



*Freeborn County Soil & Water
Conservation District (SWCD)
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
July 8th, 2010**

- I. **The meeting was called to order** at 7:30 P.M. by Vice-Chairman Cole Pestorius in our district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN. Vice-Chairman Pestorius welcomed Chris Hughes, BWSR.

Those present were as follows:

Cole Pestorius, Vice Chairman	Don Flatness, District Manager
Chris Dahl, Board Secretary	Brenda Lageson, District Admin. Assist.
Roger M. Nelson, Supervisor	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
	Chris Hughes, BWSR Board Conservationist

Absent:

Don Kropp, Chairman
Dave Ausen, Treasurer
Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist

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

- **Minutes of the June 10th regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Dahl and seconded by Nelson. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorius, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

III. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of June 30th, 2010**, was \$9,888.28 in checking and \$220,322.52 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Nelson and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorius, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- **Reviewed new RIM/WRP Grant Agreement with BWSR.** After some discussion a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Nelson accepting this grant and that Vice-Chairman Pestorius sign and return the form to BWSR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorius, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- **Reviewed new Forest Stewardship Grant Agreement with MN DNR.** After some discussion a motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Dahl accepting this grant and that Vice-Chairman Pestorius sign and return the form to MN DNR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorius, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- **Read letter from Hiawatha Valley RC & D re: 2010 dues.** After some discussion a motion was made by Dahl and seconded by Nelson to pay the 2010 dues. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorius, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- **Discussion was held on our upcoming budget** presentation to the Freeborn County Board. Staff will prepare a draft budget for review at our next meeting.

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

- Read email from Dave Weirens (BWSR) re: changes to RIM & State Cost Share. Rules are being revised and will take effect late next year.
- Two cost share contracts were presented to the board for approval. Both will be very good projects, but unfortunately we don't have enough money to fund both of them at this time. Much discussion was held and a motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Dahl that because Wayne Ulrich is willing to install his waterway project this summer the board will table the decision on the Good Samaritan Society Diversion (D.2) project until our next meeting when our FY2011 funds should be available. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Pestorous, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None.
The motion carried.

A motion was then made by Dahl and seconded by Nelson to approve cost share for Wayne Ulrich, Waterway (D.5) not to exceed \$6,450 or 75% whichever is less.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Estimate</u>	<u>Cost Share Encumbered</u>
FY10-01	Ulrich, Wayne	Waterway D.5 (1,875 ft.)	\$8,600.00	\$6,450.00

V. New Business:

- NRCS Agency, Ed had prepared a printed report in his absence. His report stated that we had one CSP application, no official dates for the General CRP sign-up announced yet, we were allotted more funding for EQIP for "high tunnel" projects, and NRCS will be undergoing a workload analysis between July 26th and August 20th. A County Emergency Board meeting was held in our office for FSA, NRCS, SWCD and RD. A report was sent to St. Paul regarding all our recent storms for federal disaster funding. Then it will be forwarded on to the Secretary of Agriculture for consideration.
- Reviewed the Bear Lake "Leadership Project Template" received from DNR. Goals of the project are as follows:
 - 1.) Improve water quality (2.3 Secchi disc reading or better).
 - 2.) Restore hydrology & water holding capacity of the watershed.
 - 3.) Increase public understanding & support for a healthy watershed.
 - 4.) Eliminate Carp through water level management.
 - 5.) Increase access to the lake & recreational opportunity.
- Reviewed MCIT 2010 Insurance Coverage.
- Discussed ideas for the Fair Booth. Topics included ; General CRP, Emerald Ash Borer Education, and a Suggestion box for individuals to tell us what they need information on regarding programs and assistance we have available.
- Reviewed the MASWCD District Capacity Award score-sheet completed by staff.
- Reviewed Outstanding Farmer Award Candidates. A motion was made, but died for lack of a second. Tabled until next meeting.
- Don F. reported on the Area Resolutions Meeting he and Don K. attended on June 30th in Dodge Center. Mary Kells, BWSR gave an update, John Nicholson gave an NRCS update, and then eight resolutions were reviewed and voted on. Five of them were approved and will be voted on in December at the state convention.
- Don F. reported on the GBERBA Tech Committee Meeting he attended on June 23rd in Mankato. Minutes and Cost Share projects were acted on. Discussion included; Ag BMP grant award, Urban

grant award, enforcement of the 50' wide buffer along public waters, GBERBA Watershed Plan, and various Agency Reports were given.

- Don F. then reported on the COBB River Ditch Informational Landowner Meeting he attended on June 28th at the American Legion in Freeborn. This meeting was held to keep landowners in the watershed informed of what is happening. Dick Hoffman, Freeborn County Environmental Services began the meeting by stating that Freeborn County has been awarded a grant to assess the turbidity and sediment yield coming from the COBB River Ditch Watershed. Dick then introduced Omid Mohseni, of BARR Engineering, they will be developing a hydrologic model to simulate various runoff conditions and sediment yield. The next meeting will be in September after this model is developed. Landowners will then be asked what practices they would be willing to install to reduce the sediment yield. In 2011, a grant application will be made to acquire funds to install practices designed to reduce the sediment yield.
- Chris Hughes, BWSR then informed the board of several things going on. Including; approval on the 2011 non-competitive grants, decrease in grant dollars and BWSR staffing, Water Summit in St. Cloud on July 12, new applications being taken for Clean Water Fund \$'s, the Legislative Auditor will be monitoring grants, BWSR will hold back 10% of grant till projects are complete, simplifying close out policy, and the BWSR Academy in October.
- Reviewed the Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their June 15th meeting.

VI. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, August 12, 2010** 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