



Freeborn Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
1400 West Main Street  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
Phone: 507-373-5607 Ext. 3  
FAX: 507-373-7654  
[www.freebornswcd.org](http://www.freebornswcd.org)

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

- I. The meeting was called to order** at 1:30 P.M. by Chairman Don Kropp in our district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN. Chairman Kropp introduced Roger M. Nelson.

Those present were as follows:

Don Kropp, Chairman	Don Flatness, District Manager
Cole Pectorious, Vice Chairman	Brenda Lageson, District Administrative Assistant
Chris Dahl, Board Secretary	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
	Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist

ABSENT:

Dave Ausen, Treasurer

### II. Appointment of Roger M. Nelson:

- Motion by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl to appoint Mr. Roger M. Nelson, effective January 8, 2009 to serve the un-expired and vacant term of Obert Haldorson until December 31, 2010. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.** He was then sworn in by Chairman Kropp. Nelson exited at 1:40 p.m.

Dahl and Ausen were sworn in at the Freeborn County Courthouse by Dennis Distad, Auditor/Treasurer.

### III. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

- Minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup> regular meeting were approved as presented on a motion made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious, and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

### IV. Reorganization of SWCD Board Officers and Committee Appointments for 2009.

- Chairman Kropp began the reorganization process by asking what the board wishes were for officers in 2009. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Pectorious and seconded by Dahl to name board officers as follows: Chairman – Don Kropp; Vice Chairman – Cole Pectorious; Board Secretary – Chris Dahl; Treasurer – Dave Ausen and Supervisor – Roger Nelson. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pectorious and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

Chairman Kropp then made committee appointments for 2009 as follows:

➤ Budget Committee:	Dave Ausen and Cole Pectorious
➤ Legislative Committee:	Dave Ausen and Chris Dahl
➤ Education Committee:	Don Kropp and Roger Nelson
➤ Employee Relations:	Chris Dahl and Cole Pectorious
➤ State Cost-Share Committee:	ALL
➤ Joint Powers Board Rep.:	Dave Ausen
➤ RC&D Rep.:	Dave Ausen and Cole Pectorious
➤ Shell Rock River W.S. Advisory:	Roger Nelson
➤ Cedar River W.S. Advisory:	Roger Nelson
➤ Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Rep.:	Don Kropp

## V. Treasurer's Report:

- **The treasurer's balance as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008**, was \$8,685.50 in checking and \$339,601.55 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - a) Read letter from Freeborn County Administrator, John Kluever re: our 2009 Budget request. We weren't approved for our original request of \$147,500 but we are approved for \$141,000 which was the same as our 2008 appropriation. The letter states that due to severe budget cuts from the state and county that we shouldn't spend any of this appropriation until we actually receive the funds (due in July and December). There may be more county budget adjustments to come depending on what state adjustments are made.  
  
After reading this letter some discussion was held regarding our district budget for 2009. Without knowing what adjustments will be made by the county a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to adopt our 2009 budget as is and make any adjustments later in the year. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - b) Reviewed email from MASWCD re: Supervisor mileage rates. A motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to set the mileage rate to .55 per mile effective January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009, this is the allowable limit set by the IRS. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - c) Discussed Supervisor per diem rates. A motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius affirming that the per diem rate for 2009 remain at \$75.00 per meeting, not to exceed one (1) meeting per day. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - d) Reviewed materials from MASWCD and request for payment of dues for 2009. A motion was made by Pestorius and seconded Dahl by to pay the 2009 dues to MASWCD in the amount of \$2,750.00. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - e) Insurance coverage schedules and limits of liability received from our insurer, Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) were reviewed and discussed. A summary table showing dollar amounts of both were distributed to the supervisors for consideration. The consensus among the board members was that the coverage limits seemed adequate and reasonable. A motion made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to accept the coverages offered and pay the premium in the amount of \$3,081.00. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - f) Designate official bank depository for 2009. A motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to keep Security Bank Minnesota, as our official bank depository for 2009. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - g) Reviewed request from Area 7 SRF-Joint Powers Board membership for 2009. After some discussion a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to pay membership dues of \$500.00 to JPB. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - h) Reviewed request from Area 7 Envirothon Committee for 2009 donation. After some discussion a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to pay \$175.00 to the Area 7 Envirothon. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

## VI. State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information. . .

None at this time.

**VII. New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. The audits for EQIP and WRP have been completed. No farm bills rules yet. Completed EQIP projects have been paid. There are 7 CSP projects left to be completed and paid, no rules yet for the new CSP sign-up. There were 33 site evaluations completed for CRP.
- Reviewed the 2008 Resolution Tally Sheet Summary (as per action taken at the state convention)
- Read notice from Travis Germundson, Water Management Specialist, BWSR re: Public hearing for Watershed boundary changes for Cedar River, Shell Rock and Turtle Creek Watershed Districts.
- Read email from LeAnn Buck, MASWCD re: 2009 Legislative Briefing and SWCD Day at the Capitol. A motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to authorize Ausen and Dahl to attend if their schedules allow. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Staff requested board approval to place an ad in the Freeborn County Shopper for tree sales. After some discussion a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to place an ad with the Shopper to promote tree planning and sales. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Brenda presented the 2009 Soil and Water Stewardship materials order form to the board. The theme this year is "Dig It, The Secrets of Soil", after some discussion a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to purchase stewardship materials (litany, leader guides, etc.) for churches in Freeborn County that would be interested. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Kropp and Flatness reported on the Shell Rock River WD Advisory meeting they attended on Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. They discussed the new fish barrier and a possible fish kill later this fall.
- Kropp reported on the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) meeting he attended Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> in Mankato. They discussed regular business and the upcoming annual meeting.
- Read the Turtle Creek Watershed minutes from the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Discussed employee wages for calendar year 2009. After some discussion on the possible cuts from the county and or state appropriations a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to grant a 2.5% increase instead of the scheduled 5% increase to Flatness, Lageson and Schaetzke on the district's current wage scale (available in the district office), effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**VIII. Adjournment:**

- There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at 1:30 P.M. at our SWCD office at 1400 West Main, Albert Lea.

These are preliminary minutes subject to board approval at the next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Respectfully submitted,

---

**Chris Dahl, Board Secretary**

**Date**