



Minutes of the October 16, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the October 16, 2014 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 Chairman Larry Scherger at 7:20 PM.

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Adam King, District Manager, Dodge SWCD
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS

Approval of Meeting Agenda – There was one addition to the agenda under New Business, giving Adam King signing authority for checks. A motion was made to approve the October 16, 2014 meeting agenda as amended.

Motion: Dave Livingston

Seconded: Don Hesper

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the September 18, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes – Revisions to the minutes included two typos on page 5 under the Zumbro Watershed Partnership Report changing plant to plan and wright to write, and under the Feedlot Advisory Committee making Rohwer plural. A motion was made to approve the September 18, 2014 regular board meeting minutes as revised.

Motion: Bill Thompson

Seconded: Dave Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and New Bill Payments – There was discussion and review of cash reserves, net assets, and expenditures. No-till drill charges were received. A motion was made to approve the August 2014 treasurer's financial statements as presented and to pay all presented bills totaling \$629.90.

Motion: Dave Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Agency Reports

County Commissioner's Report

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

County Water Plan Report

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

District Conservationist's Report

Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist, NRCS, reported that they have ongoing construction on a six basin system EQIP project, but are running into complications with a gas line, so guidelines are important to follow. They also have three animal mortality facilities going in and a gulley erosion request. In total there were eight EQIP applications and tomorrow is the cutoff. They are also doing field checks/certifications for CSP and should be finishing up in October. The area needs assistance and Brian has been assigned to some area duties.

Unfinished Business

2015 Wage Scales and Hourly Rates

Don Hesper, District 2 Supervisor, reported on and presented a Dodge County based wage scale. A motion was made to accept the Dodge County based wage scale presented by Don Hesper.

Motion: Dave Livingston
Seconded: Larry Scherger

Discussion: After discussion, Dave Livingston withdrew his motion.

A motion was made to table the discussion until next month and incorporate the new wage scale and hourly rate into the employee handbook.

Motion: Dave Livingston
Seconded: Bill Thompson
The motion carried unanimously

Employee Handbook Update

Adam King went over the Dodge SWCD Employee Handbook updates to occur now that a District Manager was hired.

Community Education

Bill Thompson, District 3 Supervisor, reported that he is still looking into the Community Education Program through Kasson-Mantorville. Looking into the history and not just the science aspect might get more people interested. Adam King presented the Fall 2014 Community Education Guide through Triton along with contact information.

New Business

MASWCD Annual Convention

The MASWCD Annual convention will be held on December 7-9, 2014 at the Double Tree in Bloomington. Registration is \$210.00 for the complete convention registration, and \$25.00 each for the luncheons on Monday, and Tuesday. A motion was made to send Bill Thompson, District 3 Supervisor, Adam King, District Manager, and Rodney Jorgenson, Dodge SWCD Conservationist of the Year, to the MASWCD Annual Convention.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Dave Livingston

The motion carried unanimously

MASWCD Resolutions

The Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors discussed and voted individually on each of the 27 MASWCD 2014 Resolutions.

Meeting Reports

Cedar River Watershed District – The October 15, 2014 meeting of the Cedar River Watershed District Board was cancelled

Zumbro Watershed Partnership – Bill Thompson, District 3 Supervisor, and Adam King, District Manager, attended the October 09, 2014 ZWP Meeting and reported the following meeting items:

- The ZWP received and are working on an LCCMR grant for recreational and learning sites along the Zumbro River. 20X30 inch panels will be posted on trails and river access.
- The ZWP is planning their H3: Healthy Lands, Healthy Waters, Healthy Communities workshop for 2015.

Resource Conservation & Development – Don Hesper, District 2 Supervisor, attended the RC&D meeting on September 29, 2014 and reported the following meeting items:

- The LCCMR Invasive Species Grant with Steele has been canceled. The U of M was going to use goats at a nature center and is now looking into comprehensive plans.
- The RC&D is also working on a forest restoration site near the Root River near Stewartville. The site is being thinned and pruned to allowing for an oak savanna restoration.

Managers' Report

Adam King, District Manager, reported on presenting on raingardens at Dodge Center Lions Club meeting. The SWCD board expressed interest in urban BMP's and Adam said he found much

of the information from the Blue Thumb website. Adam said he would look into the benefits of a Blue Thumb membership for the district. Adam also reported on going to the Basin Alliance for the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota and the presentations given by Scot Johnson, and Jeff Green. The 2013 Audit has been submitted to the state for review. Adam presented the public comments and responses for the Draft Southeast Landscape Plan and the Mississippi River-Winona Watershed Citizen Summit flyer. Adam also presented the MAWD 2014 Annual Meeting Guide.

Correspondence

Bill Thompson, District 3 Supervisor, presented information on the Southeast Lysimeter Network that is looking at Nitrogen in soil water on nine different land cover types. Bill also presented the Minnesota Cover Crop Story by Jill Sackett, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension. Bill also presented tillage transect results from the ZWP tillage survey.

Other New Business

Adam King, District Manager, expressed interest in having another staff member able to sign checks and other documents when Tom Johnston is not able to. The question was asked if the checks needed dual signatures, and Adam said they did. A motion was made to approve Adam King to sign checks and other district documents as needed.

Motion: Dave Livingston
Seconded: Bill Thompson
The motion carried unanimously

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chairman Larry Scherger asked for a motion for adjournment at 12:22 p.m.

Motion: Glenn Hahn
Seconded: Dave Livingston
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, November 20, 2014 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.

Approved  Date 11-20-14 Recorder: Adam King