

Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center, Foley, MN
April 27th, 2011

Attendance: Supervisors - Wade Bastian, Chuck Rau, Phil Grosland, 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 Jordan at 8:32 A.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

III. Approve Agenda

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

IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to approve the minutes from the March 16th 2011 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Treasurers' Report

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

VI. Conservation Plans

A. Miles and Ann Seppelt – Best Management Practice Low Interest Loan application - Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to approve the project for low interest loan dollars. All were in favor. The motion passed.

B. Shawn Hovland – FY11-02 – New Contract - Motion by Bastian, second by Grosland to approve contract FY11-02 in the amount of \$417.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

C. Bunker Hill Creek Farm – FY2010 CWF-19 – New Contract - Motion by Rau, second by Bastian to approve contract FY2010 CWF-19 in the amount of \$300.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

D. Riverview Enterprises – FY2010 CWF-20 – New Contract - Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to approve contract FY2010 CWF-20 in the amount of \$150.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

E. Dandeken Holsteins – FY2010 CWF-22 – New contract - Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to approve contract FY2010 CWF-22 in the amount of \$300.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Gehling provided details about items F through K.

F. Hohman Farms Inc – EQIP Conservation Plan

G. Philip Pederson – EQIP Conservation Plan

H. Brian and Glen Kaschmitter Inc. – EQIP Conservation Plan

I. Gerald Goble – EQIP Conservation Plan

J. Svihel Vegetable Farms Inc. – EQIP Conservation Plan

K. Dan Zwick – EQIP Conservation Plan

Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to approve the EQIP conservation plans for items F through K. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VII. Action Items

A. New Business

- 1) Consider Benton SWCD Fiscal Policies document – Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to approve the Benton SWCD Fiscal Policies with the following change: the dollar amount in Item 6, a) (2) change from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) Rural preserves conservation plan writing fee – Motion by Grosland, second by Bastian to issue full refunds to everyone who paid fees to the Benton SWCD for the Rural Preserves conservation plans. Rau abstained from voting. All others were in favor. The motion passed. Maciej was asked to send an explanation letter with the refunds.
- 3) Equipment purchases – Motion by Grosland, second by Rau to authorize the District Manager to make the following purchases: desktop computer, laptop computer, printer, soil moisture probe, soil probe, up to 200 irrigation system uniformity check catch can holders. Bastian was opposed to the motion. All others were in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

VIII. **Progress Reports**

- A. Staff reports – District Technician Mike McMillin presented a report. Other staff reports were reviewed.
- B. NRCS reports – Gehling provided a report.
- C. U of M Extension Service report – Martens was not available to report.

IX. **Information Items**

A. **Supervisor Reports** – Supervisors provided information about the meetings they attended.

- 1) March 21, Elk River Watershed Association meeting
- 2) March 22, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting
- 3) April 3, Pharmaceutical Waste Disposal Program meeting
- 4) April 18, Elk River Watershed Association meeting

B. **Old Business**

- 1) Watershed Technician update – Maciej reported that a temporary Watershed Technician was hired for the summer months.
- 2) Benton SWCD annual report presentation – Maciej reported that he and the Little Rock Lake Association president presented a report to the public during the April 19th Benton County board meeting.
- 3) Tree program update – Maciej provided updated tree sales information.
- 4) MASWCD Resolutions – There were no resolutions submitted by supervisors.
- 5) Area 2 MASWCD June meeting – Potential presentation topics for the meeting were discussed.
- 6) Soil and water stewardship week tree deliveries – Tree delivery assignments were given.
- 7) Conservation Corps program update – Maciej reported that through a partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps will be assisting with planting three buffers along Little Rock Lake in June.
- 8) ERWA Annual Report – The report was reviewed.

C. **New Business**

- 1) TMDL contract revision – Maciej reported on a revision that was made to a contract with the consultant with the Little Rock Lake TMDL project.
- 2) TMDL comments – Maciej informed the board that the Elk River and Little Rock Lake TMDL's will be placed on public notice in the very near future and will be available on the Benton SWCD website.

- 3) Potential MPCA grant opportunity – Maciej discussed a possible project he is working on with BWSR and Sherburne SWCD related to TMDL implementation activities.
- 4) State legislative update – Maciej summarized several pieces of legislation currently being debated that will affect SWCD's.
- 5) Building lease update – Maciej provided an update on recent activities related to the building lease.

D. Correspondence

- 1) Area 2 Envirothon thank you note

E. Calendar of Future Events:

- 1) May 4, Plant Materials Learning Center board meeting
- 2) May 5 and 6, Benton SWCD tree pickup days
- 3) May 16, Elk River Watershed Association board meeting
- 4) May 18, Benton SWCD board meeting
- 5) May 24, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting
- 6) June 2, Area 2 MASWCD meeting

X. Adjourn

Motion by Bastian, second by Grosland to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Secretary, Board of Supervisors

Date