



## **Minutes of the March 19, 2015 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the March 19, 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 7:16 PM.

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

**Members Absent:** none

**Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD  
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS  
TerraLynn Schaefer, Internal Auditor/Teller, Citizens State Bank of Hayfield

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – One addition was made to the agenda in unfinished business: Minnesota Conservation Corps Grant Agreement. A motion was made to approve the March 19, 2015 meeting agenda as amended.

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

**Approval of the February 19, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes** – There were no revisions to the February 19, 2015 board minutes. A motion was made to approve the February 19, 2015 regular board meeting minutes as presented.

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

**Special Presentation – Citizens State Bank of Hayfield (Dodge Center Location)** – TerraLynn Schaefer, Internal Auditor/Teller, Citizens State Bank of Hayfield, informed the board about their Platinum Checking, Money Market Savings and Certificates of Deposit (C.D.'s). Citizens State Bank of Hayfield has no fees to open the Platinum Checking or Money Market Savings Accounts, but there are if the account balance falls below the limit (\$900 for Platinum Checking and \$2,500 for Money Market Savings), and for early withdrawal of the C.D.'s. There are fees for wiring funds, overdrafts of the account, and canceled checks. The bank offers free online banking with multiple logins and no limits on transfers. A no-fee debit card, no limits on checks, and no fees for auto withdrawals from the account are also offered by the bank. Checks, and deposit slips are

available for purchase through the bank. The bank offers a ready reserve/overdraft protection, and is insured through the FDIC for up to \$500,000 (\$250,000 for savings and \$250,000 for checking).

## **Partner Agency Reports**

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

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported that there is a Southeast Minnesota Cover Crop Meeting in Zumbrota on March 25, 2015, hosted by Goodhue SWCD. The EQIP Program is in the process of changing/evolving, and is looking for consistency with the new changes. Currently there are 3 animal mortality facilities, 1 grassed waterway, and 1 silage-leachate treatment facility being funded in Dodge County. No Dodge County applications were funded for the first round of FY15 EQIP funding. The CRP workload is building with a high percentage renewing contracts. There are currently acres still available for the CP-38E CRP practice. The RIM-WRP program has 1 contract closed and seeding is being planned, 1 contract has not closed and the site still needs to be cleaned up, and 1 contract has a projected closing date. Dave Copland, Assistant State Conservationist, NRCS, is retired and Aaron Peter, Area Engineer, NRCS, is acting in his absence. The NRCS would like to hire a State Conservationist before they fill his position.

Governor Dayton's Buffer Proposal was discussed.

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

Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, was not present.

### **County Water Plan Report**

Dean Schrandt, Water Program Manager, Dodge County, was not present.

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of the New Bills** – Glen Hahn, Treasurer, discussed and reviewed the revised January Balance Sheet and Aging Summary. The cash reserves, net assets, and expenditures that occurred in February were reviewed and discussed. Jorgenson's Tire Service was added to the list of bills to be paid. A motion was made to accept the financial report and pay all presented bills totaling \$436.00.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **Designate Financial Institution for 2015**

There is currently \$25,035.69 in the New York Life account from old stock the district had and has been increasing by about \$3.00/year, and currently \$97,618.97 in the Wells Fargo Advisors account that has no interest and incurs a \$100 fee/year, and currently \$130,502.21 in a Wells Fargo Checking/Savings account, for a total of \$253,086.28 in district assets. A motion was made to designate Citizens State Bank of Hayfield as the financial institution for 2015, to open a Platinum Checking account, a Money Market Savings account, and transfer all assets from Wells Fargo into those accounts, and to check in with New York Life to see consequences of transferring funds.

