



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 17th, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Marty Cobenais, Alroy Lewis and John Gunvalson

SWCD Staff: Nathan Nordlund, Lori Buell and Nickolaus Phillips

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests: John Nelson-County Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice Chair Cobenais in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Vice Chair Cobenais called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Nordlund requested the addition of action item, No-Till-Drill Storage be added under Program Technician Report and NRCS Report be added under NRCS. A motion to accept the agenda with the additions as requested by Nordlund was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien.

Motion carried 3-0.

Minutes: Minutes of the regular October meeting were reviewed. Strandlien made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Gunvalson arrived 10:06

NRCS

CSP: Roepke reported that the 2017 CSP is open until February 3rd.

EQIP: Roepke noted that she currently has 8 applications and has until the end of December to get planning and eligibility finalized.

Other:

Roepke reported that Brooke will be back from maternity leave on Monday.

Workforce Plan Meeting: Roepke reported that NRCS is planning on restructuring. Roepke noted that NRCS will most likely be transitioning down to only four area offices. Roepke is not exactly sure what the restructure will like but is assuming she may end up having dual offices one in Bemidji and one in Bagley.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN

AIS: Phillips reported that all of the AIS inventory is at the Clearwater County Courthouse to be stored until spring. Phillips received data from the DNR and other counties and noted that he will generate a report within the next two weeks.

Buffer Law Update: Phillips reported that he worked on transferring compliance information to the BUFFCAT tool.

Larson Cost Share Project: Phillips requested that the Larson Cost Share Project deadline be extended due to the need to move the location of the newly establish fence to meet setback requirements. Phillips noted that the rest of the project is complete. Lewis made a motion to extend the project deadline to December 15th. Second by Stradlien. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Conservation Farm: Phillips noted that he posted additional “no hunting without written permission” signage up at the conservation farm at the required 500ft intervals along roadway property boundaries and select trail-accessible areas.

No-Till-Drill Storage: Phillips reported that the No-Till Drill storage facility will run approximately \$185.00 for the season. Lewis made a motion to approve paying up to \$200.00 for a storage facility for the No-Till-Drill for the season. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Truck Purchase: Phillips reported that the County Board has approved the purchase of a truck by the SWCD on state contract. Phillips noted that the dealer had been notified and the truck has been set up to order.

Other

Trainings:

Phillips attended BWSR Academy October 24th through October 26th.

Phillips plans to attend MASWCD on Dec 5th and 6th in Bloomington and the NDSU Extension No-Till/Soil Health training in Fargo on December 13th and 14th.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Nordlund reported that we are currently 83.33% into 2016 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Nordlund noted that in October there was income increase of \$356.00 from Plat Books Sales and an AIS payment from Clearwater County in the amount of \$963.50. Nordlund noted that outside of regular expenses additional expenses included a payment of \$287.00 for BWSR Academy, a payment to Wraa in the amount of \$3000.00 and a payment of \$250.00 to Dept. of Ag for the 2017 Stock Dealer Certificate.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Nordlund noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of October additional expenses were; a Cost Share payments to Wraa in the amount of \$3,000.00 and a payment to MN Dept. of Ag for the nursery Stock Dealer Certificate in the amount of \$250.00.

Deposit Detail: Nordlund noted that in the month of October there were deposits from Plat Book Sales, a payment from Forsberg for No-Till-Drill rental and a County Appropriations deposit in the amount of \$17,340.00.

Balance Sheet: Nordlund reported that the Accounts Receivable balance is \$5,561.00. Nordlund noted that \$3,000.00 of that has since been paid by RLWD and \$2,433.50 has been paid by Clearwater County for AIS expenses.

