



## **Minutes of the July 17, 2014 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the July 17, 2014 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 7:17 PM.

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD  
Tom Johnston, District Technician, Dodge SWCD  
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS  
Dean Schrandt, Dodge County Environmental Services  
Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – There was one addition was made to the agenda, employee health insurance. A motion was made to approve the June 2014 meeting agenda as amended.

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

**Approval of the June 24, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes** – There were no revisions to the minutes. A motion was made to approve the June 24, 2014 regular board meeting minutes as mailed.

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

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments** –After discussion and review of cash reserves, net assets, and expenditures, a motion was made to approve the June 2014 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all of the presented bills which total \$1,692.59

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

**Unfinished Business** – There was no unfinished business.

## **New Business**

**Introduction of the new Dodge SWCD District Manager** – Adam King was introduced and the board welcomed him as the new Dodge SWCD District Manager

**County Commissioner's Report** – Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, reported on attending the South East Water Meeting. The Dodge County Commissioners have received 2 bids for the Old County Courthouse Reconstruction. Both were higher than anticipated and have decided to adjust the request for bid and re-open the bid process. Construction is to start this fall. The Dodge County Fair is happening right now. There has been a State of Emergency declared by Governor Mark Dayton in Dodge County, and the county has identified the damage. They plan on repairing road damage and bridges over Ripley Ditch.

**County Water Plan Report** – Dean Schrandt, Dodge County Water Program Manager, reported that many of his SWCD duties will be returned to the SWCD now that Adam King has started as District Manager. He also introduced example wage scales based on a combination of Dodge County and other SWCDs in the area.

**District Conservationist's Report** – Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported that there were 8 EQIP applications from the last signup and notified the board that Round 3 was going to be the last signup for the year. The 7 CSP 1&2 contracts are now up for renewal and applications are now in for the latest sign-up. He has also been coordinating with Dodge County's Emergency Management Director about damage to agricultural practices in the county. Tom and him drove the county in search of damaged areas and found some potential RIM sites. He also has been assisting with the Regional Conservation Partnership Grant with Dodge County and Dodge SWCD

**FY13 State Cost-Share Closeout** – Tom Johnston reported that for FY13 the Dodge SWCD received 100% for technical assistance. Of the \$12,881.00 received from the BWSR, the district used \$12,565.59. The remaining \$315.41 must be returned to the BWSR. A motion was made to return the \$315.41 to the BWSR.

Motion: Larry Scherger

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

**Employee Health Insurance** – Tom Johnston, District Technician, reported that there was a large increase for the cost of employee health insurance for next year. With the addition of Adam King, the insurance rates were lower than initially thought, but there are other plans that would bring the premium down. The board agreed to renew the current plan and make the adjustment in the budget.

**2015 Draft Budget** – Tom Johnston, District Technician, reported that the amount of State Cost-Share from the BWSR is about \$3,000 less than 2014. Bill Thompson, district 3 supervisor, notified the board that he has applied for the Regional Partnership Grant for the identified sites in the Zumbro River Watershed. Match for the grant would come from EQIP. Dean Schrandt, Dodge County Water Program Manager, notified the board that the Dodge County Allotment Requests

were due yesterday, and that the county allotment request needs to be submitted <sup>by</sup> tomorrow morning. Dean also noted that if there was an increase over last year's allotment that it needed to be accompanied by a memo explaining the need for an increase. The board instructed Adam King to send the approved draft budget to Dodge County and draft a memo with an explanation for an increase in allotment tomorrow morning. The board is also requesting to meet with Jim Elmquist, Dodge County Coordinator, to discuss the district budget and county allotment. The board motioned to cut some portions of administration & operations, renew the current employee health insurance plan, and request \$122,041.00 from Dodge County (see attachment for final numbers).

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

**Conservationist of the Year Nominations** – The board expressed interest in a producer that is working with government agencies and doing many small things, instead of a producer that has only done a single large project. The board instructed Adam King, District Manager, to coordinate with Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, on any nominations that he has and notify the board members of the recommendation for approval at the next meeting.

**MN DNR Ground Water Monitoring Agreement (Revised)** – the MN DNR has sent more agreements to the Dodge SWCD. The board made a motion to approve the agreements.

Motion: Dave Livingston  
Seconded: Larry Scherger  
The motion carried unanimously

### **Meeting Reports**

**Feedlot Advisory Committee** – Glenn Hahn, District 5 supervisor, reported on a ~~following~~ <sup>farrowing</sup> barn using shallow pits and a biofilter. They also looked into odor regulations.

**Cedar River Watershed District** – Adam King, District Manager, went to the CRWD meeting on July 16, 2014 and reported on the following meeting items:

- Public input by Jerry Ingvaldson
- Rule clarification on the Ditch Survey Requirements
- Update on 319 grant for U of M students

**Zumbro Watershed Partnership** – Bill Thompson, district 3 supervisor, reported the following meeting items:

- Signage for the Zumbro River has been installed through the highway departments.
- ZWP is happy to have Duane Alberts appointed as a citizen director at large.
- Roger Toquam is also joining the ZWP
- ZWP is making a push for agricultural members to be on the board
- ZWP did not receive the One Watershed One Plan Pilot Grant
- ZWP did receive \$300,000 grant through LCCMR for signage and education

### **Correspondence**

Bill Thompson, district 3 supervisor attended an Ag Drainage Workshop on Blue Earth County Ditch 57 in Mankato June 26<sup>th</sup> focusing on water storage that was funded though the LCCMR.

An article on upcoming proposals to ban fall fertilization was discussed.

The Zumbro River Partnership Newsletter was shared.

The WCA Permit for the Kasson Shopko was discussed.

The board was informed that a Nutrient Management Specialist position is open at the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District

**Other New Business** – None

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Chairman Larry Scherger asked for a motion for adjournment at 11:20 pm

Motion: Don Hesper

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously

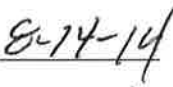
**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, August 21, 2014 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