



# 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 APRIL 16th, 2015*

### *MEETING MINUTES*

.....

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

Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen, Alroy Lewis, 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 9:00 a.m. by Chair Strandlien in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda:** Chair Strandlien called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Rasch requested the additions of two Cost Share action items and a Rim Easement adjustment action item be added. A motion to accept the Agenda with these amendments was made by Rydeen. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 5-0.**

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

#### **NRCS**

Roepke reported that she currently has 5 approved Equip applications and 14 more that have been promoted. Roepke noted that she has until mid-May to complete 10 CSP application interviews, they usually take 1-2 hours per interview.

#### **OTHER:**

**RIM/WRP Easement-Hopperstad (Gustafson):** Roepke reported that the Hopperstads applied to NRCS for a compatible Use Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline. Enbridge is proposing using 60ft of the southernmost section of the easement as a temporary work area. NRCS sent out information of the request to outside agencies requesting input/comments within 30 days. Rasch noted that the SWCD should outline their considerations for NRCS. Board considerations as followed;

1. Topsoil stripping and segregation should be implemented as outlined in Appendix C, Draft *Agricultural Practices*, Pages 5-7.
2. Full compaction reduction and mitigation measures utilized as outlined in Appendix C, Draft *Agricultural Practices*, Page 10.

3. Reduction of temporary work area to 65 ft. throughout the RIM-WRP easement to minimize impact.
4. Re-vegetation of all disturbed areas should be done with NRCS approved seed mix within the NRCS approved seeding dates May 15<sup>th</sup>-June 15<sup>th</sup>.
5. Vegetation monitoring shall be completed by the responsible party (s) identified in the CUP and will continue until deemed satisfactory by NRCS. In the event of NRCS requesting reseeded to achieve adequate permanent vegetation the expense will be incurred by the responsible party.

Rydeen made a motion for Rasch to format a letter and submit to NRCS outlining the board approved points. Lewis second. **Motion carried 4-1 Cobenais opposed.**

## RESOURCE TECHNICIAN REPORT

**State Cost Share:** Charlotte Tehennepe is requesting Cost Share funds to seal two unused wells on her property. Rasch noted that the estimated cost of the project is \$650.00. Rydeen made a motion to pay 50% cost share in the amount of \$325.00 to seal two unused wells on Charolette Tehennepe's property. Second Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0**

**Tree Program:** Rasch reported that tree are nearly sold out with just Pine and Spruce left and is confident that the remainder of the trees will sell by the end of April. Rasch noted that she did end up cancelling some of the pine and spruce tree orders with the State Nursery.

**Other:** Rasch reported that she has been working on Area 8 Envirothon stuff. Rasch noted that the Envirothon will be on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

### Water Plan Activities

**Amendment of Water Plan:** Nordlund has been working on developing a presentation for the Water Plan Task Force meeting. Nordlund noted that the task force is currently working on reformatting and putting together some suggested activities for the 5-year plan. Nordlund reported that he did not receive any written comments on Water Plan activities from LGUs and Agencies and will focus on collecting input from local sources.

**2015 Clean Water Fund Grant-No Till:** After much board discussion Nordlund recommends that the board appoints two Board member to research the list of no-till drill information and conduct site visits with Nordlund and Rasch. Nordlund suggested that the two appointed Board members should be given authority to ultimately make the purchase decision based upon the information they gather. Lewis makes a motion for Rydeen and Lewis to research and collect no-till information and make a decision of purchase based upon their findings. Second by Rydeen. **Motion Carried 5-0**

**AIS:** Nordlund reported he purchased items for the AIS inspector kits. Nordlund has been contacting Lake Associations to provide them with information about the inspections.

**Cost Share Gunvalson Filter Strip:** Nordlund has been working with Gunvalson to put together a 3 acre Filter Strip that include planting pollinators and trees on Gunvalson's property. Nordlund reported that the project cost is estimated at \$1,267.00 which includes 600 trees. Rydeen made a motion to pay 75% or \$950.25 out of 2014 State Cost Share program. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried 4-0 Gunvalson abstained.**

### *District Ops*

**Truck Repair:** Nordlund noted that the total bill from Sorenson Motor was \$412.00. Sorenson Motor replaced the multifunction dimmer switch, rear brake pads and an oil change.

### *Upcoming*

**Water Plan Task Force:** Nordlund reported that he would be attending an AIS meeting late in April to get input on how to place focus of water plan activities and revise the work plan.

## DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

**Profit & Loss:** Rasch noted that we are currently 25% into 2015 and expenses are currently in line with the annual budget. Rasch reported plat book sales are up \$100.00 from the previous month, trees sales were good and \$605 was claimed for the Conservation Delivery Grant from Deferred Revenue.

**Monthly Treasurer's Report:** Rasch noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of March payments were made to International Water Institute for a workshop fee.

**Deposit Detail:** Rasch noted that in the month of March deposit included plat books sales, tree sales, two Envirothon donations, an invoice payment from Farmers Publishing and Clearwater County Environmental Services.

**Balance Sheet:** Rasch reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$7,131.67 at the end of March this included plat book invoices to Rock Creek General Store, Clearwater County and Knutson Store totaling \$728.00. The remainder of the balance was from 9 tree orders totaling \$6404.46, 3 have since paid in full (\$489.00), 3 have made 50% payment, and 3 had just received an invoice (\$1060).

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

**2015 CWF AIG Grant:** Rasch reported that she, Rydeen and Lewis met with two BWSR representatives, Chad and Jeff, to discuss the grant incentive schedule. Rasch noted that she will be putting together rental agreement information for the May meeting.

**AIS Prevention Aid:** Rasch reported that Clearwater County has approved the AIS plan and is moving ahead with plan coordination and implementation.

**Fair Calendar:** Rasch noted that the SWCD will have three ads printed in the 2015 Clearwater County fair calendar.

**Employee Review:** Rasch noted that Buell was nearing the end of her probationary period. Rasch gave Buell her employee review and reported her performance meets set expectations. Rasch recommended continued employment of Buell and an increase of Salary. Rydeen made a motion to increase Buell's salary by \$.50 per hour. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

**Earth Day:** Cobenais re-submitted a \$200.00 request for Farm by the Lake. The donation is to be used for building supplies so local 6<sup>th</sup> graders can build bird houses. Cobenais reported that the Farm by the Lake opened the project up to the surrounding schools. Lewis made a motion to donate \$200.00 out of the Education Fund to Farm by the Lake. Second by Gunvalson. Motion carried 4-0. Cobenais abstained.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. was made by Rydeen. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 5-0.**

---

Marty Cobenias, District Secretary

---

Date