



## **Minutes of the January 21, 2016 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the January 21, 2015 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 Chair, Larry Scherger at 7:15 PM.

**Members Present:** Larry Scherger, Chair  
Bill Thompson, Vice-Chair  
Don Hesel, PR&I  
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer  
David Livingston, Secretary

**Members Absent:** none

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

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – There was one addition to the agenda under New Business: community education. A motion was made to approve the January 21, 2015 meeting agenda as amended.

Motion: Don Hesel  
Seconded: Bill Thompson  
The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the December 17, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes** – There was one revision to the December 17, 2015 meeting minutes, Masching was misspelled in the Feedlot Report on page 4 and corrected. A motion was made to approve the December 17, 2015 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as revised.

Motion: Glenn Hahn  
Seconded: Dave Livingston  
The motion carried unanimously.

## **Partner Agency Reports**

### **County Commissioner's Report**

Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, reported that Steven Gray, District 5 Commissioner, has been elected the Board Chair. Dodge County is planning an open house this spring to showcase the newly renovated courthouse and new administration building. The Ripley and Havana Ditch meetings were held, and the Havana Ditch will be getting cleaned out, and will be looking into a redetermination of benefits. The feedlot lawsuits are ongoing and have a court date in March.

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

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported looking into the FY16 CRP statistics so far, and the statistics of previous years. This year's sign-up is ahead of what previous years have been, and it is likely due to the current favorable soil rental rates. Brian discussed these results with Janet Kubat from AgriNews. DeVetter said he ran more reports on programs and practices on reportable acres. From 2011-2015 there had been 988 practices reported, and is now looking to clear the clutter, and remove those practices that were only planned and never installed. Currently the office has an Altima employee working in the office. EQIP rankings are happening in February and submitted projects will be ranked either low, medium, or high.

There were no other partner agency reports.

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills** – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, reported on the December 2015 financials and year-end numbers. The total revenues for 2015 were \$155,001.30, while the total 2015 expenditures were \$176,112.12, for a total loss of \$21,110.82 in 2015, which had been pulled from reserves. Both revenue and expenditure amounts in 2015 came in under budget. \$228.43 from the Dodge County Highway Department, \$3,173.72 for MASWCD Dues, \$500.00 for SE SWCD Technical JPB Dues, \$175.00 for Envirothon Dues, \$300.00 for Hiawatha Valley RC&D Dues, \$16.00 from the Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicles, \$1,234.50 from DCA Title, \$20.00 for the Minnesota Conservation Volunteer, and \$107.57 from the Wells Fargo VISA were added to the Aging Summary. The board discussed the invoice from DCA Title. Adam King explained that it was for a RIM-WRP Easement, and that the expense is reimbursable through the Board of Water and Soil Resources. The board further discussed the Hiawatha Valley RC&D Dues. A motion was made to approve to pay the bills on the aging summary, except for the Hiawatha Valley RC&D Dues of \$300.00, for a total of \$6,104.14.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to accept and approve the treasurers report.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Truck Restoration Update**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board that Tom Johnston and Blaine Delzer have received a quote from Gordy's in Kasson for the restoration of the 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 owned by the district. The quote came in at \$12,126.37. A previous quote from West Concord Collision and Restoration, LLC received in July 2015 was for \$5,359.47, and Adam King found the Kelly Blue Book value from KBB.com to be \$10,539 (good condition). The board discussed getting trade-in values from area dealers. A motion was made to table the issue until trade-in values from area dealers are in.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously

## **New Business**

### **Board of Water and Soil Resources Clean Water Fund Soil and Water Conservation District Local Capacity Services Grant Agreement**

Adam King informed the board that the BWSR has released the grant agreement for the FY16 CWF SWCD Local Capacity Services for \$100,000.00. Adam King also informed the board that he has submitted the workplan and the BWSR has approved it. A motion was made to approve the FY16 CWF SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant Agreement in the amount of \$100,000.00 and authorize Adam King, District Manager, to be the Authorized Representative for the Dodge SWCD, and to sign and submit the grant agreement. .

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

### **2016 Blue Thumb Partnership Agreement**

Adam King, District Manager, presented the board with the 2016 Blue Thumb partnership Agreement. The partnership dues are \$500 for soil and water conservation districts, with an option to volunteer for 50% of the dues, bringing it down to \$250. After discussion a motion was made to approve the Blue Thumb Partnership and to pay dues up to \$300.00 and look for opportunities to volunteer for the rest of the dues.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Computer and Projector Purchase**

The board discussed the new computer and projector purchase. A motion was made to approve the purchase of a new computer and projector for the education/outreach position for an amount not to exceed a total of \$2,000.00.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Don Hesel

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Promotional/Identifiable Clothing Purchase**

Adam King, District Manager, presented price quotes for embroidered polo shirts for staff to wear at educational/outreach events from four shops. The board suggested getting a quote from the shop in Hayfield, MN and expressed interest in staying local, but also reasonably priced. A motion was made to approve up to \$100 per employee on the purchase of promotional/identifiable embroidered polo shirts to be worn at educational/outreach events.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

### **2016 Dodge County Expo**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board that the Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) and the Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) are on board with sharing a booth for the Dodge County Expo. Adam King said that the ZWP has expressed interest in a double booth if there will be three partners, at a price of \$75/booth. The board expressed that they would like to still be next to the Dodge Center Lions Club if possible. A motion was made to approve payment of \$150 for a double booth, if possible, next to the Dodge Center Lions Club, if possible, at the Dodge County Expo to be held on April 2, 2016.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Employee Training Request: MASWCD Leadership Institute for Problem Solving**

Adam King, District Manager, expressed interest in attending the MASWCD Leadership Institute for Problem Solving at a cost of \$2,050.00. The board discussed the Leadership institute for Problem Solving, and expressed interest for more information on speakers/trainers. The issue was tabled.

