



*Freeborn County Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**I. The meeting was called to order** at 7:30 A.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
Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair	Brenda Lageson, District Administrative Assistant
Dave Ausen, Treasurer	Mark Schaetzke, District Technician
Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary	Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor	

**Absent:**

None

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

- **Minutes of the April 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Dahl and seconded by Ausen. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**IV. Treasurer's Report:**

- **The treasurer's balance as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011**, was \$2,802.72 in checking and \$296,728.80 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Dahl. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

**BWSR requires us to have an audit** of our 2010 financial records. Staff sent out several bid letters to area accountants and received three (3) responses back. After reviewing the bids a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Dahl to engage James Maiser, CPA to complete this audit for \$2,000 (which was lowest bid submitted). Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, JR., and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

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

- District Manager Flatness informed the board of supervisors of a state cost share contract violation (practice removal). After some discussion the supervisors would like Flatness to contact Chris Hughes, BWSR Board Conservationist for guidance on how to proceed.

**VI. New Business:**

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. There were a total of thirteen (13) EQIP contracts this sign-up. There were only five (5) General CRP sign-up applications. NRCS has contracted with BWSR to do the WRP monitoring this year of (17) seventeen sites. MN NRCS budget is balanced for now. Our building lease ends September 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. NRCS will be reducing their vehicle fleet nationwide by 1500. RC&D is self sustaining currently, but the NRCS employees have been assigned other tasks.
- Mark gave a report on our District Tree Program. He reported that everything went pretty smooth this year with most of the trees being picked up in a timely manner. Numbers of trees sold were up slightly and stock quality was good.
- Reviewed permit application acceptance for Shell Rock Wind Farm by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
- Kropp and Brenda reported on the SE Area Envirothon that was held Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Chester Woods Park in Eyota. Another group of great kids. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Zumbrota Mazeppa, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Goodhue and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Medford. These three teams will compete at the state event in Duluth on May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Don F. reported on the Shell Rock River WD Advisory Committee he attended on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed included; dredging of Albert Lea Lake, Stables area storm water management, Fountain Lake aerators, treatments for White and Pickerel Lakes, loan program for septic systems, and cost share program for conservation practices.
- Don F. distributed a brochure put together by GBERBA advertising buffer incentives available from Clean Water Funds for Freeborn County landowners located in the LeSueur Watershed.
- Reviewed Correspondence Received. . .
  - Turtle Creek W.D. minutes from their April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - Resolution meeting is June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**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, Dahl, Ausen, Heers, Jr. and Wittmer. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011** at 8:00 A.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