

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 10, 2019

- I. Chair Goodnough called the regular meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members present: Anderson, Feuchtenberger, Fynboh, Goodnough, Lonergan. Staff present: Erickson, Johnston, Lembcke, Staebler, Solemsaas. Others present: Britta Haseman, NRCS; Jeanne Ennen, Stevens County Commissioner.
- II. Supervisor Lonergan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Supervisor Anderson. Passed unanimously.
- III. Personnel Reports
 - A. NRCS Britta Haseman reported for Cory Walker. Cory plans to attend the October SWCD meeting. Most CSP applications by beginning farmers were approved. The construction season has gone very slowly because of the weather. Cover crops need to be in by September 30. They are getting new planning and ranking software which the SWCD will also be trained to use. EQIP and CSP sign-ups will be late. She thanked the SWCD for their work helping complete over 50 CRP plans.

The board discussed the implementation of the new easement commitment form. Landowner Reid Haberer joined the meeting at 9:45 to discuss his CREP application. Haberer signed the landowner acknowledgement stating that he fully understands the easement language and details. Anderson moved to approve the CREP application which will be submitted to BWSR. Second by Supervisor Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.

- B. Commissioner Ennen expanded on the topic of tax basis for land in conservation easements, etc. and asked if the board would like the assessor to visit with them and explain the tax basis. This will be arranged at a future date. There was a meeting held with landowners regarding Ditch 18 and there will be a public hearing on September 24. The cost of work on the ditch doubled so she doesn't expect this to pass. She noted there's also a bond hearing on September 11 to build a highway garage. She recently attended the BWSR Board tour of the Pomme de Terre Watershed, organized by the PDTRA. Personnel from the PDTRA LGUs spoke at four stops and gave the BWSR board and other guests a tour highlighting conservation projects completed within the watershed.
- C. Additions to written staff reports:
 - a. Solemsaas has been sending WCA notices regarding work on Ditch 18 improvement. The Chippewa Watershed group is working on developing policy and writing a new JPA, by-laws, etc. They hope to have a restructured group in place by the end of the year. He sent the preliminary budget to the county.
 - b. Erickson reported that BWSR denied the Kisgen 1:1 RIM replacement proposal. They will contact the landowner regarding this and the SWCD doesn't need to do anything further in the process. He is also working on the deed and other paperwork for a pending new RIM easement.
 - c. Lembcke reported that rain garden constructions have started but have not gone well due to the weather. The technicians are also looking at whether or not broadcast seedings on some CRPs this fall is feasible
 - d. Jenc had no additions to her written report.
 - e. Staebler asked the board to consider moving the October meeting to the 15th as she will be out of town. She has been working on things with Steph at the PDTRA so she will be able to help with administrative duties during the staff vacancy at the PDTRA.
 - f. Johnston reported that she and Holly from Pope SWCD have completed an application for MASWCD teacher of the year. Lonergan moved to approve the nomination of Kaley Poegel as MASWCD Teacher of the Year. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously. She is also finishing up the application for Outstanding Conservationist of the Year.

IV. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.

V. Financial Matters

A. Supervisor Fynboh moved to approve this month's Treasurer's Report. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.

B. Lonergan moved to approve payment of the following bills. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.

1. Debbie Anderson	Supervisor Pay	198.33
2. Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	69.26
3. Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	349.55
4. Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	70.16
5. Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	241.81
6. Valnes Rentals	September Building Rent	2187.00
7. Judy Johnston	Employee expenses	74.25
8. Frontier Precision	Drone case	129.00
9. Diamond Supper Club	MAWQCP meeting meal	423.75
10. Bois de Sioux Watershed District	1W1P bus tour & meals	70.00
11. American	Window envelopes	134.20
12. Bankords Electric	2 fans & control switch installation	735.45
13. Lawn & Driveway Service	Rain garden mulch, 6 yd @ \$57	342.00
14. Midwest Machinery	Mower blades	145.76
15. Stevens County Highway	Gas	604.56
16. Ottertail Power	Electric bill	27.72
17. BWSR	Academy Registrations	810.00
18. Farnams Genuine Parts		154.93
19. Morris Cooperative	Gas & repairs	170.62
20. Morris Bearing	Parts	78.95
21. Town & Country	Supplies	381.76
22. Morning Sky Greenery	Rain garden plant stock	767.60
23. Morris Lumber	Supplies	113.97
24. Willie's	Meeting supplies	63.62
25. Bremer Card Services		792.48
	Education	107.86
	Employee expenses	370.51
	Office Maintenance	22.10
	Office Supplies	179.20
	TSA expenses	112.81

VI. Old Business

A. There was a landowner request for an alternative practice in place of a buffer on a county ditch in Baker township. Erickson ran the BWSR Decision Support Tool and it demonstrated that the proposed practice would have the same benefit as a full buffer. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the use of strip or no till alternative practice to a buffer on this parcel. Lonergan seconded. Passed unanimously.

B. Goodnough and Solemsaas still need to meet with the landowner who has concerns with the City of Morris RIM adjacent to their property.

VII. New Business

A. The board and staff discussed upcoming vehicle needs. Fynboh moved to sell the Chevy flatbed and the Ford 1-ton dually pickup. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously. Trucks will be advertised to SWCDs first and if not sold, will be put out for bids.

B. Cost Share Contract Approvals


1. Fynboh moved to approve the following Buffer Cost Share payments. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
 - a. \$750 to 2-BUFFER contract (Kovash)
 - b. \$675 to 4-BUFFER (Moeller)
 2. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the following district capacity cost share allocations. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
 - a. \$5775 to 16-DC16 Huebner alternative intakes
 - b. \$1800 (\$1197.64 FY16 & \$602.36 FY17) to contract 17-DC16 for Daly alternative intakes
 - c. \$25649.12 (\$3292.17 FY17, \$4993.95 FY18 & \$17363 FY19) to contract 1-DC19 for W Kill alternative intakes
 3. Loneragan moved to approve amendment of 75-2-16-319 to allow for extended start and completion dates. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- C. The next meeting will be held October 15, one week later than normal.

VIII. Supervisor Reports

- A. Anderson and Fynboh attended the Bois de Sioux bus tour and meeting. It was rainy but good. They gave an outline of concerns.
- B. Loneragan, Solemsaas and Commissioner Ennen attended the BWSR Board Tour organized by the PDTRA.
- C. Chris will send out details for the October 16 Area 2 meeting.
- D. There will be meetings about LCCMR in Minnesota this week at Oyate Hall and Common Cup.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Anderson, Secretary

10-15-19
Date