



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 20th, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Alroy Lewis, Paul Rydeen, 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 8:12 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 addition of one action item, payment to Roland for JD 72. Rasch requested the addition of an action item regarding a maturing CD and noted that JD 72 discussion will be moved to the District Manager's Report. Cobenais requested the addition of discussion and action regarding Enbridge pipeline's Line 3 replacement. A motion to accept the agenda with these amendment was made by Rydeen. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular July meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the July minutes as written was made by Rydeen Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

NRCS

Roepke reported that she has three landowners that are currently interested in renewing their 5 year Stewardship contracts and that the NRCS staff have also been busy conducting field checks.

Local Work Group Meeting: Roepke hosted an Equip Local Work Group meeting on August 18th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.in the USDA conference room. Roepke noted that the meeting focused on resource concerns.

OTHER:

Roepke is scheduled to be at the State office the following week and plans on returning to the NRCS office on Thurs the 27th.

RESOURCE TECHNICIAN REPORT

2015 CWF Grant No-Till Drill: Rasch felt that the No-Till-Drill was well received at the fair and sparked a lot of interest from on-lookers. Rasch reported that the drill was currently being rented out by a land owner.

CWF16: Rasch noted that the City of Bagley has expressed interested in conducting an evaluation of their current water treatment ponds to ensure they meet the current storm water run-off needs of Bagley. The city has also expressed interest in developing a management policy for future development. Rasch suggested trying for an Accelerated Implementation grant. Rasch noted that she would most likely use Gonvick's current storm water treatment method as a model.

Other:

Clearwater County Fair: The SWCD staff set up a booth again this year at the Clearwater County Fair Aug5-9th. Rasch noted that the focus of the booth was on AIS but supplied additional supporting material for the No-Till-Drill.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Plan Activities

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 should be finished sampling in September.

2015 Clean Water Fund Grant-No Till: Nordlund noted that he has been busy coordinating the use of the drill with area producers and he formatted the brochures that were handed out at the fair.

2013 CWF Grant: Stormo's Riparian Forest Buffer: Nordlund reported that the weed the spraying and the crossing have been completed and inspected. Nordlund noted that the next major part of the project will be to establish a watering facility.

CWF Grant-JD 72 Buffers and Stabilization Project Roulands: Nordlund reported, during construction of the buffer, contractors removed some trees off Rouland's property. Nathan noted that the Roulands were under the impression that the trees would not be in the way of construction. Nordlund worked with MN DOT, Dan Sauve-County Engineer, RLWD and Rouland to come up with an agreement for the damages that occurred. Lewis made a motion to pay \$5,000.00 to Rouland to replace the trees that were removed during construction. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

AIS: Nordlund met with the Long Lake Association to inform them about risks associated with AIS and the efforts being made in Clearwater County to prevent the introduction of AIS. Nordlund noted that RMB Laboratories completed vegetation surveys on Long, Long Lost, Pine Clearwater, Big LaSalle and Pine and is happy to report no invasive species were discovered.

Cost Share

Gahlons-Unused well sealing: Nordlund reported that RLWD has denied the request to fund Gahlon's unused well sealing. Nordlund noted that he does not plan on searching for other funding sources at this time.

Trainings/Meetings

Pine Lake Meeting/Tour: Nordlund noted that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential impoundment sites for flood storage upstream of Pine Lake and discuss what some of the potential road blocks may be for the higher priority sites. Nordlund is under the impression that a large percentage of the landowners are opposed the project.

District Ops

County Fair: Nordlund noted that he thought the fair went well, the staff took turns manning the booth to address questions and hand out informational material.

Truck Repair: Nordlund informed the Board that during the transport of a pressure washer the back window of the company truck was damaged and had to be replaced. Nordlund noted that Jag auto body in Bagley was able to replace the window the next day and MCIT insurance covered the cost minus the \$100.00 deductible.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Rasch Reported that we are currently 58.3% into 2015 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Rasch noted that we received a payment for AIS expenses, 3rd quarter County support, the first half of the Water Plan, SWAG expense reimbursement and PERA Aid. Expense items on the budget include SWAG water monitoring expenses.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Rasch noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of July payments were made to RMB Labs for lake testing and the hardware store for tools and supplies.

