



*Freeborn County Soil & Water  
Conservation District (SWCD)  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

- I. **The meeting was called to order** at 8:00 A.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 Admin. Assist.
Dave Ausen, Treasurer	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
Chris Dahl, Board Secretary	Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist
Roger M. Nelson, Supervisor	

**Absent:**

None

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

- **Minutes of the July 8<sup>th</sup> 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.**

III. **Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010**, was \$3,652.44 in checking and \$299,168.07 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Pestorius and seconded by Nelson. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Supervisors reviewed a draft budget as prepared by Chairman Kropp and staff. After some discussion a motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Pestorius to approve this budget to be presented to the Freeborn County Commissioners. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Reviewed letter from MCIT regarding a 2010 dividend.

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

- Reviewed FY2011 BWSR Grant Awards. A motion was made by Pestorius and seconded by Dahl to sign the grant agreement and return to BWSR. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorius, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

Policies regarding the FY2011 BWSR grant were then discussed, resulting in the list below:

- a) Designate 20% of FY2011 Grant for Administration & Technical Costs (\$3,192.00 leaving \$12,768.00 available for projects).
- b) Maximum cost share rate per project 75% of eligible costs, reserving the right to limit percent further on individual components of a project.

- c) Consider any eligible practice in the Cost Share Handbook, except well sealing.
- d) Consider "Piggy Backing" with Federal EQIP Funds on larger projects.
- e) Designate Don Flatness as the SWCD Technical Representative of the district on projects he has Technical Approval Authority for. Otherwise, it will be delegated to the NRCS or SE Tech Support, Design Engineer working on the project.
- f) Pay cost share from invoices or paid receipts received from the applicant.
- g) Appropriation will be expended to address high priority erosion & water quality problems, i.e. gully control.

After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Dahl to adopt the above list of administration policies for FY2011 BWSR grant award. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- District Manager Flatness announced that Mr. Kuiters has completed his cost-share practice and has requested final payment:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Project Cost</u>	<u>Final Payment Amount</u>
FY09-01	Kuiters, Keith	D.5 Waterway (1300 ft.)	\$8,201.47	\$3,258.20

After some discussion, a motion approving final payment of contract#FY09-01 in the amount of \$3,258.20 was made by Nelson and seconded by Ausen. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

- District Technician Schaetzke then presented a cost share application by the Good Samaritan Society for cost share assistance:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Est. Cost</u>	<u>Encumbered</u>
FY10-02	Good Samaritan Soc.	D.2 Diversion (235 ft.)	\$8,712.00	\$6,534.00

After reviewing this request for state cost share assistance a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Dahl approving the project# FY10-02 with the dollar amount mentioned above. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

## V. New Business:

- Reviewed Medical/Dental Insurance renewals for employees. After some discussion a motion was made by Pestorious and seconded by Nelson to renew the current plans (Blue Cross/Blue Shield of MN – High Deductible HSA and Spirit Dental) paying approximately 12% increases and one half of the high deductible for employees. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- NRCS Agency report was given by Ed. A General CRP sign-up has been announced, EQIP projects continue to be completed and there is additional EQIP funds available through the Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI), for a small portion of Moscow and Newry Townships.
- Resumed discussion on the Outstanding Farmer Award Candidates from our last meeting. A motion was made by Nelson to nominate Glen Ruble, but failed for lack of a second. A motion was then made by Dahl and seconded by Pestorious to nominate Bruce Andersland. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Reviewed the MASWCD District Capacity Award score-sheet completed by staff and board signatures were obtained.

- Brenda gave a report on the State Envirothon Committee meeting she attended in St. Cloud on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>. Each area gave a wrap-up report of their local event. Then the meeting turned to brain storming ideas on how to keep the state event going without BWSR being able to coordinate the event due to state budget cuts.
- Don F. reported on the SE Tech Support –JPB meeting that he attended in Rochester on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The budget for FY2011 was approved and updates were given on projects and other items of interest.
- Don F. reported on the GBERBA Policy Board/Tech Committee Meeting he attended on July 9<sup>th</sup> in Mankato. Minutes and Cost Share projects were acted on. Discussions included; The Clean Water Grant for Ag BMPs and Urban projects, and the buffer initiative.
- Don F. also reported on the Shell Rock River WD Advisory meeting and Nelson attended on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items discussed included; Bancroft Bay fish kill, Albert Lea Lake Dam, County Watershed Tech. position, fish stocking of Pickerel Lake, Take a Kid Fishing event, and the target date for dredging Fountain Lake.
- Reviewed the Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- SE Area Association of SWCDs Fall Meeting on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch in Stewartville was discussed. A motion was made by Pestorious and seconded by Dahl authorizing supervisors and staff to attend as their schedules allow. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Brenda received notice by mail that our current credit card company will no longer carry our account. After some discussion a motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Pestorious authorizing Brenda to apply for a new credit card for district use. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Pestorious, Ausen, Dahl and Nelson. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

#### VI. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, September 9, 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,

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Chris Dahl, Board Secretary

Date