



## **Minutes of the December 17, 2009 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the December 17, 2009 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Regular Board of Supervisor's meeting, conference room, USDA Service Center, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Muriel French at 1:15 PM.

**Members Present:** Muriel French, Chairperson  
Darrel Faulkner, Vice-chairman  
David Livingston, Secretary  
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer  
Larry Scherger, PR&I

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Klaus Alberts, County Commissioner (entered the meeting at 2:14 pm)  
Gerald Fahning, Insurance Broker  
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist  
Tom Johnston, District Technician

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – A motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the December 2009 meeting agenda as mailed with the following addition: Farmbill Assistance Agreement approval. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the November 19, 2009 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Scherger, to approve the November 19, 2009 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments** – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Livingston, to approve the November 2009 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$977.84. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Securities Update** – Gerald Fahning updated the Board concerning the transfer of securities the District has in its' name to a money market account. The required signatures for this transfer were obtained.

## **New Business**

**District Conservationist's Report** – Brian DeVetter reported on the following items:

- The 2010 EQIP “Local Work Group” (LWG) process. After discussion with the board, it was decided to have the public input session from 9:00-10:00 am January 7, 2010 and to have the LWG members meet from 10:00 am-12:00 pm the same day.
- High tunnel bldgs. demonstration projects with EQIP funds.
- The Upper Cedar River Watershed was selected for funding through the Mississippi Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative.
- Reviewed the final FIOA compliance agreement with Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to authorize the chairperson to sign the agreement. The motion carried unanimously.
- Discussed the upcoming EQIP sign-up and asked for suggestions on how best to promote it.

**County Commissioner's Report** – Klaus Alberts reported on the following subjects:

- The levy was certified by the Commissioners at 1.04%.
- A new administrator for the County has been chosen if he accepts the position.

## **Meeting Reports**

- Cedar River Watershed District (Livingston) – Dobbins Creek Watershed approved its' budget at \$250,000. A reserve fund of approx. \$71,000 was set up for watershed projects. A request by the City of Austin for funding to remove 40 snag trees in the channel through Austin was denied. A \$774,000 Clean Water Partnership grant application was sent in. An agreement with Red Rock Township was approved.
- Hiawatha Valley RC&D (Faulkner) – The “Value Added Conference” will be held January 1-2, 2010. A new vice-chairman was elected. Steele County has submitted a proposal for funding an “Invasive Species” workshop.
- Zumbro Watershed Partnership (French) – The treasurer's position has not been filled yet. The Cascade Environmental Education Center is scheduled to open in Sept. 2010. The ZWP is discussing having a native plant sale in the spring of 2010 as a fund-raiser. One of the board members would like to see the ZWP meeting location moved to somewhere in Rochester.
- State MASWCD Convention (Scherger) – Discussed the out-comes of the resolutions voting and the convention in general.

**Personnel Committee Meeting Date** – After discussion, it was decided that the personnel committee will meet with staff December 30, 2009 at 10:00 am.

**Correspondence** – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- MASWCD-The mileage rate for 2010 will be \$0.50 per mile

**Other New Business**

- Data Practices Procedures – Put on the January 2010 meeting agenda.
- Farmbill Assistance Grant Agreement – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Scherger, to authorize the chairperson to sign the FY 2010 SWCD Farmbill Assistance grant agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Muriel French at 3:25 pm on a motion by Faulkner and a second by Scherger.

**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Board of Supervisors will be January 21, 2010 at 1:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Recorder \_\_\_\_\_