



# Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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## *BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING JULY 21th, 2016*

### *MEETING MINUTES*

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#### **Board Members Present:**

Paul Rydeen, Harlan Strandlien 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 8:43 a.m. by Chair Rydeen in the Clearbrook City Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda:** Chair Rydeen called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Nordlund requested the addition of action items, Area 8 meeting and Tour be added to the agenda under Other Business. Nordlund requested that action item Newsletter, be added under the District Managers report. A motion to accept the agenda with the changes as requested was made by Strandlien. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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

#### **NRCS**

Roepke reported that NRCS is finished CSP and is currently working on 2017 Environmental Quality Incentive Program signup. Roepke noted that the deadline is August 19<sup>th</sup> and she currently has 6 applications.

#### **PROGRAM TECHNICIAN**

**Trainings:** Phillips noted that he attended a RUSLE2/WEPS training on June 22nd in Thief River Falls.

**Truck:** Phillips reported that when he brought the truck in to get the tires changed he had the rear end lubricant checked and discovered the truck had a leaking axle end seal. Phillips had the shop top off the fluid but feels it is in need of service within the next year. Phillips noted that he has been working on getting quotes for the possible purchase of a new district truck.

**No-Trill Drill:** Phillips reported that the Drill has been used twice since the last board meeting. Phillips has been working on performing light maintenance and cleaning between rentals.

**Aerator:** Phillips noted that he made brochures for Aerator and is still looking for a pre-made transport lock.

**AIS:** Phillips reported that he assessed additional monitoring strategies of Zebra mussels and will deploy substrate samplers on six lakes in coming weeks. Phillips noted that he attended a Mississippi Headwaters Board meeting on June 12th. Phillips noted that the Mississippi Headwaters Board is looking for a combined \$135,000.00 from counties to pay for AIS video promotion and has passed the information on to the County Board.

**Buffer Law Update:** Phillips reported that he attended an informational meeting on June 12th in Bemidji with Tom Gile, the new BWSR buffer Program Manager. Phillips noted that the meeting was held regarding the SWCD and County responsibility/workload of the new Buffer Law updates. Phillips noted that possible responsibilities could include creating the other waters list which is due July 2017, initial parcel evaluation, compliance tracking and becoming the entity that accepts complaints from county residents. The Counties responsibilities could include Adminstrating Penalty Orders.

**2014 Cost Share:** Phillips reported that the Aakre Shoreline restoration project is complete. Phillips noted that the project came in a little bit above the original estimate. Gunvalson made a motion to pay Aakre 75% of the total project cost in the amount of \$2775.00. Payments will be made from 2013 and 2014 State Cost Share. Strandlien Second.  
**Motion Carried 3-0.**

**2013 CWF Riparian Buffer:** Phillips reported that Stormo's Riparian buffer project has been completed and the JPB signed off on the watering system. Nordlund noted that they did do final inspection and found everything to be in order. Nordlund stated that the only area of concern was some weeds within the buffer area. Phillips noted that the total project cost was \$26,931.23 and the project estimate was \$25,250. Nordlund noted that the primary reason for the overage was the higher than expected cost for the crossing. Nordlund is also requesting the board approve the one time incentive payment to Stormo's in the amount of \$ 6,440.00. Gunvalson made a motion to pay 90% of final project costs in the amount of \$1,235.26 plus the one time incentive payment of \$6,440.00. Second by Strandlien. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

**Increased Capacity Funding:** Wraa Fencing and exclusion project. Phillips reported that the Wraa Fencing and Exclusion project is complete. Phillips noted that the project total was \$9342.05 with \$3000.00 to come from RLWD and the remaining 75% eligible for cost sharing from the 2016 Special Projects Fund. Strandlien made a motion to pay 75% of final project costs in the amount of \$4090.91 plus the \$3,000 contribution from the RLWD. Second by Gunvalson.  
**Motion carried 3-0.**

## DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

**Profit & Loss:** Nordlund Reported that we are currently 50% into 2016 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Nordlund noted that in June there was income from Plat Book sales, County Appropriations and the first half of the Water Plan allocation. Nordlund noted that outside of regular expenses additional expenses included Education and Promotion items, AIS expenses for handbooks for the inspectors, an increase in technology for laptop and desktop computers and expenses and unspent funds returned to BWSR.

**Monthly Treasurer's Report:** Nordlund noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of June payments were made for AIS inspectors gear, for a laptop, to Badoura for tree expenses, to the Hampton for Admin Training costs, Aerator Insurance and returned funds to BWSR for unused MAWQCP funds.

**Deposit Detail:** Nordlund noted that in the month of June many of the deposits were for the Admin training as the SWCD acted as the fiscal agent for training.

**Balance Sheet:** Nordlund reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$23,383.38. Nordlund noted that the current outstanding balance are drill rental invoices.

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

## DISTRICT OPERATION

**TAA:** Nordlund reported that he has been working with Dave Jones from NRCS to gain TAA for designing watering facilities.

**MAWQCP:** Nordlund finished the reporting for the MAWQCP grant and noted that the remaining dollars were returned to BWSR.

**Water Plan Amendment:** Nordlund reported that the BWSR committee approved the amended Water Plan on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June and the County board adopted the plan at their July 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

**No-Till-Drill Grant:** Nordlund distributed a handout to the board members with a list of producers that have used the No-Till-Drill and qualified for the incentive program.

**Strategic Planning:** Nordlund reported that the SWCD staff met with Rydeen and Lewis to assess current activities and future opportunities. Nordlund noted that there was an emphasis on educational activities.

**Newsletter:** Nordlund noted that the previous quote that was given to the board was incorrect and was actually for a 2-page front/pack newsletter to go into the Shopper. The board agreed that to stay with the previous motion and just cut the Newsletter down to 2-pages. Rydeen noted that we could print some of the larger Newsletters in-house to have on hand.

**2017 Budget:** Nordlund passed out copies of the budget for the Board to review. The board noticed there may be an error in the budget with line items adding up correctly. Nordlund will review accuracy of the budget and bring it to the August Board meeting. No motion made at this time.

## OTHER:

**Local Work Group Meeting:** Nordlund noted that he will be attending the Local Workgroup meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> hosted by NRCS.

**JPB Meeting:** Nordlund attended the Joint Powers Board meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Trainings:** Nordlund attended a Supervisor training in Bemidji on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

## UPCOMING:

***Workshops:***

Nordlund noted that there is a groundwater workshop in Thief river Falls on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Nordlund noted that on August 3<sup>rd</sup> there is a Buffer meeting in Thief river Falls and a BWSR listening session that he plans to attend.

***Fair:*** Nordlund noted that the Bagley fair will be held August 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> and the SWCD staff will be hosting a nitrate clinic on Friday and Saturday at their booth.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. was made by Gunvalson. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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John Gunvalson, District Secretary

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Date

The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change.  
The leader adjusts the sails.

- John Maxwell

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.