Deposit Detail: Rasch noted that in the month of July deposits included Clearwater County 3rd Quarter support, Water Plan, and AIS supply reimbursements, MCIT refund, PERA Aid, RLWD Stormo project payment and plat books sales.

Balance Sheet: Rasch reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$6048.65 at the end of July this includes an invoice to the County of \$967.37 for AIS supplies, an invoice to MPCA for \$2,815.68, to Hubbard SWCD for the Crow Wing WRAPS, 2 No-Till-Drill invoices for \$343.30 and \$828.80 and plat book invoices to Rock Creek General Store, Clearwater County and the DNR for plat books and Hubbard SWCD.

A motion to accept the July financial reports was made by Rydeen. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Other:

2013 CWF Grant: Rasch reported that the JD 72 project is nearly done. Rasch noted that construction was nearly complete when a heavy rain hit and caused some erosion to the project. The damage was fixed but added an additional cost to the project. Rasch noted that the Engineer has not given final approval on the project and feels there are a few items that need to be addressed. Rasch suggested paying a partial payment to the contractors and pay the remainder after the project has been completed and approved by the engineer. Lewis made a motion to pay 90% of the original project cost estimate, the sum of \$60,000.48 with the remainder to be paid after the project is completed and approved. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 5-0**

2016/17 SWCD Program and Operations Grant Agreement: Rasch reported that the SWCD received the grant agreement from BWSR for Conservation Delivery, \$18,750.00, State Cost Share, \$7,506.00 and Easement Delivery, \$148.00. Cobenais made a motion to accept the agreement as submitted by BWSR. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

First National CD Investment: Rasch noted that a CD for the amount of \$12532.85 is up for renewal at First National Bank-Bagley, Rasch presented the board with interest rates from local banks. Although the rate was not the highest it was determined that it would be easier to leave all accounts at one bank but Buell was going to check with the bank to see if they had any special offers. Rydeen made a motion to let the CD remain at First National all roll into another Two year CD. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Linfors Insurance: Buell presented the board with an Inland Marine insurance quote from Linfors for additional coverage on the No-Till-Drill. Rydeen made a motion to purchase the additional insurance for 1 year for the amount of \$566.00. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

SWCD Governance Training 101: Rasch requested permission for her and Buell to attend a two day SWCD Governance training in St. Cloud in September. Lewis made a motion for SWCD to cover the registration and lodging costs for Rasch and Buell to attend the SWCD Governance Conference in St. Cloud on September 16th and 17th. Rydeen Second. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

September Board Meeting: Rasch noted that the SWCD Governance training falls on the same day as the regularly scheduled Board meeting, September 17th. Rydeen made a motion to move the board meeting day to Tuesday September 15th at the- Bagley, USDA Service Center. Cobenais Second. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Lewis made a motion to change the time of the September and October meeting to 8:00 a.m. Rydeen Second. **Motion Carried 4-0. Strandlien Opposed.**

Area 8 Meeting: On September 24th and 25th Hubbard County will be hosting the Fall Tour and Area 8 Meeting. Rasch noted that this two day event will be held in Park Rapids at the Northern Pines Camp and rooms are available to attendees planning on spending the night. Lewis made a motion to approve

registration and lodging fees for any staff or Board member that would like to attend. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Enbridge: Cobenais opened up the discussion by expressing his concerns about Enbridge's Line 3 Replacement project. Cobenais feels it would be safer and more ecologically friendly to replace the existing line instead of running an additional line on a new route which is what Enbridge is proposing to do. Cobenais suggests, as a board, going on record opposing the proposed route and showing the SWCD in favor of Enbridge digging up and replacing the pipe on the existing route. After discussion, the board felt they needed more information to make a motion and decided to re-address the topic at the September meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Marty Cobenias, District Secretary

Date