



Freeborn Soil & Water
Conservation District
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS July 9th, 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.

II. Those present were as follows:

Don Kropp, Chairman

Cole Pestorius, Vice Chairman

Dave Ausen, Treasurer

Chris Dahl, Board Secretary

Roger M. Nelson, Supervisor

Don Flatness, District Manager

Mark Schaezke, District Technician

Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist

ABSENT:

Brenda Lageson, District Administrative Assistant

III. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

- **Minutes of the June 11th regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

IV. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of June 30th, 2009**, was \$15,443.44 in checking and \$291,900.38 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Nelson and seconded by Pestorius. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

After reviewing the 2010 preliminary budget as prepared by staff, much discussion was held regarding our upcoming budget presentation to the County Board. A motion was then made by Pestorius and seconded by Ausen to request \$141,000 (the same as it has been for the last three years). Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.** Staff and supervisors will work on the presentation and include reports and visuals with graphs.

V. **State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information. . .**

- District Manager Flatness stated that there are none at this time.

VI. **New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett. Ed reported that the EQIP sign-up has ended with 14 new contracts totaling approximately \$130,000. WRP sign-up ended with 10 new contracts totaling \$3,000,000 in easements and an additional \$600,000 in construction costs. Ed also reported that the Conservation Stewardship Program (formerly Conservation Security Program) sign-up will start sometime in August or September of this year.

- District Manager Flatness presented a list of potential candidates for the “Outstanding Conservationist Award” to be presented during the state convention. Those named on the list included James Benesch, Jr., Paul Heers, Jr., and Keith Kuiters. After reviewing the descriptive paragraphs outlining each individual’s conservation accomplishments, **a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorius to select Paul Heers, Jr. as the award winner.** Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed- none, **the motion carried** Mr. Heers and his wife will be invited to attend our 2009 MASWCD State Convention to be held in Duluth in early December to receive his award.
- Fairbooth was discussed. Several ideas were mentioned as follows; GBERBA Display, Emerald Ash Borer information, Local Conservation Efforts and Educational pictures.
- Don F. reported on the Area 7 Resolutions Meeting he and Kropp attended on July 1st in Rochester. There were six different resolutions presented. After some discussion all six were approved. Jeff Nielsen, BWSR gave presentations on Budget Planning, Accountability and Reporting to Legislators, and funding opportunities as a result of the 3/8^{ths} percent sales tax amendment.
- Don F. reported on the GBERBA technical meeting he attended in Mankato on June 24th. The Water Quality Trading position has been filled, they discussed the 319 grant application, and guidelines for the Clean Water Legacy Grant. Agency and personnel reports were given and meeting adjourned.
- Grazing Management Workshop put on by Hiawatha Valley RC&D and Three Rivers RC&D will feature Forage Management and Monitoring in Freeborn County at the Steve Schmidt Farm on August 13th, 2009.
- Reviewed the Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their June 16th meeting.

VII. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, August 13th, 2009** at 7:30 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