



## **Minutes of the August 18, 2016 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the August 18, 2016 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Regular Board of Supervisor's meeting, conference room, USDA Service Center, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Larry Scherger at 7:15 PM.

**Members Present:** Larry Scherger, Chair  
Bill Thompson, Vice-Chair  
Don Hesel, PR&I  
David Livingston, Secretary (late arrival 7:21 P.M.)  
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD  
Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – There were three additions to the agenda under New Business: Board of Water and Soil Resources Program and Operation Grants, District Cost-Share Contract 2016-07 (William Smith), and Rain Gauge Readers. A motion was made to approve the August 18, 2016 meeting agenda as amended.

Motion: Bill Thompson  
Seconded: Glenn Hahn  
The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the July 21, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes** – There were no corrections to the minutes of the July 21, 2016 board meeting. A motion was made to approve the July 21, 2016 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as presented.

Motion: Glenn Hahn  
Seconded: Don Hesel  
The motion carried unanimously.

## **Partner Agency Reports**

### **District Conservationist's Report**

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, was unable to attend the meeting.

David Livingston entered at 7:21 P.M.

## **County Commissioner's Report**

Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, reported on the Root River Sediment Report that was presented at the Southeast Water Resources Board meeting. The report was well done with research conducted by the University of Utah and available through the Winona State University. Jim Checkel is now on the Planning and Zoning Committee. The Dodge County Open House will be held on September 16, 2016 from noon to 3:00 P.M. at the Dodge County Courthouse and the Dodge County Service Center. The feedlot lawsuit has been appealed and is ongoing, with all transcripts from the lawsuit requested. The request from the Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) was laid out well, but the Dodge County 2017 Budget is tight. Dodge County is trying to hold the levy to 3% for 2017.

There were no other partner agency reports.

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills** – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, reported on revenues, and that the No-Till Drill Program revenues are more than expected, while the MN DNR Well Monitoring, and Dodge County Water Plan Duties are a little behind. Hahn presented the Expenditures, Balance Sheet, and Grant Expenditures. Hahn presented the Aging Summary, and Dodge Center Hardware Hank for \$42.99, Atypical Title for \$579.00, Jorgenson's Tire Service for \$500, Metro Sales Inc. for \$213.00 and the Minnesota Agricultural Group Inc. for \$848.98 were added to the Aging Summary, for a total of \$2,638.95. A motion was made to approve the August Treasurer's Report.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to approve payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$2,638.95.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

**Additional FY2016 Local Capacity Funds** – Adam King, District Manager, reminded the board that the district is to receive an additional \$20,337 from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for FY2016 Local Capacity Funds. King stated that the work plan must be completed before September 15, 2016, and is needed before the funds can be received. The work plan must include where funds are to be spent. The funds are able to be broken into as many categories as needed. Staff recommends that an additional vehicle be purchased with the funds. The board discussed many options to spend the funds. A motion was made to put 50% of the additional FY2016 Local Capacity Funds towards District Cost-Share Projects, and the remaining 50% towards the purchase of an additional vehicle.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

## **New Business**

### **2016 Conservation Board Tour**

Adam King discussed with the board the idea of partnering with the Olmsted SWCD for a Conservation Board Tour in September. The Olmsted SWCD meets the morning of the fourth Thursday of the month, which is September 22, 2016. The idea is to have the conservation tour of western Olmsted and eastern Dodge Counties after the Olmsted SWCD board meeting, then have the Dodge SWCD meeting after the conservation tour. It would mean changing the day and time of the Dodge SWCD meeting day and time for September. The board came to a consensus that this would work and instructed King to move forward with the meeting change, and conservation tour.

### **FY2017 Board of Water and Soil Resources Programs and Operations Grant**

Adam King, District Manager, has received notification that the FY2017 Board of Water and Soil Resources Programs and Operations Grant, which includes \$19,343.00 for FY17 Conservation Delivery, \$735.00 for FY17 Easement Delivery, and \$9,908.00 for FY17 Conservation Cost-Share, totaling \$29,986.00, will be deposited into our account. The FY16 Grant Agreement also covered the FY17 portion, and there is no Grant Agreement to sign for FY17.

