



## **Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Regular Board Meeting**

Minutes of the November 16, 2017 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 7:26 PM.

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

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – There were no additions to the November 16, 2017 agenda. A motion was made to approve the November 16, 2017 meeting agenda as presented.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the October 26, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes** – Corrections to the minutes of the October 26, 2017 board meeting include: adding the word "to" after "made" and before "approve," and add the word "King" after "approve" and before "to" under the New Accountant Letter on page 3; remove the word "this" after "purchases" and before "drill", and "s" to "drill" on page 4 under New Drill Purchase; add the word "Workshop" after "Drainage" and before "Meeting" in the Drainage Meeting title on page 8. A motion was made to approve the October 26, 2017 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes as revised.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Partner Agency Reports**

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

Rhonda Toquam, Dodge County District IV Commissioner, was unable to attend.

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, presented the October 2017 Revenues, Expenditures, Balance Sheet, and Aging Summary. Dodge County Independent for \$175.00, Community News Corporation for \$36.00, Dodge County Highway Department for \$283.95, Minnesota Agriculture Group for \$21.38, Minnesota Department of Agriculture for \$250.00, Wells Fargo for \$49.40, and Innovative Office Supplies for \$24.69 were added to the Aging Summary, for a total of \$1,313.06. A motion was made to approve the October 2017 Treasurer's Report, and to approve payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$1,313.06.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **District Cost-Share Contract 2017-05 (Wolf) Encumbrance**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Bruce Wolf is requesting cost-share for a well decommissioning from the District Cost-Share Program. The amount requested is 50% cost-share up to \$500.00. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share Contract 2017-05 of 50% of the well decommissioning up to \$500.00 for Bruce Wolf.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously

### **Professional and Technical Services Work Order Contract (20-17-003) with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources**

Adam King, District Manager, presented the supervisors with a Professional and Technical Services Work Order Contract (20-17-003) with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). King explained that this is needed for payment from the BWSR for work on the Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) and/or Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). A motion was made to authorize Adam King, District Manager, to sign and submit the Professional and Technical Services Work Order Contract (20-17-003), and any future work orders with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources pertaining to the Reinvest In Minnesota and/or Conservation Reserve Enhancement Programs.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously

## **New Business**

### **2018 Budget Review**

Adam King, District Manager, presented a draft of the 2018 budget. The supervisors discussed the draft budget. King will add the FY14 Feedlot Cost-Share Grant, and get an update on the Discovery Farms projects. A Finance Committee meeting will be held before the next board meeting and will offer a recommendation for the final 2018 budget.

**Training Request – Blaine Delzer**

Blaine Delzer, District Technician, has requested to attend the Conservation Tillage Conference. The conference is in Willmar, MN and the cost of registration is \$140.00. A motion was made to approve Blaine Delzer to attend the Conservation Tillage Conference in Willmar, MN at a cost of \$140.00 for registration plus lodging.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

**District Cost-Share Contract 2016-10 (Granger) Extension**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Bruce Granger of Concord Township is requesting an extension of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-10. Construction has started on his project, but will not be completed by the contract expiration date. Granger is requesting an extension until December 31, 2017. A motion was made to amend and extend District Cost-Share Contract 2016-10 for Bruce Granger until December 31, 2017.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously

**District Cost-Share Contract 2016-11 (Granger) Extension**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Bruce Granger of Concord Township is requesting an extension of District Cost-Share Contract 2016-11. Construction has started on his project, but will not be completed by the contract expiration date. Granger is requesting an extension until December 31, 2017. A motion was made to amend and extend District Cost-Share Contract 2016-11 for Bruce Granger until December 31, 2017.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously

**District Cost-Share Contract 2017-07 (Mark Finstuen) Payment**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Mark Finstuen is requesting payment of \$6,234.00 for District Cost-Share Contract 2017-07 for installing 50 acres of cover crops in 2017, 2018, and 2019. A motion was made to approve the payment of \$6,234.00 to Mark Finstuen for District Cost-Share Contract 2017-07 for the installation of 50 acres of cover crops over three years.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

