



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, John Gunvalson and Marty Cobenais

SWCD Staff: Kathy Rasch, Nathan Nordlund and Lori Buell

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests: John Nelson, County Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chair Strandlien in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Chair Strandlien called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Nordlund requested the addition of an action on a 2013 CWF project. A motion to accept the Agenda with these amendments was made by Gunvalson. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular January meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the January minutes as written was made by Cobenais Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

NRCS

Resource Technician Report

Roepke reported that NRCS will be accepting CSP applications until the 27th. Roepke also noted that old applications have a chance to re-enroll with the deadline being the end of March.

Tree Program: Rasch noted that tree sales are coming in, but are down a bit from last year, she will decide by the end of the month if she needs to cancel any of the tree order.

AIS Summit: Rasch noted that she and Nordlund attended the AIS summit in January.

Program Technician Report

2013 Clean Water Fund Grant-Buffers: Nordlund reported that he has been working with Stormos to put together an 11.9 acre Riparian buffer on Ruffy Brook. The project includes the establishment of roughly 4,840 of 5 wire tensile electric fence, cattle crossing, pump and watering facility, tree/shrub establishment and weed control. Nordlund noted that 90% cost share assistance is being provided for this

project. The project includes \$500/per acre incentive and \$1,000.00 incentive for Stormos to establish a bridge crossing. Nordlund noted that the total project expense is estimated at \$32,200. Nordlund reported USFWS is willing to provide \$32,200 and RLWD \$4100.00. Strandlien made a motion to approve \$14,625.00 for the Stormo project from the 2013 CWF. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 3-0**

Truck Repair: Nordlund noted that he would be getting the truck headlights repaired. Board suggested comparing prices of local shops.

Trainings/Meetings

AIS: Nordlund will be attending the 2015 Aquatic Invasive Summit in St. Cloud Jan 20-21.

City of Bagley wellhead protection: Nordlund noted that he would be attending a wellhead protection meeting that afternoon. The meeting would address potential contamination sources within Drinking Water Supply Management Areas, including unsealed/unused wells and storage tanks.

Pine Lake Flood Reduction: Nordlund noted that the project's goal is to increase storage capacity of Pine Lake to reduce flood impact within the Red River Valley and to provide a more consistent water level for Pine Lake. Additional storage sites are also being considered further upstream of Pine Lake as well.

District Manager Report

Financial Reports: The financial statements showing revenue and expenditures for the month of February were presented to the Board for review.

Profit & Loss: Rasch that the year started off strong with income coming in from plat book sales, a large tree planting project and 1st quarter County Support. Rasch also noted that a payment was received from the RLWD for the Pine Lake project. Expenses included operating expenses incurred for the newsletter, MASWCD dues and the CWF 12 Pine Lake project expenses. Rasch noted the flex health benefit was being tracked to wage rather than the employee benefit line is working on the problem.

Monthly Treasurer's Report:

Rasch noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of January payments were made to AIS summit for registration, Schulz, Nelson and Solsten for CWF12 Cost Share reimbursement, Thompson Sand and Gravel for Pine Lake work, a plat book ad in Farmers publishing, MASWCD and MASWCD Area VIII for dues, Overmoe and Nelson for W-2 service and Farmers Publishing for the newsletter.

Balance Sheet: Rasch reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$2,889.21 at the end of January all have since been paid except two plat book invoices to Rock Creek General Store and Knutson Store totaling \$360.00. Rasch reported that the undeposited funds line is incorrect and the error is reflected in the Total Asset line. This issue is a glitch with QuickBooks which they are working on.

A motion to accept the January financial reports was made by Cobenais. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

2014 Financial Report: Rasch noted that Buell was working on the report.

2015 CWF AIG Grant: Rasch reported that the SWCD was awarded the grant with complete funding of \$89,845.00. The grant includes \$45,000 to purchase a no till drill, \$29,000 for incentives, \$6,500 for project development and education, \$4,000 for program implementation and \$4,800 for grant administration.

AIS Prevention Aid: Rasch noted that she met with the county to discuss the AIS aid. Rasch reported that the County will maintain the funds and we will develop the plan and coordinate the activities. Invoices will be submitted to the county for payment. Primary components of the plan include public education and county personal training, risk assessment and early detection activities, working with the Lake Association as much as possible and a small inspection and enforcement component. Rasch also noted she attended a meeting with Commissioner Newland at Itasca State Park to discuss the park's AIS plan.

E-Link: Rasch reported that all of the E-link reporting was complete.

Giziibii RC & D: A motion was made by Strandlien that the Clearwater SWCD decline membership from Giziibii RC & D. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 4-0.** With a proxy by Rydeen.

Spring Garden Conference Booth: Rasch reported that the district will have a booth at the Clearwater Spring Garden Wake Up Conference she will also be presenting a seminar on native plant species.

MASWCD Area 8 Spring Meeting: Rasch reported that the spring meeting would take place on March 6th in Bemidji and the cost would be 12 per person. A motion was made by Strandlien that the district pay to register any staff or supervisors who wish to attend. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 3-0.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50.m. was made by Gunvalson. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Marty Cobenias, District Secretary

Date