



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Avenue North, Suite 3, Bagley MN 56621 • (218)694-6845 • www.clearwaterswcd.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 18th, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen and Alroy Lewis

SWCD Staff: Nathan Nordlund, Lori Buell and Nickalous Phillips

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Chair Rydeen in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Chair Rydeen called for additions or corrections to the agenda. A motion to accept the agenda as submitted was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the January 7th Special meeting were reviewed. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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

Minutes: Minutes of the January 22nd special meeting were reviewed. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

NRCS

Roepke reported that she has until February 26th to finish ranking the 17 eligible EQIP applications. Roepke noted that the CSP application deadline is March 31st.

Roepke reported that NRCS will be re-opening the Ultima employee position.

Roepke will be attending a DC meeting in Erskine on February, 29th.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Nordlund noted that there would not be a separate Program Technician report, everything would be presented under District Manager's report.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Nordlund Reported that we are currently 8.33% into 2016 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Nordlund noted that in January we received income from County Appropriations, WCA and the final CWF12 payment. Along with regular monthly expenses, additional expenses included a payment to Overmoe and Nelson for W-2's and 1099's, MASWCD dues and a MCIT payment.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Nordlund noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of January payments were made from MPCA for SWAG and a payment for the Area 8 dues.

Deposit Detail: Nordlund noted that in the month of January deposits included plat book income, a payment from RLWD for SWAG and a payment for 2012 CWF retainer.

Balance Sheet: Nordlund reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$4194.64. Nordlund noted that all of these have since been paid with the exception of one bill totaling \$348.45.

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

DISTRICT OPERATION

2015 No-Till Drill Grant: The board discussed different incentive options to offer producers for renting the drill. The board suggested Nordlund create a plan outline and present it at the March meeting.

2016 Committee Assignments: A list of committee assignments were presented to the board.

Strandlien made a motion to remove RC&D from the committee list. Second by Rydeen. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Strandlien made a motion to combine Forestry with Wetland and Wildlife. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Strandlien made a motion to accept the committee assignments with the changes as followed.

- Budget Paul Rydeen and Harlan Strandlien
- Education/Public Relations Alroy Lewis and Paul Rydeen
- Employees John Gunvalson and Paul Rydeen
- Wetlands /Wildlife/Forestry Alroy Lewis, Marty Cobenais and Harlan Strandlien
- Legislation/Government Liaison Marty Cobenais and John Gunvalson
- Water Plan/Watershed John Gunvalson and Marty Cobenais
- NC Joint Powers Board Alroy Lewis, Primary Rep. and Harlan Strandlien, Alt.

Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Aerator: The board discussed the possibility of purchasing an Aerator. Nordlund noted that there was around \$10,000 left in equipment funds that could be allocated for this purchase. Lewis made a motion for the Education/Public relations committee to meet prior to the March 17th regular board meeting to research and discuss the purchase of an aerator. Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

2016 SWCD Local Capacity- Nordlund reported that he met with Chad Severts to discuss the use of the Increased Capacity Funding. Nordlund noted that the grant money cannot be utilized until a work plan has been established.

Nordlund presented the board with a proposal and noted that the budget needs to be finalized. Lewis made a motion to accept the budget proposal as submitted by Nordlund. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Computer: Nordlund reported that he did purchased the new computer with the additional 4 year warranty, he is expecting the total cost to be \$ 1388.02. Nordlund noted that the computer is in Bemidji where IT staff is currently installing all the necessary programming

MASWCD Area 8 Meeting: Nordlund noted that the MASWCD Area 8 meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 4th at 9:00a.m. In Bemidji. Lewis made a motion for SWCD to cover registration cost for any board and staff member interested in attending the Area 8 meeting. Second Strandlien. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Water Plan Amendment: Nordlund reported that he has been working with Mitch Brinks who has been hired by the area JPB to assist in mapping efforts for the county water plans. Nordlund met with Chad Severts and Mitch Brinks to discuss options for the Water Plan. Nordlund plans on scheduling a Water Plan meeting within the next 2-3 weeks.

Farm Bureau Meeting: Nordlund met with the Farm Bureau committee Monday night to update them on Buffer Law. Nordlund noted that the Bureau expressed interested in forming an education/outreach type of partnership with SWCD, possibly along the lines of putting on an educational festival for children this fall or next year.

County Board AIS Report Nordlund met with the county board to update them on tasks that were completed in 2015 and discuss options for 2016 funding.

Office Reorganization Staff has been busy reorganizing the office to create a more functional workspace for the current employees and create a space for the new NRCS Ultima employee. Nordlund noted that he will be picking up a desk from the Ada office this afternoon

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 a.m. was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

John Gunvalson, District Secretary

Date

“It is every man’s obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it.

Albert Einstein

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.