



Minutes of the January 15, 2009 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the January 15, 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 1:20 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
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Jennifer Middelstadt, CPA
Jim Hruska, District Technician
Tom Johnston, District Technician

Election of Officers:

A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn to leave the current officers in place.

- **Chairperson** –Muriel French
- **Vice-chairman** - Darrel Faulkner
- **Secretary** –Dave Livingston
- **Treasurer** –Glenn Hahn
- **PR&I** –Larry Scherger

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Scherger, to approve the January 2009 meeting agenda with the following additions: set a date for a RIM screening committee meeting and approval of a contribution agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the December 21, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made Hahn, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the December 21, 2008 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments – Jennifer Middelstadt reviewed with the Board the December 2008 treasurer's financial statements. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn to approve the December 2008 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$6,893.45. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

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

- 2009 County budget. With the States projected budget shortfall, the County may see \$500,000 less in State aid this year. When questioned about the letter the District received from the county coordinator about the commissioners freezing the SWCD 2009 approved budget, Alberts felt the District could receive one-half of its approved budget at this point.
- The Commissioners approved a \$2,000 grant to the District for newsletters in 2009.

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

- EQIP – No allocation yet.
- Participated in a CP 17A training teleconference Jan. 14th. Will be contacting MnDot to set up a meeting to discuss marketing this practice
- 2008 contribution agreement – Agreements can not be extended. There is a one time frame to complete all the agreed to items.

DeVetter left the meeting at 2:26.

Meeting Reports

- None

Payment Approval of Supervisor Vouchers – After review, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Scherger, to approve payment of the presented supervisor vouchers. The motion carried unanimously.

2009 Committee Assignments – After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the following committee assignments for 2009:

- Personnel Committee French and Faulkner
- SE SWCD Technical Support JPB Scherger
- Hiawatha Valley RC&D Faulkner
- County Water Plan Technical Committee ...French – Livingston as alternate.
- County Feedlot Advisory Board Hahn
- Cedar River Watershed Livingston – Hahn as alternate.
- Zumbro Watershed Partnership French – Scherger as alternate.
- RIM / LWG..... Hahn – Scherger as alternate.

2008 Mileage and Per Diem Rates – A motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Livingston, to set the 2008 mileage rate at \$.55/mile and set the per diem rate at \$70.00 for 2008.

2008 Cost-share Rates – A motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Faulkner, to set the maximum cost-share rate at 65% not to exceed \$5,000 per project except for well sealing which will be 50% cost-share not to exceed \$500 per well. State cost share funds used to piggy-back EQIP projects will be set at 50% not to exceed \$5,000 per project. The motion carried unanimously.

2008 Financial Institution Designations – A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to designate Wells Fargo Bank of Dodge Center, MN as the District’s financial institute for its checking account and Wells Fargo Investments of Owatonna, MN as the District’s financial institution for its money market account. The motion carried unanimously.

2008 Regular Meeting Day and Times – A motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Faulkner, to set the regular board meeting day as the third Thursday of each month for 2009. The starting times will be 1:15 pm for the November through March regular meetings and 7:15 pm for the April through October regular board meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

New State Cost-share Contract – After review, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Scherger, to approve state c/s contract #1-2009 in the amount of \$225.00. The motion carried unanimously.

PERA Annual Exclusion Report – After review, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Scherger to authorize the chairperson to sign the 2008 certification of annual exclusion report. The motion carried unanimously.

2009 Annual Plan Of Work – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Livingston to approve the District’s 2009 annual plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual Employee Evaluations – After discussion, it was decided the personnel committee will meet with staff January 21, 2009 at 10:00 AM. A motion was then made by Scherger, seconded by Hahn to retro-act any personnel committee recommendations to January 5, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

RIM Screening Committee – After discussion, February 12, 2009 at 9:00 am was chosen as the date and time the RIM screening committee will meet at the USDA Service Center, Dodge Center, MN.

2008 Contribution Agreement Reimbursement – After review, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Scherger to authorize the chairperson to sign a letter to NRCS requesting reimbursement for TSP items completed to 12/31/08. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence – The Board acknowledged the following correspondences:

- Redetermination of benefits meetings of County ditch systems #5 and #1 at the Ashland township hall beginning at 10:00 pm and 1:00 pm respectively.
- Reviewed e-mail letter from Tim Terrill, Winona SWCD Manager.

Other New Business

ZWP Project Letter of Support – Jim Hruska reviewed with the Board a “letter of support” for a new tile bio-filter project in Dodge County through the Zumbro Watershed Project. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to authorize the chairperson to sign the letter of support for the new ZWP bio-filter project as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Muriel French at 3:52 pm on a motion by Faulkner 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 February 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 _____