Motion: Don Hesar

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

A motion was made to make the District Manager, and Treasurer, the primary account holder, and Tom Johnston as a secondary account holder with the rest of the board as view-only.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Dave Livingston

The motion carried unanimously

### **Blue Thumb/Raingarden Update**

Adam King, District Manager, reported contacting Faribault SWCD to inquire about their raingarden programs. Adam learned that it has taken about 8 years to get to the point where people are asking for the service. With the changes in the Blue Thumb Partnership, and being further away from the metro area where most of the events are hosted, the Faribault SWCD will not be a Blue Thumb Partner this year. The Dodge SWCD is partnering with the ZWP and Jim Hurska to put on three raingarden workshops in Dodge County, one in Kasson, one in Dodge Center, and one in West Concord. This will be used to introduce people to raingardens and urban infiltration practices that can be installed on their property, and gauge the interest of the citizens of Dodge County to see if funding should be sought for financial and technical assistance. The board raised the question about having one in Hayfield. Adam said he would look into it.

### **Minnesota Conservation Corps Academy Apprentice Grant Agreement**

Adam King, District Manager, reported receiving a grant agreement from the Minnesota Conservation Corps. A motion was made to approve and sign the Minnesota Conservation Corps Academy Apprentice Grant Agreement.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously

### **New Business**

#### **Correspondence**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the board there he had sent out a press release about the Minnesota Conservation Corps Academy Apprentice open position. The application period closes on Sunday, March 22, 2015, and interviews will be starting on Monday, March 23, 2015 and continuing into April.

Dave Livingston, District 4 supervisor, asked Adam King to coordinate with the Dodge Center Lions Club for the Dodge County Expo, happening on Saturday, March 28, 2015.

#### **Meeting Reports**

Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported attending the ZWP Annual meeting and 10 year anniversary celebration on March 12, 2015. Three new board members were recognized, a teacher from Rochester, a crop consultant, and a former MnDNR Hydrologist. There were presentations by original members, and current staff spoke.

Don Hesper, District 2 Supervisor, reported an Emerald Ash Borer presentation put on by the University of Minnesota Extension Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at the Dodge County Courthouse.

Dodge County Feedlot Committee – Glenn Hahn, District 4 Supervisor, reported on a new barn going through committee. The project was approved 4 years ago and had received all federal and state permits needed, but was never installed due to the economy. The permits from Dodge County have now expired and is now going through the process of getting the required permits again. The public hearing will be in April.

One Watershed One Plan for the Root River Watershed – Glenn Hahn, District 4 Supervisor, reported attending the Policy Committee meeting of the One Watershed One Plan for the Root River Watershed. A new logo and letterhead for the project was approved. There will be a public kickoff meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> in Fountain to try to get public participation and input on the project. The members to be on the Advisory Committee were also discussed.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District 4 Supervisor, reported on attending the CRWD meeting on March 18, 2015. Comments on the new proposed watershed district rules were reviewed, and the hearing for the new rules will be Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 6:00. Two sediment basin project funds were approved. There was a discussion on the future involvement of CRWD on recreational sites (fishing piers, river access). The board decided they will take them on a case by case basis to determine the water quality/educational benefit of the project. A review of the CRWD Annual Report was made and the report will be made available at the Austin Home and Vacation Show, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, where the CRWD will be offering a canoe, bought with scrap metal money, as a door prize. Bev and Adam will be meeting this coming month to discuss partnering for grant opportunities.

### **Managers' Report**

Adam King, District Manager, reported that Larry Scherger, and he, attended the Waseca Farmers Forum at Farm America, and heard presentations on Governor Dayton's Buffer Proposal, constructed wetlands for nitrogen removal, saturated buffers, bioreactors, conservation drainage, contour prairie buffer strips, feedlots and the Crystal Valley Co-op. A RIM update was given and the Toquam application was not funded. Blaine, Dean and Adam conducted a presentation to school children at Triton and Hayfield Elementary Schools.

### **Other New Business**

There was no other new business.

### **Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Chair Larry Scherger called for a motion for adjournment at 11:11 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, April 16, 2015 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: 4-16-15 Recorder: Adam King  
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**Supervisors: Bill Thompson – Don Heser – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn**