



# Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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## *BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 15th, 2016*

### *MEETING MINUTES*

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

Paul Rydeen, Harlan Strandlien, Marty Cobenais, John Gunvalson and Alroy Lewis (arrived at 8:49)

**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 8:07 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. Nordlund requested the addition of action item, Technical Approval Authority (Job approval authority) for Nordlund. A motion to accept the agenda with the additions as requested by Nordlund was made by Gunvalson. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Minutes:** Minutes of the regular August meeting were reviewed. Gunvalson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

#### **NRCS**

**CSP:** Roepke had 7 CSP renewal applications that had to be ready for review by the 16<sup>th</sup>. Roepke noted that she will be attending a 2 day training October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> for CSP.

**EQIP:** Roepke reported that it is EQIP's end of the year and she has been busy reviewing projects and conducting field checks. Roepke noted that she has until the end of November to review the 2017 EQIP application. She will be working on getting those ready for review.

**Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity Partnership Discussion:** Roepke handed out the Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity Partner packets. Roepke went through and discussed the contents of the packet with the board and staff.

**Other:** Roepke reported that Brooke had her baby and is out of the office on maternity leave until the end of November. Roepke reported that Ashley Reichert is no longer with NRCS as she accepted a position elsewhere.

#### **PROGRAM TECHNICIAN**

**AIS:** Phillips stated that he has started collecting equipment from the AIS Inspectors and will collect traffic counters within the next couple of weeks. Phillips reported that he recently visited a Purple Loosestripe site southwest of Bagley.

Phillips noted that the DNR and AIS representatives have been contacted in the past and this has been an on-going issue for approximately 10 year.

Phillips is planning on attending the AIS summit/conference in St. Cloud on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Buffer Law Update:** Phillips reported that after a desktop review of the previously estimated 129 parcels that were flagged as “needing further review” he has been able to reduce the number to 53. Phillips stated that these will most likely need a field verification to determine whether or not they are in compliance. Phillips passed out the letter he purposed to send out to the 53 landowners. After board discussion it was recommended that Phillips shorten the letter and go ahead and send it out. No motion made.

**No-Till-Drill:** Phillips reported that the use of the drill has slowed, but he is expecting it to go out at least once more before the end of the season. Phillips noted that there may be an issue with the hydraulic system lifting and lowering properly, he will look into it more closely.

**Site Inspections:** Phillips conducted site inspections on some 2007 Cost Share projects and on some RIM Easement projects that were due for inspection.

**Boat Motor:** As previously approved by the board, Phillips purchased a 1996-15hp Johnson motor for the boat in the amount of \$775.00.

**Other**

**Trainings:** Phillips will be attending BWSR Academy from Monday October 24<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup>.

## DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

**Profit & Loss:** Nordlund Reported that we are currently 66.66% into 2016 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Nordlund noted that in August there was income from Plat Books and income from grants claimed out of Deferred Revenue. Nordlund noted that outside of regular expenses additional expenses included an increase in Education and Promotion, AIS expenses, Conference registration and a Special Project payment made to Aakre.

**Monthly Treasurer’s Report:** Nordlund noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of August additional expenses were: an incentive payments to Molitor, a payment to Linfors Agency for additional No-Till-Drill insurance coverage, the purchase of a boat motor, an incentive payment to Riewer and a payment to RMB for AIS testing.

**Deposit Detail:** Nordlund noted that in the month of August deposits were made from BWSR in the amount of \$26,394.00, and \$1,070.70 for No-Till-Drill rentals and Plat Book payments.

**Balance Sheet:** Nordlund reported that the Accounts Receivable balance is \$1023.96. Nordlund noted that \$803.20 of that is an outstanding bill from Forsberg for renting the drill.

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

DISTRICT OPERATION

**2017 Plat Book:** Nordlund reported the SWCD is eligible to update the Plat Books at the same cost of \$14.00 per book total cost being \$5,600. Nordlund noted that the new 2017 Plat Books should be ready sometime in October with the price remaining the same as the 2015 Plat Book, \$24.00 per book for vendors and \$28.00 resale on-site.

**Aerator Purchase Allocation:** Nordlund reported that there is \$11,500 still remaining in the 2015 CWF Grant for equipment. Nordlund recommend spending all or a portion of this funding on the Aerator. Strandlien made a motion to allocated \$10,000.00 of 2015 CWF towards the cost of the Aerator. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Release of Liability:** Nordlund reported that Gary Johannessohn and Gary Gasell constructed a transportation lock for the Aerator at the cost of \$450.00. Johannessohn and Gasell submitted a liability waiver relinquishing them of all responsibility of the transportation lock. Lewis made a motion to accept the liability waiver as submitted. Second by Strandlien. **Motion Carried. 5-0.**

**Technical Approval Authority:** Nordlund has been working with Dave Jones to gain Technical Approval Authority (Job Approval Authority) for designing watering facilities. Strandlien made a motion to approve Nordlund using the Job Approval authority as indicated by Dave Jones.. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

**OTHER:**

**Tree Orders:** Nordlund has begun preparing for the 2017 tree season and plans on placing orders with the nurseries soon.

**New Vehicle** The board discussed the purchase of a new vehicle for the SWCD. Nordlund will get more information and gather quotes for the October board meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m. was made by Cobenais. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 5-0.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Gunvalson, District Secretary

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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.