

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, February 21, 2017. Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Tom Fasteland, Vice Chair. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Those attending were:

Tom Fasteland, Vice Chair
Bob Roseberg, Treasurer
Bob Janzen, Secretary
Frank Turnock, Reporter
Steve Hughes, District Manager
Lori Nelson, District Secretary
Scott Kittleson, District Conservationist
Maggie Leach, MN BWSR

Those absent were:

Roger Vogt, Chair

Additions to the agenda

- Bob Hoefert, Area III
- Buffer Specialist/Planning & Zoning applications
- Shirts Plus/Bill over \$3,000

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve additions to the agenda. Approved unanimously.

Correction to January 17, 2017 minutes.

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve the January 17, 2017 minutes. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Discussion. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to accept the January 2017 financial statement. Approved unanimously.

CHECKS WRITTEN

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

COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT/GLEN TOWNSHIP, CHARLIE CHRISTENSEN, DAM LAKE/ECOFOOTPRINT 1

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the cost-share assistance contract for Glen Township, Dam Lake in the amount of \$8379.50 or 75 percent, whichever is less. Approved unanimously.

TOUR IN MARCH/AMERICAN PEAT TECHNOLOGY

Discussion re: tour. Steve will set up a tour with American Peat Technology for the March meeting.

PERSONNEL POLICY TO APPROVE

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Frank Turnock to approve the Personnel Policy. Approved unanimously.

CAR QUOTES

Steve discussed the need for a new vehicle. Steve received two quotes one from Aitkin Motors and one from Brandl. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to table the purchase of a new vehicle until the next board meeting when all supervisors will be in attendance. Approved unanimously.

CAPACITY FUNDING FOR 2017/REIMBURSEMENT FOR PROJECTS

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Frank Turnock to approve the 2017 District Capacity workplan with the new vehicle in the workplan. Approved unanimously.

ROGER VOGT ARRIVED AT 10:00 A.M.

Vehicle was taken from the table.

Discussion re: new vehicle. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Roger Vogt to approve the purchase of a vehicle when the workplan is approved. Approved unanimously.

2017 AIS BUDGET

Towels were ordered (10,000) for AIS. Shirts Plus requested \$10,000 down. A check for \$2500 was written earlier. A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve the payment of the remaining balance. Approved unanimously.

BWSR RECONCILIATION PROCESS

Maggie Leach updated the SWCD Board on the BWSR Reconciliation process for BWSR grants over \$50,000.

SIGN THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED RESOLUTION TO SIGN GRANTS & RELATED DOCUMENTS

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve signing the previously approved resolution. Approved unanimously.

APPLICATIONS FOR BUFFER POSITION

The deadline for applications was February 15, 2017. Six applications were received. An interview committee was discussed to include Terry Neff, Planning & Zoning, Steve Hughes, one SWCD Supervisor possibly two and Janet Smude.

Steve Hughes talked to Tom Giles, Buffer Specialist and he thinks the funding will continue at the same rate as last year or higher.

To be fair when interviewing, applicants will be told it is a one year temporary position depending on funding.

Roger Vogt and Tom Fasteland will be on the interview committee. Bob Janzen will be an alternate.

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Bob Roseberg to proceed with interviews. Approved unanimously.

Suggested dates for interviews were March 20, 23rd or 24th.

BOB HOEFERT/AREA III

Bob informed the Board of the Resolution meeting on Friday, June 2, 2017 in Carlton at the transportation building. The annual Area III meeting will be hosted by Mille Lacs County in September. Dates haven't been decided yet.

A handout was given out on the legislative platform for the year. Kurt Beckstrom is the new Chair for MASWCD.

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (Bob Roseberg)

- Approved a couple of projects
- Shared information with the Board on DNR Cost-Share Project Woodland Projects

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT (No report)

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN'S REPORT (see attached report)

Janet is working with Becky Sovde on a contractor workshop. The workshop will be held on April 6, 2017. Zonation survey was discussed. Each supervisor was given a survey to complete and return.

DISTRICT FORESTER'S REPORT (see attached report)

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve payment of \$5868 to Rainforest Alliance. Approved unanimously.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT (see attached report)

Civil Rights information was included in your packet that was mailed out. A committee of NRCS employees from the State of MN are working together to try and figure out information that is important to get out to SWCD Board members.

Scott Kittleson handed out a signature page for each SWCD Board member to sign to say they had received the Civil Rights information.

TRUAX NO TILL DRILL

Discussion re: No Till Drill needing some repairs that would total around \$5040. The Board suggested looking into purchasing a new drill rather than put that many dollars into ours.

NORTH REGION FORESTER (see attached)

MAGGIE LEACH/MN BWSR

-March 1, 2017 financials due to BWSR

-Buffer Elective due by March 31, 2017. County needs to decide by March 31, 2017

-CREP

-Base funding for districts

SALES TAX DISCUSSION

Maggie sent an e-mail to Jeanette re: districts exempt from sales tax.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ag Service Center.

A motion was made by Bob Janzen to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Janzen,
Secretary