



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING JUNE 25th, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Alroy Lewis, John Gunvalson and Marty Cobenais

SWCD Staff: Kathy Rasch, Nathan Nordlund and Lori Buell

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chair Strandlien in the Clearbrook City Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Chair Strandlien called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Nordlund requested the additions of one action item, a final payment approval, be added to the agenda. A motion to accept the Agenda with the amendment was made by Lewis. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular May meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the May minutes as written was made by Lewis Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 4-0.**

NRCS

Roepke reported that CSP is currently her biggest workload with 6 approved applications and field visits. Roepke noted that EQUIP has also been keeping the NRCS office busy.

OTHER:

Water Plan Task Force: Roepke attended the Water Plan Task Force Meeting headed up by Nordlund on June 2nd.

WRP: Roepke noted that the Hopperstad's submitted a compatible use agreement to Enbridge for the proposed pipeline installation.

RESOURCE TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Plan Project: Rasch reported that the first round of lake testing has been completed.

2012 CWF Grant: Rasch reported that Aakre has had difficulty getting bids for his shoreline restoration project. Kathy noted that she was able to provide Aakre with some contractor contact information and he sent out for some additional bids. Rasch feels that Aakre may need to amend his contract to extend the completion date of his shoreline project. Lewis made a motion to extend the Shoreline restoration project date to November 10th. Strandlien second. **Motion carried 4-0.**

2013 CWF Judicial Ditch 72 Grant: Rasch submitted a Memorandum of agreement between the Red Lake Watershed District and Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District for board review and approval. Rasch noted that the Memorandum is a 10 year agreement outlining the obligations of the establishment and upkeep of the JD 72 project according to the Clean Water Fund 13 work plan granted to the SWCD. Lewis made a motion to accept the Memorandum as submitted by Rasch. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Tree Program: Rasch reported that the last tree planting project was completed and the few remaining trees left in storage were given to Dave Evenwoll in exchange for use of his machinery.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Plan Activities

Amendment of Water Plan: Nordlund reported good attendance at the June 2nd Water Plan Task Force Meeting. Nordlund noted that his next steps are to revise the work plan and executive summary and to incorporate new items into the appendix.

Water Monitoring: Nordlund has been collecting stream samples for 2014 SWAG, RLWD and District Lake Monitoring. Nordlund noted that he needs to collect samples twice a month and will be finished sampling in August.

2015 Clean Water Fund Grant-No Till: Nordlund noted that they have been working on setting up demonstration sites with producers around the county. Nordlund has been working on prepping the drill and purchasing any needed supplies.

2013 CWF Grant: Stormo's Riparian Forest Buffer: Nordlund reported that Stormo's have completed their tree planting and fencing, minus an area which will be completed after the crossing is constructed. Nordlund noted that the total project cost to date is \$16,207.41. Cobenais made a motion to pay the cost share approved partial payment of \$14,586.67 which is 90% of the expense to date. The RLWD funds will cover \$4,100 leaving \$10,486.67 from the 2013 CWF grant. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

2013 CWF Grant: Nordlund reported that Kleppe's have completed their riparian forest buffer on Stoney Lake, the project estimate was \$3389.00 which included tree planting, fencing, and labor cost. The project came in above cost at \$3473.17 the project also included \$608.00 from Equip, \$500.00 from Fish and Wildlife and a one-time incentive payment of \$1,750.00. Cobenais made a motion to pay Kleppe's 90% Cost Share of the project cost estimate plus incentive payment totaling \$3,692.00 from CWF. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Cost Share

Gahlons-Unused well sealing: Norlund noted that during the May monthly board meeting the board made a motion to pay for Gahlon to have an unused well on their property sealed. Nordlund noticed that, according to an invoice submitted later by Gahlon the well sealing actually took place prior to the May meeting and was completed in April. Rasch suggested seeking other funding sources possibly RLWD. Lewis made a motion to deny cost share funding for the well sealing project due to the fact that the project was completed before board approval and is against Cost Share procedure. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried. 4-0**

CWF Grant-JD 72 Buffers and Stabilization Project: Nordlund noted that they have been waiting for some family members to sign the easement agreement and construction is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 29th.

Trees: Nordlund reported that all tree planting is complete and he has cleaned up and stored two of the planters.

Trainings/Meetings:

Professional Judgement Group meeting: Nordlund reported that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss impairments found within the Mississippi Headwaters Watershed. The group discussed that Moose Lake, on the Clearwater County boarder, was the only body of water not meeting standards in Clearwater County, The group discussed whether a TMDL should be completed for each body of water or weather natural background was the cause. Nordlund noted that further investigation will be done to determine how Moose Lake will be addressed.

Upcoming

Pine Lake Meeting and Tour

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Rasch noted that we are currently 41.6% into 2015 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Rasch reported plat book sales are up \$780.00 from the previous month, trees sales are above budget, we received a reimbursement for AIS expenses, the WCA payment from the county and claimed \$1462 of the 2013 CWF grant from Deferred Revenue. Rasch gave a Cost of Goods Sold breakdown \$14,727.47 for tree expenses, \$2,100 for Plat books and \$110.82 for Plantskydd. Rasch noted that Expenses items on the budget included bills paid to Farmers Publishing for the fair calendar ads, a high telephone bill due to numerous calls regarding the no-till drill information and AIS supplies for the County AIS plan. Rasch noted that all tree expense items are in and we paid \$540 for custom planting tractor use.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Rasch noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of May payments were made for AIS expenses to Family Dollar and Greimans. Envirothon expenses included Ruth Trask, Treasure Bay Printing and Daroos. Payments were made to Khimaira for website hosting, R. Moen for custom work and Lake SWCD for Buell to attend the Admin training in Duluth.

Deposit Detail: Rasch noted that in the month of May deposits included plat books sales, tree sales, one Envirothon donation and plat book invoice payments made by Rock Creek and Farmers Publishing.

Balance Sheet: Rasch reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$8671.69 at the end of May this includes an invoice to the County for WCA and AIS supplies that have since been paid. Rasch noted that the plat book invoices to Rock Creek General Store, Clearwater County North Country Hardware and Knutson Store totaling \$768.00 are under 30 days. There are two tree orders totaling \$2475.21 both have since been paid.

A motion to accept the May financial reports was made by Cobenais. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Other:

State Auditor Special District Financial Report: Rasch reported that Buell completed the Special District Financial Report and submitted it to the State Auditor's Office.

2015 SWCD CWF AIG (accelerated implementation grant): Rasch reported that the No-Till drill arrived. Rasch noted that the SWCD has been working with a couple landowners to trial the drill on different sites/seeding to establish demo sites for upcoming workshops and tours. The rental agreement will be used for landowners who rent the planter. Rash noted that they are planning to have the drill at the Clearwater County fair to promote the program.

MASWCD Summer Area 8 Meeting: Rasch disbursed handouts to the Board with information on legislative outcomes discussed at Summer Area 8 meeting held in Bemidji on June 5th.

Upcoming Workshops: Rasch distributed registration information for two upcoming free trainings open to any supervisors interested in attending.

- Groundwater Information Session for Local Officials,
- SWCD Governance 101.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Marty Cobenias, District Secretary

Date