



## **Minutes of the May 21, 2015 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the May 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 (late arrival 7:23)

**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 were two additions to New Business made to the agenda: FY14 State Conservation Cost-Share Close-Out, and Discussion on Grants. A motion was made to approve the May 21, 2015 meeting agenda as amended.

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

**Approval of the April 16, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes** – Revisions to the April 16, 2015 board minutes include fixing the following typographic errors: change Securitas to Securities in the first motion of the Treasures Report, bottom of page 2; change Dutchman to Deutschman in the One Watershed One Plan Update, page 3; and delete “are” in the second line of the managers' report on page 5. A motion was made to approve the April 16, 2015 regular board meeting minutes as revised.

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

David Livingston entered at 7:23 P.M.

## **Partner Agency Reports**

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

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported that the NRCS is busy with the construction of animal mortality facilities and trying to receive Job Approval Authority for that practice. They are also working on trying to get a head start on CRP that is set to expire on September 30, 2015. Seven were CP-22 (forest riparian buffer) with the majority of checks looking good. Brian is also working with the SWCD on RIM-WRP contracts and a Ditch Authority meeting was held discussing a draft proposal for the Van Zuilen RIM-WRP wetland restoration which includes rerouting a drainage ditch. The NRCS has a new State Conservationist. Her name is Cathee Pullman, and Brian went over her top priorities with the board. The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) has about \$235 million available for grants and is now accepting pre-proposal applications with a closing date of July 8, 2015.

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

Rodney Peterson, Dodge County District 3 Commissioner, reported that Dodge County is planning for Avian Flu at the county level. Fairview Nursing Home is being hit hard by Mayo as they pay their nurses more, so Dodge County is giving its nurses a raise to try to keep nurses from leaving Dodge County for more money. The Dodge County Fair is coming together and will be held July 13-19. With the high cost of steel, McNeilus Steel will not be able to purchase county fair tickets for their employees this year, so the overall fair budget will be lower this year. There will be no poultry at the fair this year with concerns of the avian flu. The lawsuit against Dodge County on the hog farm is ongoing. The remodel of the new Dodge County Administration Building is complete, with portions of Dodge County moving into the new administration building now. Landscaping is still needed for the site. Dean Schrandt gave a presentation to the Dodge County Commissioners and nitrates in our waters.

There were no other partner agency reports.

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills** – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, discussed and reviewed the April Balance Sheet and Aging Summary, cash reserves, net assets, and expenditures. The SWCD still has New York Life Securities and Glenn will call to close the account. Revenues included the tree sale for \$6,767.54 and the Minnesota Agriculture Water Resources Center (MAWRC) for \$892.72. Expenditures of District Operations in April was \$12,130.99, with \$3,859.25 going toward the tree sale. A motion was made to accept the financial report and pay all presented bills on the aging summary totaling \$4,463.59.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Don Heser

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **One Watershed One Plan Update**

The next One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee meeting will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Topics discussed will include the top priority list and how the watershed will be structured in the future.

## **Cedar River Watershed District Raingarden Proposal**

Adam King has put together a raingarden cost-share program proposal for the Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) to provide landowners with 50% cost-share not to exceed \$500 for installing a raingarden. The Dodge SWCD would provide design assistance and conduct the inspections to ensure proper design and maintenance of the practice. There will also be a workshop held in Hayfield to promote the practice and program. There was no CRWD board meeting in May, but will be brought before the board at their June meeting. The board instructed Adam King to reach out to the garden group in Hayfield to help promote the practice and program.

## **Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) Update**

The MCC apprentice is Krysta Hovendon will be starting on May 26, 2015, and will be here until mid-August. She will be in the field with Tom and Blaine, and working on digitizing the tile maps into GIS.

## **New Business**

### **2014 Budget Review/2016 Budget Planning**

The 2016 budget was discussed. Items to consider will be the Buffer Bill that was passed by the legislature, and the SWCD Funding bill that was not passed by the legislature, but could be taken up at a special session of the legislature.

### **FY14 State Conservation Cost-Share**

Adam King informed the board that shortly after the first quarter the SWCD had used enough hours on Conservation Cost-Share to close out the FY14 Conservation Cost-Share Grant. A motion was made to approve the grant close-out and sign the financial report.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Correspondence**

Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, shared information on a Manure and Nutrient Management in Tile Drained Land webinar.

## **Meeting Reports**

Dodge County Feedlot Committee – Glenn Hahn, District 4 Supervisor, reported that the lawsuit with Dodge County over feedlots is ongoing.

Zumbro Watershed Partnership (ZWP) – Bill Thompson, District 1 Supervisor, reported attending the ZWP meeting on May 14, 2015. There was a presentation on the Field to Stream Partnership in the Root River Watershed before the meeting. The ZWP is still looking into and considering charitable gambling as a way to raise funds. Many ZWP members are involved with the Lake Zumbro Forever group and those members have asked the ZWP for support for the dredging of Lake Zumbro project. The ZWP will help conduct the tillage survey again this year. Jim Hruska will be volunteering for other parts of the watershed. The Cascade Meadows building that the ZWP is housed in is now owned by St. Mary's University.

### **Managers' Report**

Adam King, District Manager, reviewed the new buffer bill with the board, and reported attending the area envirothon on May 6, 2015 where Medford was first, Rushford-Peterson was second and Goodhue was third. Those teams moved on to the state competition where Goodhue was fourth. Adam King informed the board of two cover crop field days, one in Mower, and one in Freeborn Counties.

### **Grant Discussion**

Grants discussed were the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Legacy Grant for a stream bank restoration demo project to improve habitat and remove safety hazards, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources Clean Water Fund (CWF) Grants for raingardens, stream buffers, and sediment basins, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) for the top 50 areas, and we have already applied for the Farm Bill Assistance grant.

### **Other New Business**

There was no other new business.

### **Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Chair Larry Scherger called for a motion for adjournment at 10:58 P.M.

Motion: David 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, June 19, 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: 6-18-15

Recorder: Adam King

May 21, 2015 Dodge SWCD Board of Supervisors meeting minutes

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