

AITKIN COUNTY SWCD
130 SOUTHGATE DRIVE
AITKIN, MN 56431

Minutes of the Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Frank Turnock, Chair.

Those attending were:

Those absent were:

Frank Turnock, Chair
Bob Roseberg, Vice Chair
Carla Gillson, Skype, Treasurer
Roger Vogt, Secretary
Bob Janzen, Reporter
Steve Hughes, District Manager
Lori Nelson, District Secretary
Scott Kittleson, District Conservationist

Additions to the agenda:

Itasca County SWCD, \$2197.50
2016 W-4 Forms

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the agenda with additions (subject to change when Steve arrives). Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the November 17, 2015 minutes. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT (NOV & DEC. 2015)

Discussion. County \$ of \$143,254 were received in January. The District Capacity \$ of \$100,000 have not been received yet.

The grant was sent in December 2015. The District Capacity dollars are from the legislature through MN BWSR, special dollars from the Clean Water Fund.

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Carla Gillson to accept the November and December financial statements. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Carla Gillson to approve checks written. Approved unanimously.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI (GRAND RAPIDS) WRAPS

In the process of transitioning to Phase II and hiring EOR as the consulting firm.

Last week a Webinar was held from January 14, 2016, from 1-4:30 pm. to review the work plan and budget that EOR put together for us. Maggie Leach, MPCA and Steve Hughes will meet with EOR to go over the work plan and budget changes on February 1st or 2nd. Phase I was \$50-\$60/hr. depending on what was being done. Phase II will be a flat rate of \$50/hr.

WRAPS (BRAINERD)

Brainerd WRAPS will be starting this spring. It will be a repeat of what we did with the Upper Mississippi (Grand Rapids) WRAP (water sampling, kickoff meeting, etc.)

SWCD DISTRICT CAPACITY/\$100,000

This is new dollars for two years given to every district. It can be used to help the district do their job better. Steve Hughes discussed some items he would like to use the money for (photocopier, computers, cameras, etc.) Also, discussed re: Jake Granfors position and his current hourly rate with Pheasants Forever. Steve would like to see his hourly rate increased and use district capacity dollars for this. Steve Hughes discussed this with Tanner, Farm Bill Biologist Supervisor to see if this can be done and Tanner says it can be done. Steve is looking at

additional funds of \$2400 for Jake. No decision has to be made today just something to think about. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to table until the February meeting. Approved unanimously.

PERSONNEL POLICY

Discussion re: updating the Personnel Policy. We will look into this in April. Carla suggested looking into a sample handbook to see what should be in it. There is a state recommended handbook.

2016 W-4 forms were handed out to be filled out and returned.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations for Chair. Roger Vogt nominated Bob Janzen. Bob Janzen nominated Bob Roseberg. Bob Roseberg declined. A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Roseberg to cast a white ballot for Bob Janzen, Chair. Approved unanimously.

Nominations for Vice Chair. Bob Janzen nominated Roger Vogt. A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Bob Roseberg to cast a white ballot for Roger Vogt, Vice Chair. Approved unanimously.

Nominations for Secretary. Bob Roseberg nominated Frank Turnock. A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Carla Gillson to cast a white ballot for Frank Turnock, Secretary. Approved unanimously.

Nominations for Treasurer. Bob Roseberg nominated Carla Gillson. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to cast a white ballot for Carla Gillson, Treasurer. Approved unanimously.

Bob Roseberg is Reporter.

OFFICERS FOR 2016

Bob Janzen, Chair
Roger Vogt, Vice Chair

Frank Turnock, Secretary
Carla Gillson, Treasurer
Bob Roseberg, Reporter

DESIGNATE BANK & NEWSPAPER

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Janzen to designate the bank and newspaper (Security State Bank and Aitkin Independent Age). Approved unanimously.

2016 MILEAGE RATE

The 2016 mileage rate is .54/mile.

