

**Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN
July 20th, 2011**

Attendance: Supervisors - Wade Bastian, Chuck Rau, Phil Grosland, Joe Jordan, Bernie Thole.
Others: Gerry Maciej (Benton SWCD Manager), DeAnna Doran (Sherburne SWCD Manager)

I. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order by Jordan at 8:33 A.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

III. Approve Agenda

Maciej requested the following additions: X., B., 2) Special Session Update, X., C., 7) September 12 – 13 SWCD Governance 101 Seminar, and X., D., 2) MASWCD Area 2 Poster Contest Winners.

Motion by Rau, second by Thole to approve the agenda with the additions. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the minutes from the June 15th 2011 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Treasurers' Report

Maciej presented the Account Quick Report and June Program Summary Report. Motion by Thole, second by Grosland to approve the reports. All were in favor. The motion passed. Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to pay for ½ of the cost of Quickbooks software and webinar training (Sherburne SWCD to pay the other half). All were in favor. The motion passed. Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report. Motion by Bastian, second by Grosland to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. Information Items

A. Old Business

- 1) Little Rock Lake TMDL update – Water Plan Technician Winkelman provided a status report on the TMDL project.
- 2) Water plan amendment – Winkelman reported on the progress of the amendment and collected comments and suggestions from supervisors.
- 3) SWCD/Benton County planning meeting – Maciej reviewed the agenda items for the upcoming meeting.

VII. Conservation Plans

A. Dan Lieser – EQIP Conservation Plan

B. Schumann Angus Farm LLC. – EQIP Conservation Plan

C. Jake Bauerly – CSP Conservation Plan

D. Mark Czech – CSP Conservation Plan

Motion by Rau, second by Thole to approve all four EQIP and CSP conservation plans (items A – D). All were in favor. The motion passed.

E. Kevin Walcheski – Payment Request – FY2010 CWF-13 - Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve contract FY2010 CWF-13 payment request in the amount of \$300.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

F. Richard and Renee Haliburton – Payment Request – NB09-06 - Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to approve contract NB09-06 payment request in the amount of \$1,169.03. All were in favor. The motion passed.

G. Jerry and Vicki Perske – Payment Request – NB09-09 - Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve contract NB09-09 payment request in the amount of \$531.69. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VIII. **Action Items**

A. New Business

- 1) Select 2011 Outstanding Conservation Cooperators – Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to select Guy Spence and Maureen Graber as the 2011 Outstanding Conservation Cooperators. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) Donation request for the Greater St. Cloud Area, Mississippi River Watershed Launch event - Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to allocate up to \$100.00 for the Greater St. Cloud Area, Mississippi River Watershed Launch event. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IX. **Progress Reports**

- A.** Staff reports – Alness and Winkelman reviewed their accomplishments.
- B.** NRCS reports – Gehling’s report was reviewed.
- C.** U of M Extension Service report – Martens was not available to report.

Bastian left the meeting at this time.

X. **Information Items**

- A. Supervisor Reports** – Jordan and Maciej reported on the Elk River Watershed Association meetings.

- 1) June 20, Elk River Watershed Association meeting
- 2) July 18, Elk River Watershed Association meeting

B. New Business

- 1) Potential CRP contribution agreement – Maciej reported that an agreement between the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts may be amended in the near future. The amendment may provide for a partial reimbursement to Benton SWCD for completing up to 8 “CRP and CCRP” conservation plans.
- 2) Special session update – Maciej reported on the potential impacts to SWCD’s of legislation being considered during a special session of the Minnesota legislature.

- C. Calendar of Future Events:** Possible attendance at future events was discussed.

- 1) July 21, Benton County/SWCD joint planning meeting
- 2) July 26, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting and water plan update public hearing
- 3) August 13, Take a Day Off on the Mississippi River event
- 4) August 23, Benton SWCD Tour of Practices
- 5) August 24, Benton SWCD regular board meeting
- 6) August 25, Greater St. Cloud Area, Mississippi River Watershed Launch event
- 7) September 12 – 13, SWCD Governance 101 seminar

D. Correspondence

- 1) Foley Board of Education thank you letter – This was reviewed by supervisors.
- 2) MASWCD Area 2 poster contest winners – Maciej announced that two students from a school in Benton County received an award and prize checks for taking 1st place in the area poster mural contest. Awards and checks will be presented to the students at a later time.

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

Secretary, Board of Supervisors

Date