### **District Cost-Share Contract 2016-07 (Smith)**

William Smith is requesting District Cost-Share for the installation of a Water and Sediment Control Basin. The estimated cost of the practice is \$3,430.00, with the requested cost-shared amount of 65%, or \$2,229.50. Currently there is \$5,601.03 remaining to encumber, and if approved, there will be \$3,371.53 remaining to encumber. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-07 for the installation of a Water and Sediment Control Basin for William Smith not to exceed 65% of the cost of the entire project, or \$2,060.50, whichever is less.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Don Hesel

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Dodge County Rain Gauge Readers**

Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, presented a list of the rain gauge readers in Dodge County. Thompson expressed that he would like to see better coverage of rain gauge readers in the county. The board discussed the Rain Gauge Program, and to work with Tom Johnston, District Technician, on the Standard Operating Procedures. Combining the program with an educational program to try to encourage landowners to participate was discussed.

### **Correspondence**

Adam King, District Manager, presented information on running for the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts board, and an estimate for a tune-up of the district truck from the Claremont Service Center. King also informed the board that on August 23, 2016 at 4:30, the Dodge SWCD has time in front of the Dodge County Commissioners to discuss our budget request. King also notified the board that he will be on vacation from August 24 – September 5, 2016. The board discussed the Dodge County Appropriation request from the Zumbro Watershed Partnership. King informed the board that BWSR is recommending approval of the funding of the One Watershed One Plan applications at their next board meeting. The Cedar River Watershed and Zumbro River Watershed both applied for funding of their plans. The Zumbro River Watershed is not recommended for funding, while the Cedar River Watershed is

recommended for funding. King also informed the board that he has discussed with Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, the option for an additional office space if the Dodge SWCD were to hire any additional staff. DeVetter has heard back from the Acting Assistant State Conservationist for the area, and that no additional space will be relinquished to the district. King has also had discussions with staff at Dodge County for the possibility of moving to the county if needed, but Dodge County currently does not have the room to hold the district. The board instructed King to work with the Acting Assistant State Conservationist for the area to try to get additional space for the district in our current office.

### **Meeting Reports**

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District 4 Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting and public hearing on August 17, 2016, where 4 citizens came to speak out against the project levy. The board passed the project levy and the preliminary budget. The One Watershed One Plan for the Cedar River Watershed is being recommended for funded to the BWSR board, and the Dodge SWCD is to be the Day to Day Contact for the grant. The CRWP is putting in for FY17 Clean Water Funds for some of the projects identified in their Capital Improvement Plan. There is a permit coming through from MN DOT for an Interstate-90 project to help reduce flooding over the road.

Dodge County Feedlot Committee – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, reported attending the Dodge County Feedlot Committee where an old, previously approved feedlot expansion is now getting completed.

One Watershed One Plan – Root River Watershed – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, informed the board that there will be public hearings on the plan held on September 07, 2016 at 6:30 in Stewartville, MN, and on September 08, 2016 at 6:30 in Caledonia.

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Don Hesar, District 2 Supervisor, reported attending the RC&D meeting on July 25, 2016, and that they are working on a Local Foods Initiative to determine what growers and distributors need. They would be looking into a market study grant for farmers markets. They are looking into the One Watershed One Plans and seeing if they can serve in the coordination and administration of the plans. The RC&D is looking into vegetative buffers and the economic benefit that they can have.

Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported attending the ZWP Board Meeting on August 11, 2016 where Renee Mattson of the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks Commission gave a presentation. She stated that the Zumbro River Watershed has been elevated as a priority for parks and trails. The educational sign projects are getting installed. They discussed the presentation to the Dodge County Commissioners for an appropriation, and buffers.

Five County Buffer Meeting – Supervisors that attended the Five County Buffer Meeting reported hearing from Tom Gile, BWSR, Aaron Gamm, Mower SWCD, and Warren Formo, Minnesota Agricultural Water Resource Center, and Todd Piepho, MN DNR. There was discussion on alternative practices, streambank erosion, and the PWI designation.

### **Other New Business**

There was no other new business

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

A Conservation Tour will be held at 10:00 a.m., prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 11:06 P.M.

Motion: Dave Livingston  
Seconded: Bill Thompson  
The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: 9/22/16 Recorder: Adam King  
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**Supervisors: Bill Thompson – Don Heser – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn**