BILLS OVER \$1500

MASWCD/\$3148.70

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to not pay the MASWCD dues of \$3148.70. 4 Yes, 1 No. Approved.

MCIT/\$6414

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Carla Gillson to approve \$6414 to MCIT. Approved unanimously.

PHEASANTS FOREVER/\$11,150.27

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve payment of \$11,150.27 to Pheasants Forever. Approved unanimously.

ITASCA COUNTY SWCD/\$2197.50

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Janzen to pay Itasca County SWCD \$2197.50. Approved unanimously.

MN SWCD FORESTRY ASSOCIATION DUES/\$60

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve \$60 for the MN SWCD Forestry Association dues. Approved unanimously.

PROPOSED LETTER TO MASWCD

This was discussed at the November meeting and motion made to sign the Pine County letter; however, Pine County wanted each district to write their own letter using the Pine County format. MASWCD not doing what the membership wants them to. A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Carla Gillson to write and send a separate letter to MASWCD. Approved unanimously. Leanne will be meeting with Pine County in the future.

2016 BUDGET

Discussion. A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Carla Gillson. Approved unanimously.

AIS WORKSHOP/12/28/15

Steve updated the Board on the AIS workshop held at Long Lake Conservation Center on December 28, 2015. Lots of good presentations and discussion. There were about 35 people who attended.

DISTRICT FORESTER'S REPORT (see attached report)

ECOFootprint GRANT

Grant period is open until January 29, 2016. Steve has a couple of projects he is looking at submitting.

The first project is a U of M graduate student doing a Fleming Lake, floating island water quality project that Steve would monitor occasionally and take some photos.

The second project is a buckthorn project near Palisade, 2 ½ mile radius, inventory what buckthorn is there and make up a plan.

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Carla Gillson to sign and submit these projects for the Ecofootprint Grant. Approved unanimously.

ROUND LAKE ASSOCIATION/\$1625.90

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Carla Gillson to approve payment of \$1625.90 to Round Lake pending approval of the AIS Committee. Approved unanimously.

PAUL DICKSON/FORESTRY PAYMENT

Discussion re: paying private consultants through a forestry grant. There will be a few of these coming up in the future. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Carla Gillson to approve payment of \$1240 to Paul Dickson. Approved unanimously.

OTHER

STATE OF MN JOINT POWERS (act as a pass through for DNR)

Two separate projects SWCD would receive \$55 for administration on one of the projects and \$55.02 on the other one.

A motion was made by Carla Gillson and seconded by Bob Janzen to authorize the District Manager to sign the agreement. Approved unanimously.

FARM BILL BIOLOGIST REPORT

Jake is at a Wild Rice meeting in Brainerd today. A Farm Bill Assistance Partnership Projects (Aitkin and Carlton) map is in your packet.

CONSERVATION CORP EMPLOYEE

A Conservation Corp employee was applied for and approved at no cost to the District. Employment is May-August. This employee could do many things (water sampling, AIS, Rivers and Lakes Fair, County Fair, etc.)

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN'S REPORT (see attached report)
NORTH REGION FORESTER (see attached report)

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (Bob Roseberg)

There was no meeting in December. Project update was given.

TSA REPORT

No meeting.

FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION

Pine, Carlton, Aitkin counties are meeting. Frank has attended these meetings and asked if someone in forestry could be involved. Dennis met in Hinckley and discussed him being able to continue to meet. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to pay Friends of Conservation \$500. Approved unanimously.

SUPERVISOR MEALS

Discussion re: supervisor meals. Per diem of \$75 can't be raised. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to pay for supervisor meals when a receipt is given. Approved unanimously.

Discussion at the BSALWMP meeting last week and Frank asked about this re: decontamination units.

Discussion re: decontamination units. During the week decontamination units will be at Willey's and Farm Island. On the weekends they will be at other locations.

The next Aitkin County SWCD Board meeting will be held Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ag Service Center.

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Carla Gillson to adjourn at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Franklin Turnock
Secretary