

Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN
January 26th, 2011

Attendance: Supervisors - Wade Bastian, Chuck Rau, Phil Grosland, Bernie Thole. Others: Gerry Maciej (Benton SWCD Manager), Pat Gehling (NRCS District Conservationist), DeAnna Doran (Sherburne SWCD Manager), Jason Weirnerman (BWSR Board 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 – Grosland completed his Oath of Office.

IV. Approve Agenda

Motion by Grosland second by Thole to approve the agenda. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Election of Officers

Supervisor Jordan was not in attendance. Motion by Grosland second by Rau to table the election of officers until the next board meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. Conservation Plans

A. Greg Novak – Partial Payment request – Maciej and District Technician Mike McMillin presented information about the project's progress and incurred expenses to date. Greg Novak answered additional questions from the board. Motion by Grosland second by Rau to approve the partial payment request for contracts CWL-11 and FY09-06 in the amount of \$40,000.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

B. Several CRP Plans – Gehling and NRCS Soil Conservationist Barb Zeroth provided information about six CRP plans that were recently completed. Motion by Rau second by Thole to approve the CRP conservation plans. All were in favor. The motion passed.

C. Discuss potential State Cost Share program applications – Maciej and District Technician Nathan Sanoski presented information about some projects that will likely be submitting applications for the State Cost Share program in the near future.

VII. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Thole, second by Grosland to approve the minutes from the December 15th, 2010 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VIII. Treasurers' Report

Maciej presented the Money Market Account Report, Account Quick Report and December Program Summary Report. Motion by Rau, 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.

IX. Action Items

A. New Business

- 1) Set committees for 2011 - Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to keep all committee assignments the same as 2010. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) Annual plan of work – The plan was reviewed. Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the 2011 annual plan of work as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 3) Consider Watershed Technician position - Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to authorize the District Manager to fill the Watershed Technician position. All were in favor. The motion passed.

X. Progress Reports

- A. Staff reports – Detterman, Winkelman, Sanoski and McMillin provided monthly reports.
- B. NRCS reports – Gehling provided a report.
- C. U of M Extension Service report – No report was given.

XI. **Information Items**

A. Supervisor Reports

- 1) December 20, Elk River Watershed Association meeting – Maciej provided a summary.
- 2) January 5, Little Rock Lake TMDL public meeting – The meeting and next steps in the TMDL process were discussed. Water Plan Technician Katie Winkelman provided additional information about the TMDL.
- 3) January 24, Elk River Watershed Association meeting – Maciej provided a summary.

At this time supervisors discussed a meeting held at the USDA service center on 1-25-11. Attendance included Benton SWCD staff, Sherburne SWCD Administrative Assistant Francine Larson, NRCS staff from Benton County, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist (FO) Tim Wilson, NRCS State Conservationist Don Baloun and SWCD Supervisors. The meeting discussed existing partnerships between the NRCS and SWCD and potential methods to enhance the partnerships further.

B. Old Business

- 1) Clean Water Fund grant application update – Maciej reported on the progress of work plan submission. Weinerman provided an estimated timeline for grant processing.
- 2) Pharmaceutical waste disposal program meeting – Maciej provided a summary.
- 3) Mississippi River St. Cloud watershed project update – Detterman presented a project update during her staff accomplishment report.
- 4) Rural Preserves program update – It was noted that there may be changes made to the rural preserves property tax program during the current legislative session.

C. New Business

- 1) Poultry manure spreader report – Maciej provided a breakdown of expenses and revenue as of the end of 2010.

D. Calendar of Future Events: Attendance for the following meetings was discussed.

- 1) February 16th, Benton SWCD board meeting
- 2) February 22, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting
- 3) February 28, Elk River Watershed Association meeting
- 4) March 1, SWCD Day at the Capital
- 5) March 3, Area 2 MASWCD meeting

XII. **Correspondence**

- A. Wayne and Jean Greener thank you – Maciej routed a thank you note from the Greener’s.

XIII. **Adjourn**

Motion by Rau, second by Thole to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Secretary, Board of Supervisors

Date