### **Board of Water and Soil Resources 2015 Year-End Reporting**

Adam King, District Manager, discussed with the board the reports that the BWSR needs reported on. A motion was made to authorize Adam King, District Manager, to sign and submit all required year-end reports to the BWSR.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Payment of Supervisor Vouchers**

After reviewing the supervisor vouchers a motion was made to approve and pay the supervisors vouchers for the last half of 2015.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Election of Officers**

After discussion, a motion was made to cast a unanimous ballot to re-elect all officers. The officers for 2016 are as follows:

Chair – Larry Scherger

Vice-Chair – Bill Thompson

Treasurer – Glenn Hahn

Secretary – David Livingston

Public Relations – Don Hesper

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Don Hesper

The motion carried unanimously

### **Committee Assignments**

After discussion, a motion was made to keep the same committee assignments as were held for 2015, except Don Heser will take the place of Larry Scherger as the alternate for the Zumbro Watershed Partnership. The committee assignments for 2016 are as follows:

Finance Committee – Glenn Hahn, Don Heser  
Personnel Committee – Larry Scherger, David Livingston  
Southeast Area VII Joint Powers Board – Larry Scherger  
Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation and Development – Don Heser  
Dodge County Water Plan Committee – Don Heser (Dave Livingston as alternate)  
Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Board – Glenn Hahn  
Cedar River Watershed District – Dave Livingston (Glenn Hahn as alternate)  
Zumbro Watershed Partnership – Bill Thompson (Don Heser as alternate)  
One Watershed One Plan for the Root River Watershed – Glenn Hahn (Dave Livingston as alternate)  
RIM/LWG – Glen Hahn (Larry Scherger as alternate)

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

### **Set 2016 Supervisor Mileage and Per Diem Rates**

After discussion a motion was made to accept the 2016 IRS rate of \$0.54/mile and \$70.00 per diem.

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

### **Designate Financial Institution for 2016**

The board discussed the current financial institution, Citizens State Bank of Hayfield, MN. A motion was made to designate Citizens State Bank of Hayfield, MN as the financial institution for 2016.

Motion: Dave Livingston  
Seconded: Don Heser  
The motion carried unanimously.

### **Set 2016 Regular Board Meeting Day and Times**

There was a motion to keep the regular board meeting dates on the third Thursday of the month at 7:15 P.M. at the USDA Service Center in Dodge Center, MN.

Motion: Dave Livingston  
Seconded: Glenn Hahn  
The motion carried unanimously

### **Correspondence**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board that Blaine Delzer, District Technician, is working on the district newsletter, and that it should be coming out in late January/early February. Adam King also informed the board that he sent out a press release to the local papers about the district being approved for three BWSR Clean Water Funds Grants.

## **Meeting Reports**

Mantorville Park Project – Don Heser, District 2 Supervisor, reported attending the Mantorville Park Planning meeting where they presented a future plan for the park, and took input on the educational signs being installed by the Zumbro Watershed Partnership.

Dodge County Feedlot Committee – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, reported that the lawsuits against Dodge County are ongoing.

One Watershed One Plan – Root River – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, reported that the policy committee has reviewed and will be approving a Joint Powers Agreement as the watershed structure. They are also looking into projects that will be included in the 10 year plan, and can be accomplished with funding coming from local, grant, and existing sources.

Soil Health Workshop in Owatonna – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, reported that the workshop was full, and one of the concerns is that cover crops can be cost prohibitive. Healthy soils do infiltrate better during heavy rains, and we do need water to soak into the soil. We need to try to get as many people to our soil health events as possible.

Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported attending the ZWP meeting on January 14, 2016, and that Adam King gave an update for the Dodge SWCD. Steve Gray, District 5 Dodge County Commissioner, expressed that he would like to set up a meeting on governance in the Zumbro Watershed. Commissioner Gray would like to see the ZWP as a buffer between the state and local government units in the Zumbro Watershed. The Mantorville Park sign project was also discussed.

Community Education – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, discussed the need for a community education course in Mantorville and would like to line up some speakers. Thompson will bring an outline for next month's meeting to give presentations to the City of Mantorville and to the Historical society on river ecology, and to outline the problems with the dam, and to provide solutions.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District 4 Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting on January 20, 2016, where new officers were elected. Steve Kraushaar is the Chair, Jim Gebhardt is the Vice-Chair, and Mike Jones will continue to be the Treasurer. Tim Ruzek is the new education/outreach coordinator and Water Planner for the Mower SWCD/CRWD. Tim presented the education/outreach plan for 2016, and the board discussed the purchase of a drone to better document the projects being installed in the watershed. The One Watershed One Plan for the Cedar River Watershed will be coming at some point.

## **Managers' Report**

Adam King, District Manager, reported working on gathering staff time information and working on reporting for the Board of Water and Soil Resources End-Of-Year Reports. The board asked King to try to have a staff member give an update, and that they are interested in hearing from Blaine, and how the new education/outreach position is going.

## **Other New Business**

There was no other new business

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 11:54 P.M.

Motion: Dave Livingston

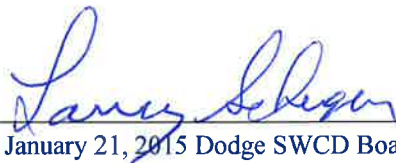
Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, February 18, 2016 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: Adam King

January 21, 2015 Dodge SWCD Board of Supervisors meeting minutes

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**Supervisors: Bill Thompson – Don Heser – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn**

