



Minutes of the June 16, 2016 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the June 16, 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 7:16 PM.

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS
Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner
Jennifer Mocol-Johnson, Board Conservationist, BWSR
David Copeland, Board Conservationist, BWSR

Approval of Meeting Agenda – There were two additions to the agenda under New Business: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Observation Well Monitoring Contract approval, and Resolution 03-2016 Pilot Watershed for Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage Water Management. A motion was made to approve the June 16, 2016 meeting agenda as amended.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the May 19, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes – The board discussed revisions to the May 19, 2016 meeting minutes, which included: changing the word “adding” to “replacing” in the Feedlot Committee Report on page 5. The error was corrected. A motion was made to approve the May 19, 2016 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as revised.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Don Hesel

The motion carried unanimously.

Partner Agency Reports

District Conservationist's Report

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported that Donna Klapperich has accepted another position, and her last day was Friday, June 10, 2016. DeVetter is still unsure of her replacement as this time. Dawn is the new Altima employee, and started on May 25, 2016. DeVetter reported that he has been notified that the office will be going through a quality assurance appraisal, and can invite a SWCD board member and a landowner to the appraisal. Glenn Hahn volunteered to be the SWCD board supervisor representative at the appraisal. The CRP workload is large, with 37-39 expiring CRP contracts being evaluated for reenrollment. Mowing has been eliminated as a mid-contract management practice. Work has continued on CSP, and on the two remaining RIM-WRP easements. DeVetter will send out an all-inclusive email on soil health to all board supervisors.

County Commissioner's Report

Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, reported that the county has interviewed the top applicants for the County Administrator position, and were not satisfied with the applicant pool. The position will be reposted at a later time. The County Commissioners went on a road tour to look at county roads, and will continue to seek funding for roads. The nursing home parking lot will be re-paved, and the fence and wall by the courthouse will be repaired.

Board Conservationist's Report

David Copeland, Board Conservationist, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), announced that he is the new BWSR Board Conservationist for Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Mower, and Freeborn counties. He previously retired from the NRCS, and then worked part time on the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. BWSR has also hired Jill Sackett as a Board Conservationist in Central Minnesota, and Jed Chesnut as a Wetland Specialist in southeast Minnesota. Jeff Nielsen will be retiring on July 8th and BWSR is currently interviewing his replacement. Matt Drewitz has taken the Measures and Outcomes Specialist position, and the Clean Water Specialist position is now posted. A training agreement was signed by the BWSR, MASWCD, NRCS, and MACDE, and the BWSR has now hired Megan Lennon as the new Training Specialist. Tom Gile is working on turning state statute into policy, and will be holding meetings with LGU's on guidance for the Buffer Law. There is a proposal for the additional Local Capacity Services funds that will break all SWCD's into four tiers based on their 2014 county allocation, and provide an additional \$15,000 - \$30,000 as an amendment to the FY16 Local Capacity Services grant. For FY17 Local Capacity Services, all SWCD's would again be placed into four tiers, and additional funds would be provided as match to additional county appropriation above the 2016 appropriation. The BWSR has received the Dodge County Comprehensive Water Plan Update, and it is now going through the 60 day agency review. BWSR Executive Director, John Jaschke, will be holding listening sessions around the state, with one in Lake City on June 21, 2016, at the Lake City Country Club.

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 that the balance sheet is located in the folders this month. There was a total of \$12,825.55 in total revenues for May, coming from drill rentals, tree and flag sales, and time spent on grants. There was discussion on grant funds. Discussion continued on the total expenditures of \$30,770.37. Adam King presented information from Blaine Delzer on the No-Till Drill program for 2016. The program is estimated to bring in a total of about \$11,000, and net about \$9,000 after expenses. There was discussion of taking the no-till drill in for a tune-up after this season. There was a total of \$359,431.43 in the account, of which \$301,014.74 is considered unearned.

Hahn presented the Finance Committee draft 2017 budget recommendations to the board. The Finance Committee recognized the need to place additional funds into the six-month and compensated absence reserve, and decided to place the remaining funds into contracted services.

\$59.85 from National Fleet Graphics, \$73.58 from Innovative Office Solutions LLC, \$35.11 on 5/20/2016, and \$14.95 on 6/15/2016 from the Dodge Center Hardware Hank were added to the aging summary, for a total of \$582.11 in payables. A motion was made to approve the May Treasurer's Report, and to pay the bills on the aging summary for a payables total of \$582.11.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Dave Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Community Education – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported that the next class will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:30 P.M. at the Kasson-Mantorville Community Education Room in Kasson. The first class was lightly attended, but there has been more advertising of this class. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) will be attending and will present on stream health, but MN DNR – Parks and Trails are not available to present that night. There was discussion on the community calendar and the best way to connect with Dodge County residents.

