

MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 21, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

Chairman Tom Williamson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Tom Williamson
Secretary Kenny Pesta
Treasurer Dale Katterhagen
Member Norm Krause

Member Absent: Lee Buchholz, Vice Chairman

Others Present: Gerry Ruda, County Commissioner
Sandy Rohr, District Manager
Greg Ostrowski, Technical Manager
Sarah Primus, Administrative Assistant
Amy Piekarski, Resource Conservationist
Russ Kleinschmidt, District Conservationist
Don Baloun, NRCS State Conservationist
Colleen Oestreich, NRCS Area Conservationist
Darlene Drayna, Conservation Technician

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Pesta seconded by Krause to approve the agenda.

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

Motion carried.

Don Baloun, the newly appointed NRCS State Conservationist is making the rounds to all offices in the state. He's concerned about the financial health of SWCD's and the continuity of the NRCS/SWCD partnerships. He wants all local issues brought to his attention and is expecting NRCS will feel the fiscal pinch in budget years 2013-2014. All NRCS offices will have their own copy machines within the next two years. There's a need for cooperative agreements so operator information between SWCD's and NRCS can be shared. There's not a need to be on the USDA server to apply for and receive contribution agreement monies, only if the SWCD is doing the associated reporting. He suggested that if there's a need for more engineering assistance the SWCD could share the cost of hiring the technical assistance.

Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Pesta to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2010 regular board meeting.

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

Motion carried.

The District Board reviewed the financial statement dated September 30, 2010. Motion by Krause, seconded by Pesta to accept the September 2010 financial statement and approve payment of all disbursements totaling \$30,381.64 and October 2010 disbursements to date totaling \$28,280.71.

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

Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Gerry reported that Todd County ordinances are being reviewed and they are developing a new solid waste ordinance for Todd County with the help of Otter Tail County's ordinance. USGS has issued new flood plain maps, DNR wants Todd County to develop a flood plain ordinance, and this will require discussion and public hearings. Gerry thanked the staff for the work they've done on the Zacher and McDean sites. Gerry reported he'd been on the radio explaining the historic courthouse renovation and the flexibility it will give the county. The state has offered to sell the Armory to the County for \$13,500, after a tour of it the County has declined taking official action, but they aren't interested since it's full of junk. Todd County does not have a junk ordinance, but will try to obtain a copy of Morrison County's. Gerry discussed the merging of some County departments and encouraged the continued dialog on the SWCD merging with Todd County.

WES MIN RC&D REPORT: Tom reported on Wes Min's activities and meetings.

STAFF REPORTS: (Attached) in addition, Greg expanded on the Zacher project and feedlot ordinance. Sarah gave a progress report on feedlot registration and that she working with Greg on doing LEQA reporting. Amy reported that Todd County's Comprehensive Local Water Plan is completed and that public meeting is scheduled for November 3rd at 10:30 in the Long Prairie City Hall meeting room.

STATE COST SHARE: Motion by Krause, seconded by Katterhagen to encumber cost share funds for Luke Kneisl #7-10 in the amount of \$993.75 for a Shelterbelt practice.

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

Motion carried.

UNUSED WELL SEALING COST SHARE: Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Krause to encumber cost share funds to abandon and unused well for George Link #4-10W, not to exceed \$250 in cost share funds.

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

Motion carried

MPCA 319 CWL COST SHARE: Motion by Pesta, seconded by Katterhagen to pay completed cost share contract #13-07/319 for Harry May in the amount of \$342.75 in cost share funds for a Bioretention Basin practice installation.

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

Motion carried.

BWSR CWL COST SHARE: Motion by Krause, seconded by Katterhagen to approve amending cost share contract #8-09CWL Stan Peterson for an extension on the completion date to 7/31/11.

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Krause seconded by Katterhagen to approve amending cost share contract #11-09CWL Jeff Hohn for an extension on the completion date to 7/31/11.

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

Motion carried.

MPCA 319 CWL COST SHARE: Motion by Katterhagen, seconded by Pesta to cancel cost share contract #8-07/319 Brian Golde (Scenic Park Heights Assn.) at applicants request.

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

Motion carried.

AG BMP LOAN PROGRAM: Motion by Krause, seconded by Katterhagen to approve eligibility for Bruce Paskewitz to apply for \$8,920.80 Ag BMP loan for Ag Waste Management.

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

Motion carried.

SWCD NEWSLETTER: Sarah reviewed SWCD newsletter options. Currently the SWCD is running a quarterly one page black and white newsletter in the Country Courier with a distribution of approximately 6,000, which doesn't cover the county and the cost is \$355 per issue. An alternative could be a four page color insert with a distribution of 9,800, it would cover all of Todd County with the exception of the Motley area and the cost would be \$1,500 per issue.

MASWCD RESOLUTIONS: The 31 MASWCD 2010 resolutions were reviewed and voted on, the ballot will be forwarded to MASWCD and the tallied results will be presented at the convention in December.

MASWCD CONVENTION: Consensus was that the Outstanding Conservationist, all board members and Greg and Sandy will be attending the convention as schedules permit. The group will go down Sunday night and will not be attending the awards luncheon on Monday. Return will be Tuesday following the Outstanding Conservationist Luncheon.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: The next regular board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 16, 2010 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the SWCD Office at 607 9th Street Northeast, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Williamson adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Kenny Pesta, Secretary

Dated

The Personnel Committee met following the board meeting.

- The Personnel Policy was reviewed and the necessary changes will be made to align with current rules and needs.
- Employee wages and benefits were reviewed.
- Greg and Sandy's annual reviews were completed and Ed's annual review was made available to committee. Amy and Sarah will have a full review upon completion of their 6 month probationary period in January 2011.
- The 2011 Proposed Budget was reviewed.

The above items will be brought to the full Board for action on December 16, 2010.