



Minutes of the March 17, 2011 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the March 17, 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 1:20 PM.

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

Others Present: Don Gray, County Commissioner
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Dean Schrandt, Dodge County
Jim Hruska, District Technician

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by French, to approve the March 2011 meeting agenda with the following additions: Two additional bills, new checks \$60 for 250 and Khimaira \$120 for the District's website, also Jeff Koster from RC&D will not be attending. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the February 17, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to approve the February 17, 2011 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments – Hahn reviewed with the Board the February 2011 treasurer's financial statements. After discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Livingston, to approve the February 2011 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$1,496.18. The motion carried unanimously. Board wondered if we have received our 1st allocation from the county or if we needed to send a letter to request the allocation. Will check with Tom Johnston regarding this.

Unfinished Business

Conservation Technician – Dean Schrandt reported that the position was reposted. Four applications were received, with 3 being new and one was a re-apply. They scheduled for 3 interviews and 2 showed up and both were good candidates. The committee recommended Jerry Hildebrandt. There was a motion by French, seconded by Faulkner to offer the position to Jerry Hildebrandt. The motion carried unanimously. There was a motion by Livingston, seconded by French to set the starting wage at \$16.50 with looking at a possible increase after the 6 months probationary period. The motion carried unanimously. There was a motion by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner to set the starting date of April 4, 2011. The motion carried unanimously. Dean will be sending out letters to all applicants.

Bio-reactor Update – Schrandt reported there has been some changes in the bio-reactor grant request. Some changes were made after reviewing the grant agreement with BWSR and after visiting with the landowner a new site location has been selected.

New Business

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

- He attended a Cedar River Watershed meeting in Blooming Prairie where they were presenting stalk tissue testing for nitrates. They are looking for participating landowners in the MRBI watershed area.
- He has received 26 applications for the EQIP program. Most of the applications are for waterways and structures.
- A general CRP sign-up will be held March 14-April 15, 2011. There is also a re-enrollment period for existing CRP contracts that are about to expire.
- Has 1 application for the CSP program
- Area 7 is reviewing the EQIP practices for this area
- Updated the Board on the Civil Rights procedures that are happening now.

Meeting Reports

- **Cedar River Watershed District** (Livingston) – The Board passed the rules with a 4 to 3 vote. The rules are now reviewed by BWSR. Dan Regner will be leaving the Board. Reviewed and passed around the following brochures: 2010 annual report, monitoring observations, State water trail, planning discussion sheet for 2011 & 2012, and a letter from the city of Austin addressing their concerns about the proposed rules.

Livingston left the meeting at 2:45 pm

New State Cost-share Contract – The board reviewed a new state cost-share contract FR4-2011 for a grass waterway requesting \$4,811.75 in cost share funds. There was a motion by Hahn, seconded by Scherger to approve FR4-2011 cost share contract. The motion carried unanimous

- **Zumbro Watershed Partnership** (French) – only the election of officers occurred at the annual meeting. They are working on trying to get their LCCMR dollars. The budget performance report was passed around.
- **Feedlot Advisory Board** (Hahn) – The committee visited a site concerning a bio-filter issue that was on a feedlot application. The committee recommended it needed to be operating as designed in the permit application.

Correspondence – The office received a letter for applying for a booth at the 2011 County Fair. It was the consensus of the Board not to have a booth at the fair this year.

Other New Business

The Board needed to request another computer workstation for our new employee from Don Baloun, State Conservationist NRCS. A letter was drafted and read to the Board. There was a motion by Hahn, seconded by French to approve the requesting letter. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 3:35 pm on a motion by French 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 April 21, 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: Jim Hruska _____