A. Krosch gave a report on resolutions passed and other activity at the MASWCD annual convention.

B. Solemsaas reported that supervisors are not eligible to participate in the group health plan, because of a minimum hours per week worked requirement. The contract for the plan has been signed and things are moving forward.

C. Elections were held in three of the five districts this year. Dave Lonergan was re-elected from Area 1. Dennis Feuchtenberger was elected from Area 4 and Troy Goodnough was elected from Area 5.

VI. New Business

- A. Loneragan moved to approve a contract with Peterson Company Ltd to complete the 2016 financial statements. Second by Krosch. Passed unanimously.
- B. Krosch moved to approve the corrected minutes from the September meeting. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- C. Stevens SWCD is one of 9 pilot counties who will be part of an agreement with NRCS regarding the federal Common Computing Environment. Cory will work with Matt to develop a work plan for this project.
- D. Krosch moved to approve the 2017 Buffer Implementation Grant Agreement with BWSR. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously. Outreach and staff time to work on implementation of the new buffer law are funded through this grant.
- E. Krosch moved approval of the amended Pomme de Terre River Association Joint Powers Agreement. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.
- F. Loneragan moved to approve CLWP cost share of \$522.50 for 50% cost share on three wells sealed by Paul Daly. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- G. Cost share authorizations
  - A. Krosch moved that District Cost Share payment policy will be amended to state that in-kind rates will follow Iowa Custom Rates, the DNR rates, or the schedule outlined by the PDTRA, depending on the type of project. Reasonable in-kind rates will be paid as long as charged are in line with the specs and project estimates. Second by Fynboh, passed unanimously.
  - B. The following Amendments all passed unanimously.
    - i. Extend completion deadline for 75-30-14-CWF Erickson WASCOB to 11-1-17. Motion Krosch/second Fynboh.
    - ii. Allocate additional \$422 FY16 District Capacity funding to contract 75-29-14-CWF Dyson rain garden. Motion Lonergan/Second Krosch.
    - iii. Allocate additional \$324 FY16 State cost share funding to contract 5-16 Dental Depot rain garden. Motion Krosch/Second Fynboh.
    - iv. Allocate additional \$656 FY16 District Capacity funding to contract 5-DC16 Wahl rain garden. Motion Fynboh/second Krosch.
    - v. Allocate additional \$1175 FY16 District Capacity funding to contract 6-DC16 Howe rain garden. Motion Fynboh/second Krosch.
  - C. Payments -- 2014 CWF (PDTRA) Grant Contracts were passed unanimously.
    - i. \$3020.41 for a total of 75% cost share on 75-25-14-CWF Disselkamp EQIP WASCOBs. Motion Krosch/second Lonergan.
    - ii. \$1528 (\$606CWF, \$922 District Capacity) for 75% cost share on 75-29-14-CWF Dyson rain garden. Motion Fynboh/second Lonergan.
  - D. Payments -- 2014 Federal 319 Grant Contracts were passed unanimously.
    - i. \$628.16 for a total of 75% cost share on 75-11-14-319, Krosch WASCOBs. Motion Fynboh/Second Lonergan. Krosch abstained.
  - E. Payments -- District Capacity Grant Contracts were all passed unanimously on a motion by Krosch and second by Lonergan.
    - i. \$2994 for 75% cost share on 2-DC16 Rinkenberger WASCOB
    - ii. \$6709 for 75% cost share on 3-DC16 Mumm WASCOB
    - iii. \$1287 for 75% cost share on 4-DC16 Tomoson rain garden
    - iv. \$2718 for 75% cost share on 5-DC16 Wahl rain garden
    - v. \$3991 for 75% cost share on 6-DC16 Howe rain garden
  - F. Payments -- State Cost Share Grant Contracts were all passed unanimously on a motion by Krosch and second by Lonergan.
    - i. \$330 FY16 funding for 75% cost share on 4-16 G Weiler WASCOBs
    - ii. \$2008 FY2016 funding for 75% cost share on 5/16 Dental Depot rain garden
    - iii. \$3890.50 (FY 16 \$2998 & FY 14 \$982) for 75% cost share on 4/16 DeJa Acres WASCOBs

- H. Cory Walker gave a verbal NRCS Report. He gave project updates. He also reported that the State Conservationist will be closing 3 area offices (Fergus Falls, Duluth, and Thief River Falls). Mark Kulig will be moving to another position in Wisconsin in January. He will not be replaced at this time. Jennifer Sweeney is acting AC.
- I. Additions to written staff reports
  - A. Solemsaas reported that other districts have shown interest in the drone purchased. He is looking at getting a commercial license for the drone, so we could do work for outside parties. The PDTRA hired Steph Adams and she will start January 3. The 2017 CWF application was approved for funding and will include an assessment of a potential project on the golf course in Morris. Project funding itself will be tied to a federal 319 grant. He's been working on a lot of WCA violations this fall. He's also starting to work on the district capacity work plan.
  - B. Erickson has been working on the buffer inventory. There's currently a hold on enrolling more CRP acres. He will be attending a RIM wetland restoration meeting. The board discussed opinions about possible alternative practices related to the buffer law and whether or not the county should allow them.
  - C. Lembcke reported that most seedings planned for this fall were completed. The tree open house will be held this afternoon.
  - D. Johnston reported that the Annual Review will come out a little earlier this year, in mid-February. The auction for education did very well this year at the MASWCD convention.
  - E. Wiechmann reported that she's been working on CRP re-enrollments and plans and helping with the BuffCat map.
  - F. Staebler reported that she met with Jared House regarding the PDTRA projects we have pending and updated our project information with him so it's current going into the next year.
- J. There were no Supervisor Reports. A plaque was presented to Don Huntley in appreciation for his years of service to the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting will tentatively be scheduled for January 19.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Greg Fynboh, Treasurer

1/19/17  
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Date

