

Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN
February 16th, 2011

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

I. Call meeting to order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

III. Supervisor Oath of Office – Jordan completed his Oath of Office.

IV. Approve Agenda

Maciej suggested removing conservation plans from the agenda. Motion by Jordan second by Grosland to approve the agenda with the change. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Election of Officers

Motion by Grosland second by Thole to accept the typical rotation for SWCD officers. All were in favor. The motion passed. The officer positions are as follows: Chair Jordan, Vice Chair Rau, Secretary Grosland, Treasurer Thole, Member Bastian. Jordan assumed the position of chair at this time.

VI. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the minutes from the January 26th, 2011 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VII. Treasurers' Report

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

VIII. Action Items

A. New Business

- 1) Consider a BWSR grant agreement and authorize the chair to sign - Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to accept the FY 2011 Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Clean Water Fund Restoration Technical Assistance grant agreement and authorize the chair to sign. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) Reschedule April board meeting - Motion by Bastian, second by Grosland to reschedule the April regular board meeting to April 27, 2011. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 3) 2009 Financial Audit – Maciej distributed copies of the 2009 financial audit report provided by James Maiser, Certified Public Accountant. Maciej noted that the State of Minnesota still has not reviewed and approved the report which was submitted in August. Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve the audit report, subject to approval by the State of Minnesota. All were in favor. The motion passed. At this time Maciej reviewed the draft 2010 financial reports. Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to increase the level at which purchases become listed as capital assets of the district from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IX. Progress Reports

- A.** Staff reports - Winkelman, Sanoski, McMillin and Maciej provided monthly reports.
- B.** NRCS reports – Gehling provided a report.
- C.** U of M Extension Service report – Maciej presented an e-mail report he received from Dan Martens.

X. Information Items

A. Old Business

- 1) Clean Water Fund grant work plan and Watershed Technician update – Maciej provided an estimated timeline for completing work plans for the Benton SWCD and Elk River Watershed Association grants. Maciej informed the board that the application period for the Watershed Technician position was extended to March 3rd.

B. New Business

- 1) Tree program report – Maciej provided a summary of the tree sales as of early February.
- 2) Low interest loan program report - Maciej reported that an estimated \$256,909 in low interest loan funds will be available for conservation projects in Benton County in 2011.
- 3) Local Government Water Roundtable update – Maciej reported that the roundtable committees have been meeting and that they are currently in the process of presenting their recommendations to the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Association of Minnesota Counties and Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts.

C. Calendar of Future Events:

- 1) February 22, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting
- 2) February 23, Mid Minnesota Mississippi River Resource Conservation and Development Council board meeting
- 3) February 28, Elk River Watershed Association meeting
- 4) March 1, SWCD Day at the Capital
- 5) March 3, Area 2 MASWCD meeting
- 6) March 16, Benton SWCD board meeting
- 7) April 27, Benton SWCD board meeting

XI. Adjourn

Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:52 A.M.