



Minutes of the June 16, 2011 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the June 16, 2011 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 7:19 PM.

Members Present: Larry Scherger, Chairman
Darrel Faulkner, Vice-Chairmen
David Livingston, Secretary
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer (entered the meeting @ 7:50 pm)
Muriel French, PR&I

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Don Gray, County Commissioner
Dean Schrandt, Dodge County Water Plan Coordinator
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Thomas Johnston, District Technician

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by French, to approve the June 2011 meeting agenda as mailed with the following addition: review cost-share contract FR5-2011. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the May 19, 2010 and June 7, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made French, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the May 19, 2011 and June 7, 2011 board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – Moved down the agenda until Hahn arrives.

Unfinished Business

Conservation Technician – Johnston reported that the new conservation technician is on board and has already gotten his feet wet on several projects.

New Business

County Commissioner's Report – Don Gray reported on the following items:

- The commissioners approved the bio-filter grant.
- The District's county allocation will be sent in July.

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

- Reviewed and distributed information the U.S. Dept. of Ag has prepared concerning compensation for claims of discrimination of farm loans.
- Participated in a teleconference concerning contribution agreements with SWCDs to process 1026 and 038 forms. Dodge is not a priority county but has submitted a request for consideration to the area office.
- An invasive species workshop sponsored by NRCS, DNR and Extension Service is scheduled for October 1st at the community center in Dodge Center. There is \$20.00 registration fee and will run from 8:00 am to noon.

(DeVetter left the meeting at 7:49 pm)

Hahn entered the meeting at 7:50 pm

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – Hahn reviewed the May 2011 treasurer's financial statement with the Board. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the treasurer's financial report and to pay all the presented bills which total \$250.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Budget Projection / District Operations – Dean Schrandt reviewed with the Board a 2011 budget projection he prepared with the District being staffed with two people or one person. He discussed his and Mark Gamm's perspective on Districts operations if there was only one staff person. They both agree that the position description duties need to be more specific and the District should develop a pay scale. Also, they feel the commissioners and board supervisors meet and discuss each agency's needs. Then the District board needs to determine which services will be cut if the county will not support two staff persons. He will be preparing a report for Gamm and the county administrator summarizing findings and thoughts concerning the viability of the SWCD.

Schrandt also reported he is checking into information on unemployment insurance and its cost.

2012 Draft Budget – This item was briefly discussed. The board felt they need to know the employment intentions for 2012 of one of the staff before an accurate budget can be developed. It was decided the personnel committee needs to sit down with this staff person next week, if possible, and find out his intentions.

July Meeting Date Change – Because of scheduling conflicts with several board members, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by French, to schedule the July board meeting for July 7, 2011 at 7:15 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Collective Employment Agreement – The board reviewed the agreement for Blaine Delzer, after discussion a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Hahn, to authorize the chairman to sign the agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

State Cost-share Contract Cancellation – After review and discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Faulkner, to cancel state cost-share contract #9-2009 as the completion date had expired. The motion carried unanimously.

State Cost-share Amendment– After review and discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Hahn, to authorize the chairman to sign amendment #2 to cost-share contract FR2-2011 in the amount of \$6,850.00. The motion carried unanimously.

DNR Well Monitoring Agreement – After review, a motion was made by French, seconded by Faulkner, to authorize the chairman to sign the 2012 well monitoring agreement with the DNR. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Reports

- Zumbro River Partnership (French) – The “Waters” courses presented at the Cascade Meadows Learning Center have had a good response; the ZWP membership drive has started; the ZWP will be promoting a well sealing program through the Olmsted SWCD for residents of Oronoco whom will be connecting to city water.
- Cedar River Watershed District - Livingston reported on the following items: the North Main Project in Austin; MPCA letter to the city of Austin concerning snow storage in the floodplain; river clean up by Rotaract; potential BWSR shut-down; Skjeveland wetland restoration; the Cedar River has been designated as a state water trail; Kevin Kiser has been asked to replace Richard Fuller on the CRWD board of managers.
- Area 7 Resolutions Meeting – Livingston reported that four resolutions were submitted and three of them will be forwarded to the state association.

Correspondence – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Letter from the MASWCD concerning tree program evaluation and native and non-invasive plants.

Other New Business

- **New State Cost-share Contract** – The Board reviewed state cost-share contract FR5-2011 for the repair of a grass waterway. The landowner is requesting \$2,707.00 of c-s funds. A motion was made by French, seconded by Hahn to authorize the chairman to sign cost-share contract FR5-2011. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 10:45 pm. on motion by Faulkner and a seconded by Livingston.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts’ Board of Supervisors will be July 7, 2011 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 _____