



*Freeborn County Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**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	Don Flatness, District Manager
Dave Ausen, Treasurer	Brenda Lageson, District Administrative Assistant
Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor	Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist

**Absent:**

Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair

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

- **Minutes of the February 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**IV. Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011**, was \$6,756.94 in checking and \$318,804.69 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Wittmer. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**Reviewed request from Hiawatha Valley RC&D for 2011 dues.** – Tabled until next regular meeting.

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

- None at this time.

**VI. New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. NRCS is still operating under a continuing resolution. EQIP sign-up is now complete, and we have 19 applications in the ranking process totaling approximately \$120,000. General CRP sign-up starts March 14<sup>th</sup>. There are over thirty (30) contracts up for possible re-enrollment.
- Supervisors reviewed our Annual Report and Annual Plan as prepared by staff. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Wittmer to approve both reports and distribute to BWSR, County Commissioners, Local Watershed Districts and any other interested parties. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.** These reports will also be made available on our District Web Page for public viewing.

- Ausen reported on SWCD Legislative Day at the Capitol that was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Dave had the opportunity to meet with Representatives Poppe, Sparks and Murray to discuss issues and give them a report of our past year accomplishments.
- Don F. reported on a meeting he had regarding the LeSueur River Watershed Turbidity TMDL “Project Work Plan” on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Also attending were Dick Hoffman, Environmental Services and Paul Davis, MN Pollution Control Agency. Paul would like our assistance in making landowner contacts for a study of LeSueur River Major Watershed. A formal proposal will be coming for board consideration.
- Don F. also reported on the GBERBA Tech Committee Meeting he attended on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> in Mankato with Dick Hoffman, Environmental Services. Regular business was conducted and reports were given on; Shoreland Buffer Initiative Work Plan, Buffalo Lake Energy, Cobb River Ditch Report, Cost-Share Projects, Cooperative Weed Management Area, and the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG).
- Don F. then reported on the Shell Rock River WD Advisory Committee he attended on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed included; Stables Area sewer situation, Pollution Prevention Program, SSRWD Annual Meeting, Legislative Update, Pickerel Lake Reclamation, and the Lake Chapeau Reclamation plan status.
- Staff gave a short report on the Employees Meeting they attended at the Miracle Lodge in Stewartville on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Reports were presented by Agency Personnel; regular business was conducted as well as a presentation in the afternoon by MN Extension regarding communication.
- Reviewed well records.
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . . .
  - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Additional items of interest. . . .
  - A Contractor educational meeting was held in Austin on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> and was well attended. Presentations were made by our SWCD and NRCS staff as well as the Mower County staff.
  - We will be holding a Forestry Workshop on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Country Inn and Suites from 3 – 5 p.m. This workshop is sponsored by the State of MN through the MN Forestry Program. Presentations will be made by Emily Hutchins, DNR and our District Staff.

## VII. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011** 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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Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date