

**Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN
August 24th, 2011**

Attendance: Supervisors - Wade Bastian, Chuck Rau, Phil Grosland, Joe Jordan, Bernie Thole.
Others: Gerry Maciej (Benton SWCD Manager), Pat Gehling (NRCS District Conservationist)

I. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order by Jordan at 8:30 A.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

III. Approve Agenda

Maciej requested the following additions and corrections: VI., B., Raymond Goulet – Contract Cancellation – CWF-12, Amanda Ashton is a payment request, F., City of Sauk Rapids, Payment Request – FY11-04, XI., C., 4) Sherburne SWCD staff changes. Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve the agenda with the additions and corrections. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Rau, second by Bastian to approve the minutes from the July 20th 2011 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Treasurers' Report

Maciej presented the Account Quick Report and July Program Summary Report. Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the reports. All were in favor. The motion passed. Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report. Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. Conservation Plans

A. Jerry Borene – Low Interest Loan Program Application – Maciej informed the board that the application was signed by staff following approved SWCD procedures. Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve the project. All were in favor. The motion passed.

B. Raymond Goulet – Contract Cancellation – FY2010 – CWF-12 – District Technician Mike McMillin read a letter from Goulet requesting his contract be canceled. Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to cancel contract FY2010 – CWF-12. All were in favor. The motion passed.

C. Brian Montag – New Contract – FY2010 CWF-24 - Motion by Grosland, second by Rau to approve contract FY2010 CWF-24 in the amount of \$91,249.75. All were in favor. The motion passed.

D. Amanda Ashton – Payment Request – FY11-03 - Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to approve contract FY11-03 payment request in the amount of \$375.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

E. Russ Studenski – New Contract – FY11-06 – District Technician Nathan Sanoski informed the board that due to the weather, work under a previous contract with Studenski could not be completed therefore the contract automatically terminated. This new contract is for the same project. Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to approve contract FY11-06 in the amount of \$450.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

F. City of Sauk Rapids – Payment Request – FY11-04 - Motion by Grosland, second by Rau to approve contract FY11-04 payment request in the amount of \$6,945.80. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VII. Action Items

A. New Business

- 1) Consider Mississippi River (St. Cloud) Watershed phase 2 contract – Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to accept the contract and authorize the chair to sign it. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VIII. **Progress Reports**

- A. Staff reports – McMillin, Sanoski and Winkelman gave reports.
- B. NRCS reports – Gehling presented his report.
- C. U of M Extension Service report – Martens was not available for a report.

IX. **Information Items** – Bastian left the meeting at this time.

A. **Supervisor Reports** – Supervisors reported on the events they participated in.

- 1) June 21, Benton County/SWCD joint planning meeting
- 2) July 26, EQIP Local Work Group and Water Resources Advisory Committee meetings
- 3) August 4th, Little Rock Lake Buffer Workshop
- 4) August 12, Benton SWCD budget presentation
- 5) August 13, Take a Day Off on the Mississippi River
- 6) August 23, Benton SWCD/NRCS Tour of Practices

B. **Old Business**

- 1) Mississippi River Renaissance project update – Maciej reported that the project will continue with funds obtained through the LCCLR. Benton SWCD will provide some non-state match for the project.
- 2) BWSR Clean Water grant application – Maciej presented some projects he will be applying for funds for in the near future.
- 3) CRP contribution agreement – Maciej indicated that SWCD staff are working on CRP plans. The district will be reimbursed for this service at a 50% rate through a contribution agreement with the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

C. **New Business**

- 1) EQIP contribution agreement – Maciej reported that a request has been made for an agreement to work on projects with existing EQIP contracts.
- 2) Copier – Maciej informed the board that the NRCS may be providing a copy machine in the near future.
- 3) Little Rock Lake Health Consultation – Maciej and Winkelman provided a status report on the project.
- 4) Sherburne SWCD staff changes – Maciej informed the board that the Water Resources Specialist has retired and the District Manager has resigned.

D. **Calendar of Future Events:** - Attendance at future meetings was discussed.

- 1) August 24, MMM RC&D board meeting
- 2) September 8, MASWCD Area 2 meeting
- 3) September 12 – 13, SWCD Governance seminar
- 4) September 19, Elk River Watershed Association board meeting
- 5) September 21, Benton SWCD Board meeting
- 6) October 13, Greater St. Cloud Area, Mississippi River Watershed Launch event

X. **Adjourn** – Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Secretary, Board of Supervisors

Date