2017 Draft Budget Review

The board continued discussion on the presented 2017 Draft Budget, and how much to request from Dodge County. There was a motion to adjust the presented amount of \$19,395.72 for Contractor Services to \$27,395.72, and request \$105,000 from Dodge County, keeping all other presented values of the 2017 Draft Budget the same, and to approve the 2017 Draft Budget.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) Grant Close-Out

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board that with the radio ads and staff time spent on the MAWQCP, the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District has exhausted all funds associated with the grant. King presented a log of all expenditures, and the final financial report. A motion was made to approve the FY16 MAWQCP grant close-out, and sign the final financial report to be submitted to the BWSR.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2016-04 (Peterson)

Steve Peterson is requesting District Cost-Share for the installation of cover crops. Peterson will install cover crops over 50 acres. The Cost-Share portion covers \$41.21 per acre, for a total of \$2,060.50. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-04 for the installation of cover crops over 50 acres for Steve Peterson not to exceed \$2,060.50.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

Feedlot Cost-Share Contract 2014-01 (White)

Mike White is requesting Feedlot Cost-Share assistance for a livestock waste storage/management facility. The estimated cost of the project is \$233,000, with the requested cost-share amount of \$150,917.00 coming from a 2014 BWSR Feedlot grant. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of Feedlot Cost-Share Contract 2014-01 for a livestock waste storage/management facility for Mike White not to exceed \$150,917.00

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2016-05 (White)

Mike White is requesting District Cost-Share assistance for a livestock waste storage/management facility. The estimated cost of the project is \$233,000. White was previously approved for cost-share amount of \$150,917.00 coming from a 2014 BWSR Feedlot grant, and is currently requesting an additional \$10,000 in District Cost-Share, to bring the total cost-shared amount to \$160,917.00, still under the state maximum of 75%. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-05 for a livestock waste storage/management facility for Mike White not to exceed \$10,000.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Dave Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2016-06 (Remold Farms)

Randy Remold of Remold Farms is requesting District Cost-Share Assistance for a grassed waterway. The total estimated cost of the project is \$7,290, with a cost-share amount requested of 65% not to exceed \$4,738.50. If approved, there will be \$5,489.00 in District Cost-Share remaining to encumber. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-06 for a grassed waterway for Randy Remold of Remold Farms at up to 65% of the cost of the project, not to exceed \$4,738.50.

Motion: Don Heser

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Well Monitoring Contract

Adam King, District Manager, presented a contract between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for observation well monitoring. The contracted amount is \$30 per well per month, with three wells in Dodge County, and 8 months covered in the contract, for a total of \$720 for the FY17 contract. A FY16 payment invoice is included with the contract. The FY16 contract was for 1 observation monitoring well in Dodge County read for 8 months, for a total of \$240 for the FY16 contract. A motion was made to approve, and sign the FY 17 well monitoring contract with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to monitor the water level in 3 wells over 8 months for a total of \$720, and to sign and submit the FY16 invoice to the MN DNR for a total of \$240.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

MASWCD Resolution 03-2016 – Pilot Watersheds for Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage Water Management

Bill Thompson, District 1 supervisor, presented resolution 03-2016 – Pilot Watersheds for Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage to submit to the MASWCD. The board discussed the resolution. A motion was made to approve Resolution 03-2016 – Pilot Watershed for Comprehensive Agricultural Drainage Water Management as presented.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board that he has received the health insurance premium quotes for next year, and they will be going down again. King also informed the board that there is a Saturated Buffer field day being planned for June 30, 2016 at the Hallaway's saturated buffer site. King also discussed unused well sealing and answered some of the questions the board had at the last meeting.

Meeting Reports

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Don Heser, District 2 Supervisor, reported attending the RC&D meeting and that the RC&D will be meeting with the counties and SWCD's that have not paid dues this year. The RC&D will be contacting Area VII SWCD's to find areas that they could assist. The RC&D is looking at local foods, and conducting education

through local markets, as well as, investigating ways to reduce peak flows in the Upper Iowa Watershed. They have sent out surveys to District Mangers in the Southeast.

One Watershed One Plan – Root River Watershed – Glenn Hahn, District 5 Supervisor, explained the process, and how the grant is going. There was \$186,000 total for the grant, with Winona SWCD as the Fiscal Agent, and Fillmore SWCD the Day to Day Contact for the grant. Houston Engineering Inc. was hired for \$146,000 to write the plan, run models on the entire watershed and attend meetings. Karin Sonneman, Winona County District Attorney, has put together the Joint Powers Agreement for the plan. The plan has been submitted to the state for a 60 day state agency review, and public hearings are scheduled for September 7th and 8th in Stewartville and Caledonia.

Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported attending the ZWP Board Meeting on June 09, 2016, which was Lawrence Svien's last day. Svien will assist with the transition to the new executive director, Sarah Middleton. Middleton has previous experience working for Stantc. Svien will also stay on as a consultant for the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS). The ZWP is working with the City of Rochester on phosphorus trading, and has the recreational education sites grant. Thompson discussed a BWSR easement fact sheet, and the WRAPS process.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District 4 Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting on June 15, 2016, where three projects were presented and bonding was discussed. One of the Dobbins projects presented has an 800 acre drainage area with two basins. The project is engineered for a 100 year storm, with an 89% flow reduction and a 65% phosphorus removal. A maintenance plan for the projects, including the CRWD completing the maintenance for two years, was discussed. A problem getting contractors to install the rock inlets was discussed.

Other New Business

There was no other new business

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 12:55 A.M.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Don H~~eser~~

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, July 21, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: 7-21-16 Recorder: Adam King
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Supervisors: Bill Thompson – Don Hesper – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn