



Minutes of the February 19, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the February 19, 2008 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 1:26 PM.

Members Present: Muriel French, Chairperson
David Livingston, Secretary
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer
Larry Scherger, PR&I

Members Absent: Darrel Faulkner, Vice-chairman

Others Present: Klaus Alberts, County Commissioner
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Jim Hruska, District Technician
Tom Johnston, District Technician

Oath of Office – Muriel French and Glenn Hahn each took their “Oath of Office”.

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Scherger, to approve the February 2009 meeting agenda as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the January 15, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to approve the January 15, 2009 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments – After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Scherger to approve the January 2009 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$1,766.94. The motion carried unanimously.

French then a letter from the county administrator concerning the SWCD's 2009 funding. \$25,000 has been received and Alberts indicated that an additional \$25,000 has been authorized for payment.

Hahn reported about information he has acquired concerning the Clean Water Legacy funding and possible avenues to take to receive some of these funds.

Unfinished Business

Personnel Committee Report – French reported that the personnel committee met with staff Jan.21, 2009. Items discussed during this meeting were: the Districts’ budget, an office manager, salary increases and preparing a monthly activity report. Because of the projected state of the Districts budget this year, the committee’s recommendation is for no raises at this time.

After further discussion concerning the District’s budget, a motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Livingston to reduce per diem to \$50.00 and reduce mileage compensation to \$.45/mile. The motion carried unanimously.

Feedlot Advisory Committee – Hahn’s appointment to the County Feedlot Advisory committee will need County Board approval.

New Business

County Commissioner’s Report – Klaus Alberts reported on the following items:

- The County is anticipating a \$255,000 cut from the State this year thus the reduction of the SWCD’s budget request. Next year the State cut may be as high as \$500,000 to the County.
- The commissioners approved a “speed trailer” purchase for the Sheriff department.

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

- No EQIP funds have been released yet. The earliest these funds may be available is probably mid- April.
- The CRP sign-up for the CP 38 practice has had good participation in the county with approximately 400 acres currently enrolled.
- The office is currently working with FSA and MnDot to promote living snowfences.
- The LCCMR may have grantwriters available to assist with writing grants.

Devetter, Alberts and Livingston left the meeting at 2:54 pm

RIM Application Approval – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Scherger to approve RIM application 20-01-09-06. The motion carried unanimously.

SE MN Envirothon – French volunteered to be a judge at the SE MN Envirothon to be held May 6th at Oxbow Park near Byron

Soil Stewardship Inserts – After discussion, motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Hahn, to purchase the same number of soil stewardship inserts as last year. The motion carried unanimously.

SEMACDE Annual Meeting and Dues – After discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Scherger, to authorize payment of the registration and annual dues for staff to participate in annual SEMACDE meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Reports

- Zumbro Watershed Partnership Mtg. (French) - Discussed how the McKnight Foundation grant is being applied and the status of future grants from the foundation. A swag grant was received to do monitoring of the trout streams in Olmsted County.
- SE MN Technical JPB (Scherger) – The JPB is solvent thru 2009. The cost share money for small feedlot fixes is spent. There are enough funds to support the nutrient management specialists thru 2010.
- Feedlot Advisory (Hahn) – The committee visited a proposed hog confinement site in Vernon Twp.

Correspondence – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- New supervisor’s orientation meeting March 2, 2009 in Rochester. The meeting is being sponsored by BWSR.

Other New Business

Contractor’s Meeting– After discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Hahn to donate \$75.00 towards sponsoring a tri-county contractors meeting March 25th in Owatonna. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff Report –Hruska gave a brief report concerning District staff activities the past month.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Muriel French at 4:05 pm on a motion by Livingston and a second by Hahn.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts’ Board of Supervisors will be March 19, 2009 at 1:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved _____ Date _____ Recorder _____