



## **Minutes of the May 19, 2011 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the May 19, 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 7:21 PM.

**Members Present:** Larry Scherger, Chairman  
Darrel Faulkner, Vice-Chairmen  
David Livingston, Secretary  
Muriel French, PR&I (entered the meeting@8:22 pm)

**Members Absent:** Glenn Hahn, Treasurer

**Others Present:** Dean Schrandt, Dodge County  
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist  
Thomas Johnston, District Technician

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – A motion was made by Livingston, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the May 2011 meeting agenda as mailed with the following additions: health insurance dependant coverage and county allotment letter. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the April 21, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes** – A motion was made Livingston, seconded by Faulkner, to approve the April 21, 2011 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 April 2011 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total \$3,963.50. The motion carried unanimously.

**Future Budget Projections** – Dean Schrandt passed out a summary sheet which outlined information he gathered from other SWCDs concerning their operations and funding as well as future scenarios he and Mark Gamm put together to replace the retiring SWCD technician. Also, Schrandt discussed the current proposals by the State legislator concerning BWSR and County funding cuts and how all these factors most likely will affect future District operations.

After discussion, it was decided to setup a planning workshop with Schrandt, Mark Gamm and district staff to discuss short and long term operational changes. A tentative date of June 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm was set for the workshop at the Dodge Co. USDA Service Center.

**2011 County Allotment Request Letter** – After review, a motion was made by Faulkner, seconded by Livingston, to authorize the chairman to sign the request letter. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Conservation Technician Update** – Dean Schrandt reported that the District’s second choice for the position from the last series of interviews has accepted the position and is scheduled to start June 1, 2011.

Muriel French entered the meeting at 8:22 pm

An issue concerning payment of dependant health insurance has surfaced. The District’s policy handbook does not directly address the payment of dependant health insurance coverage. After discussion, a motion was made by Livingston, seconded by French for the District to pay ½ of an employee’s dependant health insurance coverage, to be reviewed annually at the policy’s anniversary date. The motion carried unanimously.

(Schrandt left the meeting at 8:30 pm)

### **New Business**

**County Commissioner’s Report** – No Report

**District Conservationist’s Report** – Brian DeVetter reported on the following subject:

- The scheduled spring projects are wrapping up.

**Audit Engagement Letter** – After review and discussion, a motion was made by Falkner, seconded by French, to authorize the chairman to sign an audit engagement letter with James Maiser, CPA. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Meeting Reports**

- Cedar River Watershed District (Livingston) – Dave reported on the following topics of the CRWD meeting he attended: the final rules hearing will be July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm; the MOU between the City of Austin and the CRWD concerning the Austin “north main project”; the progress of the CRWD road culvert inventory; reviewed a letter from BWSR to the CRWD concerning additions and corrections which need to be made before the final hearing; discussed how the meeting for the final rules is being advertised and the fact sheet which is also being distributed.
- Zumbro Watershed Partnership (French) – Muriel reported on the following topics of the ZWP meeting she attended: the grand opening of Cascade meadows will be June 14<sup>th</sup>; the Olmsted Co. “Litter Bit” campaign netted 10 ton of trash; Glen Roberson reported on the flood relief projects in Goodhue Co.; a bill for State funding to dredge Lake Zumbro died at the legislator; the “Waters Matter” group is busy with an education and promotion campaign; no final decisions have been made concerning Lake Shady; fundraisers for Graham Park and Camp Victory are going on.

**Correspondence** – The Board acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Letter from SE MASWCD with information about the annual resolutions meeting.

**Other New Business** – None

**Adjournment**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 9:35 pm on motion by Falkner 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 June 16, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Recorder \_\_\_\_\_