



Minutes of the March 18, 2010 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the March 18, 2010 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 Chairman Larry Scherger at 1:18 PM.

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Klaus Alberts, County Commissioner
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Thomas Johnston, District Technician

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by French, to approve the March 2010 meeting agenda as mailed with the following additional action items: Computershare Investor Services request letter and Zumbro Watershed Partnership letter of support. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the February 18, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to approve the February 18, 2010 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner to approve the February 2010 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$1,775.36. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Principal Securities Update – Hahn reported that the Districts’ Principal securities held by Computershare Investors Services have not yet been released to the Districts’ New York Life Securities account even though the original “Transfer of Assets” forms from New York Life Securities with medallion signature guarantees(see attachment 1) were submitted to Computershare on or around March 5, 2010.

Because the Dodge Soil&Water District has No Corporate Seal, Johnston presented to the Board, a letter addressed to Computershare Investors Services (see attachment 2) requesting a change of address for the Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District and to replace any outstanding checks due the District. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by French, to approve the letter to Computershare as presented. The motion carried unanimously and the letter was signed by each Board member.

MN Data Practices Act Compliance – French reported that she and staff reviewed the “Data Practices Responsibilities” worksheet from the MN Dept. of Administration and determined which policies and procedures the District needs to adopt. Johnston presented for the Board’s review a “Consent to Release” form to be used by the District to release individual’s private information. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn to adopt the “Consent to Release” form as presented. The motion carried unanimously. There then was discussion concerning whether a “Consent to Release” form will be required for tile drainage records the District maintains. A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner to require a consent form to release tile drainage records. The motion carried unanimously. Johnston reported he will have draft copy of data practices policies and procedures for the District prepared for the April 15, 2010 board meeting.

New Business

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

- Terry Erickson is the new SEMCAC director for SE Minnesota.
- The county board of commissioners approved payment of the District’s 2010 allotment. Payment will be made in three installments.

District Conservatoinist’s Report – Brian DeVetter reported on the following subjects:

- A fee for the use of NRCS’s computer system is still in the works.
- There will again be “Community Garden” plots available in Dodge Center, Kasson and West Concord. Hiawatha RC&D donated \$200.00 toward \$10.00 vouchers given to each who rents a plot.
- EQIP update – 13 applications have been taken totaling \$112,700 to obligate by April 1, 2010.
- 11,000 CP38 Conservation Reserve Program acres has been allocated to Minnesota for enrollment.
- A NRCS contribution agreement revision was explained and made.
- A new CSP sign-up will be coming up soon. Some counties may see 500 applicants.
- Request for proposals are being accepted for the Mississippi River Basin Initiative.

- Several landowners in the Cedar River Watershed have expressed concerns about the down- sizing of road culverts within the watershed.

Meeting Reports

- Cedar River Watershed District (Livingston) – Richard Fuller has been appointed to the CRWD Board of Managers from Dodge County replacing Al Kording. Fuller has met with the CRWD director. Matt Taylor presented the river monitoring reports for 2009. The cost-share program formation was tabled. Discussions: road culvert down-sizing; feedlot issues; water modeling of the entire watershed vs. just sub-watersheds and the Nicholville project. The time line for the adoption of the final rules for the CRWD has been extended due to comments received about the rules.

Livingston also reported about an issue with a landowner in the Ripley Ditch system. (Faulkner left the meeting at 3:45 pm)

- Zumbro Watershed Partnership (French) – Attended the annual meeting March 4th in Rochester. The meeting was not well attended. Watched a very disturbing movie called Food, Inc. The ZWP will have a booth at the farm show in Rochester next week. More members are needed to make this partnership viable. The next regular meeting will back at the Oronoco Community Center.

(Alberts and DeVetter left the Meeting at 4:00 pm)

State Cost-share Voucher – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to authorize payment of cost-share voucher #1-2009 in the amount of \$149.50. The motion carried unanimously.

Zumbro Watershed Partnership Letter of Support – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for a LCCMR project proposed by the ZWP. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Notice of the Spring SEMASWCD meeting to be held at Ironwood Springs near Stewartville, MN. Registration is \$15.00/person.

Other New Business - None

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 4:34 pm on motion by French, seconded by Hahn.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Board of Supervisors will be April 15, 2010 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved _____ Date _____ Recorder _____