Minutes of the April 17, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

Minutes of the April 17, 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 7:13 PM.

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

Members Absent:
None

Others Present:
Don Buckhout, BWSR PRAP Coordinator
Tom Gile, BWSR Board Conservationist
Brian DeVetter, District Conservationist
Dean Schrandt, Dodge Co. Environmental Services
Tom Johnston, District Technician

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Heser, to approve the April 2014 meeting agenda as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the March 21, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes – A motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Thompson, to approve the March 20, 2014 regular board meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Treasurer’s Financial Statements and New Bill Payments – Hahn reviewed with the Board the March 2014 treasurer’s financial statements. After discussion, a motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Heser, to approve the March 2014 treasurer’s financial statements as presented and to pay all the presented bills which total $733.46. The motion carried unanimously.
Unfinished Business

District Manager Applications – Schrandt reported that only one application has been received so far. The closing date is April 24th. After discussion it was the consensuses of the Board that if an adequate number of applications are not received by this deadline that the closing date be extended to May 9, 2014 and that the ranking of the applications be performed by Bill Thompson and Dean Schrandt.

Tom Gile will email staff additional places which the position notice could be posted.

New Business

County Commissioner’s Report – No Report

Zumbro River Watershed PRAP Review – Don Buckhout reviewed and discussed with the Board the draft PRAP performance review report he prepared for the Zumbro River Watershed. Any comments concerning the report should be submitted to Mr. Buckhout by May 23rd.

District Conservationist’s Report – Brian DeVetter reported on the following items:

• Status of RIM/WRP easements. One of the three easements has been closed on. It was an 11.7 acre floodplain easement.
• Update of the environmental quality incentive program (EQIP).
• Status of CRP re-enrollments
• Status the CSP program.

Environmental Services Report – Dean Schrandt reported on the following subjects:

• One Watershed – One Plan letter of support for the Root River application. After review, a motion was made by Hahn, seconded by Livingston, to authorize the chairman to sign the letter of support. The motion carried unanimously.

Tom Gile discussed the selection process for the One Watershed – One Plan pilot watersheds program. Three to five watersheds will be selected in the State.

Audit Quote - The board reviewed an audit quote from the Peterson Company LTD to audit the Districts 2013 financials. After discussion, a motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Hahn to authorize the chairman to sign an engagement letter with Peterson Company LTD. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Reports

Hiawatha Valley RC&D – Heser reported on the following items:

• An oak savanna establishment at the Fugles Mill site.
• Development of a cover crop pamphlet.
• Looking for demo sites to control buckthorn with goats.
Zumbro Watershed Partnership – Thompson reported on the following items:

- 2 new board members were approved.
- Discussed the one watershed – one plan pilot project.
- The Ron Schara breakfast and seminars.
- They are looking for crop residue survey funding.
- Participated on the tour of the 800 ac. Armstrong RIM/WRP wetland restoration.

Cedar River Watershed District – Livingston reported on the following items:

- Curt Deiter is the CRWD’s new legal counsel.
- An update of the Dobbins Creek projects.
- There was a good turnout at the CRWD’s booth at the Austin Home & Vacation Show.
- CRWD is now on face book.
- Established a “Vision” committee.

Livingston also reported on the Dodge Center Expo at which the District had a booth.

Correspondence

- Acknowledged correspondence from the MASWCD concerning the 2014 resolution process.

Other New Business

- Thompson updated the Board on the proposed Shop Ko project in Kasson.

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Larry Scherger at 9:52 pm on a motion by Hahn and a second by Livingston.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation Districts’ Board of Supervisors will be May 15, 2014 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building, 916 2nd St. SE, Dodge Center, Minnesota.