



*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](http://www.freebornswcd.org)*

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

- 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.
- 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 Schaezke, District Technician                |
|                                  | Ed Moffett, NRCS District Conservationist         |
- Absent:**
- Chris Dahl, Vice-Chair  
Colin Wittmer, Supervisor
- III. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**
- **Minutes of the July 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting** were approved as presented on a motion made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:**
- **The treasurer's balance as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011**, was \$1,665.60 in checking and \$309,358.47 in savings. A motion approving the treasurer's report as read and payment of bills was made by Heers, Jr. and seconded by Ausen. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen, and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - **Reviewed Employee Health Insurance.** After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to keep the current health plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield of MN-High Deductible HSA) paying approximately 11% increase. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.** A second motion was then made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to pay one half of the high deductible for employees. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - **Read letter from John Kluever, County Administrator** re: Budget Workshop, our scheduled time is 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - **FY2012 Budget Proposal.** After reviewing a budget prepared by staff a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. to approve budget as prepared to be presented to the County Commissioners. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
  - **Read letter from MCIT regarding dividend.**
- V. **State Cost Share Program Actions and/or Information:**

- **Staff has sent a letter to Jack Gable** requesting repayment of state cost share dollars for his Water & Sediment Control Basin project that was destroyed when the Bent Tree Wind Farm started construction on his land last summer. Mr. Gable corresponded that he will be meeting with the Bent Tree Wind Farm representatives this month.

**Staff presented a cost share application** from Luverne Lyle for a Side Inlet Pipe installation. After some discussion and wanting more information a motion was made to table until next regular meeting by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**

## VI. New Business:

- NRCS Agency report given by Ed Moffett, District Conservationist. Ed reported that a Local Work Group for EQIP was held on July 26<sup>th</sup> a 1:00 P.M. The EQIP sign-up is scheduled for Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. No new status on the WRP monitoring agreement with districts. Budget talks still going on. Staff has been working on CRP and EQIP.
- Reviewed letter from the City of Alden regarding their Wellhead Protection Plan.
- Don F. and Ausen reported on the SE SWCD Tech Support-Joint Powers Board meeting they attended on Wednesday, July 27 in Rochester. Reviewed and approved the FY2012 budget to be sent to BWSR. Mary Kells, BWSR spoke briefly on the state budget outlook. Our Conservation Delivery Grant to be reduced by about 2.2% and Cost Share may be reduced by 31.4%.
- SWCD Governance 101 is Sept. 12 and 13<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria. After some discussion a motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. authorizing Wittmer to attend if his schedule would allow and to reimburse eligible expenses. Results of a roll call vote were as follows: Affirmative- Kropp, Ausen and Heers, Jr. Opposed -- None. **The motion carried.**
- Read letter from MCIT regarding a definition change for the Auto Liability Section.
- Kropp then read a letter from Don Flatness announcing his retirement.
- The board then closed the meeting to discuss personnel matters. In order to involve more board members a work shop will be held later this month.

## VII. Adjournment:

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

The next regular meeting will be held **Thursday, September 8<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,

---

Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date