



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MARCH 19, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen and Alroy Lewis

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 10:00 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. A motion to accept the Agenda as submitted was made by Rydeen. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular February meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the February minutes as written was made by Lewis Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

NRCS

Roepke reported that she currently has 5 approved Equip application. Roepke also noted that she has 22 remaining applications that did not make it through the first round or meet the deadline. Roepke currently has 10 CSP applications the deadline being March 13th. She will be accepting renewal applications until March 31st and currently has 3 renewal applications.

Other: Roepke attended an Area meeting on March 12 in Bemidji.

RESOURCE TECHNICIAN REPORT

Tree Program: Rasch reported that tree orders continue to come in and noted that the shrubs are almost sold out.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Plan Activities

2013 Clean Water Fund Grant-Buffers Stormo Project: Nordlund reported that he has been working with Stormos to put together a Planting Plan, Operation and Maintenance Plan and a Schedule of activities to create the 11.9 acre Riparian buffer on Ruffy Brook.

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 noted that they are requesting input on water plan activities by agencies and LGUs deadline being March 12.

2015 Clean Water Fund Grant: Nordlund reported that he is still working on the 2015 CLWF Grant work plan.

Cost Share

District Ops

Truck Repair: Nordlund noted that the truck is currently in the shop. Sorenson Motors is replacing the multifunction dimmer switch, rear brake pads and changing the oil.

Trainings/Meetings

Annual Water Monitoring Training: Nordlund and Rasch attended the Annual Water Monitoring training in Crookston on March 5th. The training was fully paid for with SWAG funding.

Sinclair Township Meeting: Nordlund was invited by County Commissioner Nelson to attend the St. Clair Township meeting. Nordlund informed the board that some part time positions will be available for inspectors at select lakes.

Upcoming

AIS Meeting in Bemidji: Nordlund reported that he would be attending an AIS meeting in Bemidji that afternoon regarding Inspectors and their supply needs.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Rasch noted that we are currently 16.6% into the year income and expenses are on-line with both the income and expenses. The County Revenue is showing up as Quarterly income instead on annual and will need to be edited in the budget.

Monthly Treasurer's Report:

Rasch noted that along with expected regular bills for the month of February payments were made Nathan Nordlund for the remainder of his 2014 Flex funds.

Deposit Detail: Rasch noted that in the month of February deposit included platbooks sales, tree sales and a RLWD payment for a Pine Lake project.

Balance Sheet: Rasch reported that the Accounts Receivable balance was \$1227.99 at the end of February all have since been paid except two plat book invoices to Rock Creek General Store, Farmers and Knutson Store totaling \$504.00, a tree order 50% payment and \$225 from Environmental Services.

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

2014 Financial Report: Rasch reported that the SWCD ended the year stayed close to budget with a small gain of \$237.00. Rasch noted the main reasons for this are the RLWD SWAG income was less than expected and lower payroll expenses than expected. Rasch noted the fund balance increased from the beginning of the year to the end of the year by \$966.00 this is a combination of the small net gain of revenues and a decrease in compensated absences payable. A motion to approve the 2014 Financial Report was made by Rydeen second by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0**

2015 CWF AIG Grant: Rasch reported that the SWCD was awarded the grant with complete funding of \$89,845.00. The grant includes \$45,000 to purchase a no till drill, \$29,000 for incentives, \$6,500 for project development and education, \$4,000 for program implementation and \$4,800 for grant administration. A motion by Lewis was made to approve 2015 CWF AIG Grant agreement as submitted Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0**

2015 CWF AIG Grant: It was decided a policy for using the no-till drill will be created and approved by the board.

AIS Prevention Aid: Rasch reported that she is still working with the county to help finalize the AIS prevention plan

Earth Day: As a Farm by the Lake representative Cobenais submitted a request for a \$500.00 Earth Day donation. The donation would be used for 6th graders to build bird houses. The board discussed the possibility of donating to the project as long as it was offered to the whole county. It was decided to re-evaluate the Earth Day donation to Farm by the Lake at the April 16, Board meeting when board member Cobenais was able to explain the program in greater details.

Spring Garden Conference Booth: Rasch set up a booth at the Spring Wake Up conference again this year. Rasch reported a larger than usual turn out of people stopping by the booth for native plant info, tree sales order forms and platbooks.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50.m. was made by Lewis. Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Marty Cobenias, District Secretary

Date