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

DISTRICT OPERATION

Tom Anderson Project Extension: Nordlund reported that Anderson has installed the well and fencing but is waiting for the power company to run an electrical line into the well location. Lewis made a motion to extend the deadline of the Anderson project to January 19th 2017. Strandlien Second. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

2016 Conservation Tillage Workshop: Nordlund reported the 2016 Conservation Tillage workshop will be held on December 13th and 14th in Fargo and early registration deadline in November 30th. Nordlund noted that cost of registration is \$125/person. Lewis made a motion for the SWCD to cover the cost of the workshop for any staff and Board member interested in attending. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

2017 Plat Book Donation: Nordlund reported Mapping Solutions, the producer of the SWCD Plat Book accidentally shipped 50 of the 2015 Plat Books instead of the 2017 books. Nordlund noted that Mapping Solutions did not want the books back and suggested recycling them. Nordlund recommended donating more to the area schools. The Board agreed with Nordlund and suggested donating the Plat Books to the schools and if there were any remaining to look at giving some to the county or to Townships. No motion was made.

Overmoe and Nelson: Nordlund presented the board with the 2017 Cafeteria Plan provided by Overmoe and Nelson. Nordlund noted that, in addition to the Cafeteria Plan, they would like to contract with Overmoe and Nelson to do the 2016 W-2's and 1099's. Lewis made a motion to continue services as outlined by the Cafeteria Plan in the amount of \$500.00 and to contract with Overmoe and Nelson to do the district's 2016 W-2's and 1099's at the rate of \$10.00 each. Second by Strandlien. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Truck Purchase Funding. Nordlund noted that the truck purchase price total is \$ 28,825.00 plus tax. Nordlund reported that there is \$4,825.00 currently in the district vehicle replacement fund, \$20,000.00 designated in 2016 Increased Capacity Budget and \$6,500.00 budgeted into 2017 Increased Capacity Funding, which are not available until 2017. Strandlien made a motion to use \$4,825.00 out of district cash and the remaining \$23,378.00 plus tax out of 2016 Increased Capacity Funds. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Grazing Management Workshop: Nordlund reported that the No-Till-Drill workshop is scheduled for December 8th. Nordlund noted that the primary speaker will be Kent Solberg and his topic will be ways to increase the return on investment through grazing management. Nordlund is also looking to bring in some local perspectives on the use of the drill and aerator.

2017 No-Till Program: Nordlund reported that he is still working on getting quotes from dealers for the rental/lease of a tractor.

Increased Local Capacity Matching funds: Nordlund has been working with Bruce Cox from the Clearwater County Land Department on a project to address erosion on lake accesses. Nordlund noted that whatever funds the county

allocated to this project can be matched by BWSR dollar for dollar up to \$22,750.00 as part of the Increased Capacity Funding. Nordlund reported that he and Bruce will be working out the final details of the project in the upcoming week and will bring it to the county board for approval at their November 29th meeting. Lewis made a motion to approve Nordlund to pursue a partnership with the County to manage \$22,750 from the County and \$22,750 Increased Capacity Matching Funds from BWSR for the County Lake Access Enhancement Project. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Tree Orders: Nordlund reported that 2017 trees have been ordered with the exception of Red Pine which is supposed to come from Badoura State Nursery but the seedlings were diseased this year. Nordlund noted that they are currently looking for an alternate source to fulfill those orders.

2016 MASWCD Annual Convention and Trade Show: Nordlund reported that Nick will be attending the Trade show and will be staying with family. Nordlund noted that the blocked rooms are all reserved so if anyone is interested in attending the cost of the room will be \$124.00.

MN Buffer Law Funds: Nordlund reported that he submitted the 2017 Buffer Law Fund request. Nordlund noted that the 2017 allocations will be \$20,000.00

OTHER:

Forestry Meeting: Nordlund reported that he has a meeting with representatives from Hubbard County, Itasca County, BWSR and DNR Forestry to consider the possibility of a joint forestry position.

County Board Meeting: Nordlund will be attending the November 29th County Board meeting to discuss the Increase Capacity Funding and County/BWSR match.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. was made by Strandlien. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 4-0.**

John Gunvalson, District Secretary

Date

The test we must set for ourselves is not to march alone but to march in such a way that others will wish to join us.

- Hubert Humphrey

Our mission is simple - to promote the wise use and improvement of our county resources, in order that future generations will inherit an economically viable county that has made wise choices in resource management.