



*Freeborn County 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*

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 11th, 2010

- 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.

Those present were as follows:

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

Absent:

Dave Ausen, Treasurer
Roger M. Nelson, Supervisor

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

- **Minutes of the January 14th 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 and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

III. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of January 31st, 2010**, was \$1,705.44 in checking and \$292,948.71 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.**

IV. **State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information:**

- Chris Hughes, BWSR BC was here and did close-outs on cost share years 2007 and 2008. After reviewing, a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to authorize Chairman Kropp to sign the close-out form and return to BWSR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

V. **New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. Ed reported on the Conservation Security Program (CSP) and on the current sign-up for Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).
- Staff presented the board with copies of the year-end financial reports. After reviewing, a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to authorize staff to forward to Bill Eisele at the BWSR State Office. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- Staff also presented the board with a draft copy of the 2010 annual plan for comments. The paper copy of the annual report for 2009 is still being worked on. These reports need to be sent to the BWSR state office and Chris Hughes by March 15th. The year-end eLink reporting was completed by the Feb. 1st deadline.
- Don F. reported on the SE MN Tech Support – Joint Powers Board Meeting he and Dave Ausen attended on January 27th in Rochester. Officers were elected and committees were selected. Committee reports were then given. Budget and financial status were reviewed and the personnel committee gave their report. They recommended a step increase and 2% cost of living increase.
- Don F. then reported that the Joint Powers Agreement between the counties involved in the SE MN JPB needs to be amended and updated. Our board then reviewed the draft copy. A final draft will be sent out later and districts are encouraged to have their county attorney review it before signing.
- Don F. and Mark reported on the new Rural Preserves Property Tax program. Currently there are several listening sessions being held throughout the state, districts will need to work closely with the county assessor to determine interest and eligibility in this new program.
- Reviewed pending NPDES permit for wastewater treatment at Myre Big Island State Park.
- Don F. reported on the Shell Rock River Watershed Advisory Committee meeting he attended on Feb. 5th. Dissolved oxygen levels in Albert Lea Lake were discussed. Behnke commented that the MN Legislative Session is underway; the watershed's bonding bill proposal for dredging Fountain Lake has already been submitted. The watershed district's annual meeting is scheduled for Mar. 4th.
- Brenda reported that she attended a year-end close out session put on by BWSR in Rochester, and also an Envirothon planning session in Rochester this past month.
- Reviewed the Turtle Creek W.D. informational packet (containing minutes from their last meeting, administrative services notes and their 2010 annual plan).
- Staff is requesting authorization to attend the South East Employee's (SEMACDE) Meeting in Stewartville on March 9th. After some discussion a motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl authorizing employees to attend. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius and Dahl. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

VI. Adjournment:

- There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Pestorius 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, March 11th, 2010** 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