



Minutes of the September 16, 2010 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the September 16, 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 7:20 PM.

Members Present: Larry Scherger, Chairman
Darrel Faulkner, Vice-Chairman
Glen Hahn, Treasurer
David Livingston, Secretary

Members Absent: Muriel French, PR&I

Others Present: Klaus Alberts, County Commissioner
Dean Schrandt, Dodge Co. Environmental
Brian DeVetter, NRCS District Conservationist
Thomas Johnston, District Technician

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to approve the September 2010 meeting agenda as mailed with the following addition: action on cost-share voucher #7-2009. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the August 19th, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made Livingston, seconded by French, to approve the July 15, 2010 regular board meeting minutes as mailed with the following correction: delete “BWSR Reimbursement Agreement” action which happened at the July 15th regular board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – After review and discussion concerning where in the report the 2011 BWSR grant deposit is located, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner to approve the August 2010 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$1,000.25. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Dividend Update – Hahn updated the Board concerning this matter.

Salary Reserve Adjustment – After discussion, a motion was made by Scherger, seconded by Livingston, to increase the District's salary reserve from a three month reserve to six month reserve. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

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

- The preliminary figures for the County's 2011 budget were approved.
- The 4 Seasons parking lot project is near completion.
- The price of a flu shot was increased to \$25 for this year.

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

- One general CRP contract was approved for funding.
- EQIP update. The Local Work Group meeting will be held September 22nd. Did a mailing to landowners in the Green Valley Grp. which is a watershed in the Mississippi River Basin Initiative. There were no responses.
- CSP update. There is a national goal of 12.7 million acres.
- WHIP update. Funds are available for projects.
- Discussed a marketing strategy he used to help promote EQIP in the County.
- The Fall workload this year is going to be light.

Environmental Services Update – Dean Schrandt reported on the following items:

- Has talked with four SWCD's which had similar financial situations as Dodge and how they survived. Several would be willing to give a presentation.
- Has applied for a \$40,000 grant for a woodchip bio-reactor demo project. Also, he and Jim have been collecting information for a grant proposal to clean out sediment deposited behind aging grade stabilization structures.
- There is talk of hiring the Minnesota Conservation Corps to perform a road culvert inventory and survey this Fall.

DeVetter and Schrandt left the meeting @ 9:36 pm

Personnel Committee Report – Scherger and Faulkner reported they met with District staff September 9th. The main item discussed was a salary increase for staff. The increase would come from a substantial savings realized from a very minimal increase in the health insurance premium this year. District staff has not had any type of salary increase since 2007. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to increase the technicians salaries \$1.00/hr. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Reports

- Cedar River Watershed District (Livingston) – Convinced the CRWD chairman to allow public input throughout the meeting on a trial basis.

A Clean Water Legacy grant for Dobson Creek Watershed has been applied for and the purchase of 85 acres in a strategic portion of the watershed is still being pursued.

Discussed the promotion of CRWD rain barrel program.

- Hiawatha Valley RC&D (Faulkner) – An informational tour of organic vegetable greenhouses and high tunnel enclosures was the main focus of this meeting.

Correspondence – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- A letter from MCIT announcing the District's estimated renewal premium for 2011.

Other New Business

- State Cost-share Voucher #7-2009 – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Livingston, to approve payment of cost-share voucher #7-2009 in the amount of \$650.00. The motion carried unanimously. Voting affirmative: Scherger, Faulkner and Livingston. Abstained: Hahn. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 10:43 pm on motion by Hahn and a second by Faulkner.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Board of Supervisors will be October 21, 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 _____