



TODD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

607 9TH ST. NE • LONG PRAIRIE • MINNESOTA • 56347
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MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 15, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes from the Todd Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting, held at Todd Soil and Water Conservation Office at 607 9th Street Northeast, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Chairman Lee Buchholz called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman, Lee Buchholz
Secretary, Dale Katterhagen
Treasurer, Norman Krause
Member, Tom Williamson

Member Absent: Vice Chairman, Kenny Pesta

Others Present: County Commissioner, Gerry Ruda
District Manager, Sandy Rohr
Technical Manager, Greg Ostrowski
Technician/WCA Coordinator, Ed Uhlenkamp
Resource Conservationist, Amy Piekarski
Administrative Assistant, Sarah Katterhagen
NRCS, Russell Kleinschmidt

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Williamson to approve the agenda.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Williamson.
Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Williamson to approve the minutes as distributed from the October 24, 2011 regular board meeting.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Williamson.
Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

Krause joined the meeting at 8:08 a.m.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Katterhagen, to approve financial statement dated October 31, 2011 expenditures totaling \$63,228.92; to approve financial statement dated November 30, 2011 expenditures totaling \$24,984.64, and expenditures to date totaling \$40,766.37.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: See attachment.

WES MIN RC&D REPORT: Tom reported Wes Min RC&D hired John Beckwith part-time. Tom suggested to the Board Supervisors to not pay dues as we don't have any projects involving Wes Min RC&D, but requested and received their consensus to attend the RC&D annual meeting in February. Also, at last meeting it was discussed to hire Dean Schmidt part-time and if final decision was to close the doors the remaining fund balance, after paying other projects, would go toward Smokey Timbers.

STAFF REPORTS: (Attached) In addition, Greg added that he will present Jim Johnson with the Outstanding Conservationist Award from MASWCD and will discuss his windbreak plan design. Also, he is working on Kepper's feedlot plan and design. Ed added the Rowe project will resume in the spring and Samantha Adams, from the MPCA, acknowledge the feedlot improvements on the Noska and Gregerson feedlot sites. Amy added that she is testing out a field iPad for the county and that SWCD received around \$307,000 for feedlot fixes and other grant related expenses. Sarah added, the newsletter final draft will be completed next week and will include articles from Planning and Zoning and from GIS units. Sandy added she attended the Park Board Meeting, and if the park board stays intact Kitty Tepley is willing to be appointed to serve on the park board. January 1, 2012 SWCD will be using county cell phones for field use. The Auditor is coming the 3rd week in January, December 27th, Sarah and Sandy will be meeting with Karen Busch, the county auditor, and on December 14, 2011 Amy and Sandy met with extension regarding education grants. See attachment for NRCS, Russ Kleinschmidt's report.

ACT ON ENCUMBERING 2011 STATE COST SHARE FUNDS: See attachment.

ACT ON ENCUMBERING SWAN RIVER CWF COST SHARE FUNDS: See attachment.

ACT ON AMENDMENT TO ENCUMBER ADDITIONAL SWAN RIVER CWF COST SHARE FUNDS: See attachment.

ACT ON AMENDMENT TO ENCUMBER ADDITIONAL 2011 STATE COST SHARE FUNDS: See attachment.

ACT ON AMENDMENT TO ENCUMBER ADDITIONAL MPCA 319 FUNDS: See attachment.

ACT ON PAYING COMPLETED MPCA 319 COST SHARE CONTRACTS: See attachment.

ACT ON PAYING COMPLETED SWAN RIVER CWF COST SHARE CONTRACTS: See attachment.

ACT ON PAYING COMPLETED 2011 STATE COST SHARE CONTRACTS: See attachment.

ACT ON PAYING COMPLETED WELL SEALING CONTRACT WITH WATER PLAN FUNDS: See attachment.

NON-COMPLIANT COST SHARE CONTRACT: Motion by Williamson seconded by Krause to send a letter of non-compliance to Gerald Eckel, cost share contract #8-06, providing him with three options to fulfill the obligation of his 10 year contract. Option 1: Replant the field windbreak practice and receive up to 75% cost share. Option 2: Pay back the cost share funding received from the State to Todd SWCD. 3: Face further collection action, conciliation court.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.

Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

DISCUSS POLICY ON COST SHARE FOR WELL SEALING: Board consensus to discuss well sealing for irrigation wells at the next meeting, staff will provide more information about well-head protection areas, etc. to establish priority areas.

SWCD RELOCATION TO MAIN STREET GOVERNMENT CENTER: Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Williamson to relocate SWCD office to Main Street Government Center February 2012, and to provide 120 day notice to K.B.T. LLC, the SWCD's landlord.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.
Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

SWCD SUPERVISOR TO SERVE ON THE P&Z COMMISSION: Motion by Krause, seconded by Williamson to have Dale Katterhagen serve on the P&Z Commission as an advisory member representing Todd SWCD, fulfilling a Service Agreement obligation.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.
Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT FOR 1 MONTH AT YEAR END TO COVER JANUARY: Motion by Krause, seconded by Williamson, to provide an additional month of health insurance benefits to be paid to SWCD employees on December 30, 2011, this will cover the January lapse in insurance benefits because the county's employee health insurance coverage has a 30 day waiting period for coverage.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.
Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

STAPLES BRIDGE: Motion by Krause, seconded by Williamson to approve pending Staples Bridge's WCA Plan.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.
Opposed: None.

DIVISION DIRECTOR'S POSITION DESCRIPTION: Board consensus to accept the Division Director's position description.

WES MIN RC&D: Motion by Krause, seconded by Katterhagen not to pay dues for Wes MIN RC&D, and to send Williamson to only the February meeting to take the message that Todd SWCD will not be participating in Wes MIN RC&D.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.

Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

SWCD'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2012: Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Williamson to have Long Prairie Leader designated as the official newspaper for 2012.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.

Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

REALIGNMENT OF SWCD BOARD POSITIONS FOR 2012: Motion by Williamson, seconded by Krause to approve the realignment of board position as follows:

Chairman: Kenny Pesta
Vice Chairman: Dale Katterhagen
Secretary: Norman Krause
Treasurer: Tom Williamson
Member: Leland Buchholz

Affirmative: Buchholz, Katterhagen, Krause Williamson.

Opposed: None.

Motion Carried.

OTHER: Sandy discussed outcomes from Transforming Todd Workgroup meetings.


Chairman Buchholz closed the meeting at 11:05 a.m. to discuss performance evaluations for Sandy and Greg.

Personal committee reviewed performance evaluations with Sandy and Greg.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Buchholz adjourned meeting at 11:35 a.m.

The next regular board meeting will be Tuesday, January 17, 2012 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Todd SWCD Office at 607 9th ST NE, Long Prairie, MN 56347.


Norman Krause, Secretary


Date