**District Cost-Share Contract 2018-01 (Lisa Finstuen) Payment**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Lisa Finstuen is requesting payment of \$6,234.00 for District Cost-Share Contract 2018-01 for installing 50 acres of cover crops in 2017, 2018, and 2019. A motion was made to approve the payment of \$6,234.00 to Lisa Finstuen for District Cost-Share Contract 2018-01 for the installation of 50 acres of cover crops over three years.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

### **District Cost-Share Contract 2018-02 (Derek Finstuen) Payment**

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Derek Finstuen is requesting payment of \$6,234.00 for District Cost-Share Contract 2018-02 for installing 50 acres of cover crops in 2017, 2018, and 2019. A motion was made to approve the payment of \$6,234.00 to Derek Finstuen for District Cost-Share Contract 2018-02 for the installation of 50 acres of cover crops over three years.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bill Thompson

The motion carried unanimously

### **Other New Business**

There was no other new business.

### **Correspondence & Staff Report**

Adam King, District Manager, presented the supervisors a letter from Jessica Bakken, District Technician, thanking the supervisors for allowing her to attend the 2017 Board of Water and Soil Resources Academy, and a summary of what she had learned. King presented the Minnesota Land Trust 2017 Annual Report. The supervisors discussed the NACD Survey. King said he could compile the responses received and submit the survey. King presented the letter to the Minnesota Department of Transportation on mowing and haying the right-of-way on a trunk highway. The supervisors discussed who should be CCed on the letter. A motion was made to approve and have the chair sign and send the letter to the Minnesota Department of Transportation CCing all Minnesota legislators representing Dodge County.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

There was further discussion on the letter

The motion carried unanimously

### **Supervisor Reports**

One Watershed One Plan – Cedar River Watershed – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported low attendance at the Policy Committee Meeting on November 15, 2017. Policy member check-in's/discussions were conducted, and Todd Piepho, Area Hydrologist, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) presented on MN DNR priorities for the plan. The Policy Committee learned there is only one lake (Lake Geneva) in the Cedar River Watershed, and it has the largest amount of Northern Pike eggs in the area, and is the only lake Northern Pike eggs for spawning were taken from. Ground water is owned by the state, not landowners, and 7 irrigation systems in Dodge County portion of the Cedar River Watershed were counted during the presentation. The draft Memorandum Of Agreement was presented. The Policy Committee asked to put in more authority for the Policy Committee to approve grant agreements, and the expenditure of funds. Zonation was discussed.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 where a petition for Ditch 20 (Ripley Ditch) was presented. The Board of Managers sent the petition to Dodge County. Construction is underway on the Hull-Peterson project and is nearing completion. A portion of the field has become compacted and the district is looking at options to fix it. A canoe trip around Ramsey Dam is being planned, and the "We are Water" exhibit is coming to Austin.

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported that the next RC&D meeting is on November 27, 2017.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – Bill Thompson, District I Supervisor, reported attending the MASWCD Directors Meeting where a presentation was given on the “Fund the Plan” proposal, and the transition period between county water plans to the new one watershed one plans. There was discussion on the governor’s 25 X 25 plan, with all comments from all sites currently being compiled into a report. The meetings between MASWCD and AMC members on SWCD funding is getting support from some of the AMC county commissioners for SWCD levy/fee authority. Cathy Pullman, State Conservationist, USDA NRCS, reported there were 414 USDA NRCS employees in Minnesota in 2010, and are currently 243 employees. The Minnesota USDA NRCS has been capped at 280 employees, but are only able to hire 3-4 new employees in 2018. An update on the Multi-Purpose Drainage Management grants was given.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, December 21, 2017 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.

**Adjournment**

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 10:18 P.M.

Motion: David Livingston  
Seconded: Bill Thompson  
The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: 12-21-17 Recorder: Adam King

