



Minutes of the August 16, 2018 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the August 16, 2018 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 7:20 P.M.

Members Present: Larry Scherger, Chair
Bill Thompson, Vice-Chair
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer
David Livingston, Secretary
Bruce Freerksen, PR&I (late, in at 7:26 P.M.)

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Adam King, District Manager, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District

Approval of Meeting Agenda – Additions to the August 16, 2018 agenda include the FY19 Conservation Cost-Share Grant Technical Assistance Option, FY16 SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant Close-Out, District Cost-Share Contract 2018-05 (Hahn) Payment, and FY19 Non-Structural Land Management Practices under Other New Business. A motion was made to approve the August 16, 2018 meeting agenda as revised.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the July 19, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes – Corrections to the July 19, 2018 board meeting minutes include changing the time David Livingston entered the meeting from 7:57 P.M. to 8:57 P.M. under Members Present. A motion was made to approve the July 19, 2018 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's regular Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes as revised.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Partner Agency Reports

Dodge County Commissioner's Report

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

Natural Resource Conservation Service Report

Michael Muzzy, District Conservationist, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) was unable to attend the meeting.

There were no other partner agency reports.

Bruce Freerksen entered at 7:26 P.M.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the July 2018 Revenues of \$141,275.08, noting the Drill Charges of \$2,740.84, and the County Allotment of \$118,000, Expenditures of \$26,925.24, the Balance Sheet, and the Aging Summary, with a payables total of \$524.81. The Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District 2019 Budget Presentation to the Dodge County Commissioners was discussed. A motion was made to approve the July 2018 Treasurer's Report, and to approve payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$524.81.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business

New Business

2018 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Conservationist of the Year

Staff have discussed potential nominees for the Dodge SWCD Conservationist of the Year for 2018, and are recommending Dale Boelter of Hayfield, MN. The supervisors discussed the recommendation, and that Steele SWCD has an award ceremony at their county fair to recognize their Conservationist of the Year. A motion was made to nominate Dale Boelter for the 2018 Dodge Soil and Water Conservationist of the Year.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Dental Insurance Plan

Adam King, District Manager, presented the differences in the current dental plan through Ameritas, and the new dental plan offered through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota. Current premiums through Ameritas are \$52.18 per employee per month, while premiums through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota are \$39.80 per employee per month. A motion was made to approve employee dental insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota at \$39.80 per employee per month, and drop dental insurance through Ameritas.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously.

FY16 Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Clean Water Fund (CWF) Ripley Nitrogen Reduction Implementation Multipurpose Drainage Management (MDM) Grant Agreement Amendment

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that he has requested an extension for the FY16 BWSR CWF Ripley Nitrogen Reduction Implementation MDM grant. The BWSR

has made a grant agreement amendment available extending the grant for one year, until December 31, 2019. A motion was made to approve and sign the FY16 Board of Water and Soil Resources Clean Water Fund Ripley Nitrogen Reduction Implementation Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Agreement Amendment extending the grant by one year, until December 31, 2019.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously

Other New Business

FY16 Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Local Capacity Services Grant Close-Out

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that the FY16 BWSR SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant funds have been exhausted and the grant should be closed out. A motion was made to approve Adam King, District Manager, to sign the Final Financial Report for the FY16 Board of Water and Soil Resources Soil and Water Conservation District Local Capacity Services Grant and close-out the grant.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously

Buffer Law Discussion

The supervisors discussed the Buffer Law, enforcement funding for the Buffer Law, and how the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District will handle the reporting of non-compliant parcels.

FY19 Board of Water and Soil Resources Conservation Cost-Share Grant Technical Assistance Option

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that the Board of Water and Soil Resources allows districts to use 100% of Conservation Cost-Share Grant funds for technical assistance. A motion was made to approve and sign Technical Assistance Option for the FY19 Board of Water and Soil Resources Conservation Cost-Share Grant.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously

District Cost-Share Contract 2018-05 (Hahn) Payment

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that Eric Hahn of Hayfield, MN is requesting payment of District Cost-Share Contract 2018-05 for a grassed waterway. Total eligible expenses came to \$9,279.18. Hahn is receiving federal funding for this project, and is requesting \$1,609.42 to reach 75% cost-share between state and federal sources. A motion was made to approve payment in the amount of \$1,609.42 for District Cost-Share Contract 2018-05 to Eric Hahn for the installation of a grassed waterway coming from the FY17 SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously (Glenn Hahn Abstained)

FY19 Non-Structural Practices Cost-Share Policy

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that the Board of Water and Soil Resources requires that a form must be filled out identifying the priorities that are targeted for the best measurable results if a district is to provide cost-share for non-structural practices. King explained that for FY17 the district decided to target the Middle Fork Zumbro River for non-structural practices with the flat EQIP rate. The supervisors expressed that they would like to continue to use funds for all non-structural practices (cover crops, nutrient management, no-till), and want to go with a percentage-based cost-share. Supervisors discussed targeting canning crops, but many might not have canning crops for three years, and have more than 50 acres, and discussed targeting Wellhead Protection Areas.

There was no Other New Business.

Correspondence & Staff Report

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that the Currier Brothers feedlot project was not selected for funding through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, and that Blaine Delzer, District Technician, is working on a Clean Water Fund Grant application to fund the project. King presented a letter from the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust showing a dividend of \$1,480.00 for 2018, and an invitation from the Dodge County Farm Bureau to their 100th anniversary.

Supervisor Reports

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) – Bill Thompson, District I Supervisor, reported attending the MASWCD meeting in Grand Rapids, MN where the House and Senate versions of the Federal Farm Bill were compared, and Kurt Beckstrom reported representing Minnesota at the National Association of Conservation Districts meeting. A map of Clean Water Fund grants between 2010 and 2015 separated out by counties was reviewed. There was a presentation on forestry, learning that 75% forest cover is needed to maintain lakeshores. Troy Daniels, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, was introduced and spoke about the reorganizational plan.

Southeast Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SE MASWCD) – Bill Thompson, District I Supervisor, reported that there will be a joint meeting with the employees on Monday, September 17, 2018 at the Tau Center on Winona State University Campus.

Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there was no meeting and there are no meetings currently planned.

One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) – Root River Watershed – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there was no meeting and there are no meetings currently planned.

Dodge County – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, and Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported attending the Dodge County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, August 07, 2018 to present the 2019 budget. Hahn indicated to the Commissioners that while the district is not asking for an increase for 2019, a cost of living increase may be asked for in 2020.

Soil Health Field Day – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there is a soil health field day at the Rodney Krell Family Farm 2.5 miles north of Blooming Prairie put on by CFS, Land O’ Lakes Sustain, Hormel Foods, and the Mower Soil and Water Conservation District.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting on August 15, 2018 where they held a public hearing for their 2019 levy, including \$250,000 for administration and \$100,000 for projects. Two projects were discussed, including one proposed road grade raise and culvert downsize. Ongoing discussions with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on bacteria continue, and there are 22 CRP contracts re-enrolling.

One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) – Cedar River Watershed – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor reported that the September meeting was cancelled, and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 03, 2018.

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported that he was unable to attend the meeting held on Monday, July 23, 2018.

Southeast Area Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board – Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, reported attending the meeting on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 where they discussed partnering with the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board for a shared director, and approved the Regional Conservation Partnership Program feedlot projects. There will be a special meeting in August to discuss health insurance and feedlot projects.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Dodge SWCD Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 9:58 P.M.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Bruce Freerksen
The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: 9-20-18 Recorder: Adam King
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Supervisors: Bill Thompson – Bruce Freerksen – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn

