

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, September 18, 2018 at the Ag Service Center. Meeting was called to order by Tom Fasteland, Chair. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Those attending were:

Those absent were:

Tom Fasteland, Chair
Frank Turnock, Vice Chair
Bob Roseberg, Treasurer
Bob Janzen, Secretary
Roger Vogt, Reporter
Steve Hughes, District Manager
Lori Nelson, District Secretary

Addition to the agenda:

-RESPEC, \$6866.02

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

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve the August 21, 2018 minutes. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to accept the August financial statement. Approved unanimously.

CHECKS WRITTEN

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

AIS UPDATE

Inspectors were down a little this year but was a good summer.

WRAPS UPDATE/GRAND RAPIDS AND BRAINERD

The Mississippi Grand Rapids WRAPS technical team meeting was held on Monday, September 17, 2018 at Long Lake Conservation Center.

The Mississippi Brainerd WRAPS will be having an Open House on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at the Aitkin Public Library from 4-6 p.m.

ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN/RUM RIVER

One Watershed One Plan is moving ahead. This includes Aitkin, Mille Lacs, Isanti, Anoka and another county or two. BWSR approved funding. There will be an Open House Tuesday, October 23, 2018 from 1-4 p.m. at the Mille Lacs Courthouse.

2019 BUDGET

Steve presented the 2019 SWCD budget to the Aitkin County SWCD Board and handed out copies.

Also, informed the Aitkin County SWCD Board about the discussion with the Administrator re: \$22,467.20 reserve on 2019 budget.

There is now a Budget Committee at the County which includes two County Commissioners, Administrator, and three or four department heads that make recommendations to the Aitkin County Board.

Steve Hughes will talk to the Budget Committee on Tuesday, October 2, 2018.

BILLS OVER \$3000

EOR/\$4666.55

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve payment of \$4666.55 to EOR. Approved unanimously.

RESPEC/\$6866.02

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve payment of \$6866.02 to RESPEC. Approved unanimously.

PEGGY JONES/AMERICAN PEAT TECHNOLOGY

Peggy Jones updated the SWCD Board on the proposed American Peat expansion in McGrath.

- 3500 acres focusing on a 600 acre parcel right now
- Environmental review in January
- Permits needed (approximately 6-10)

Project is out quite a few years yet.

Peggy also updated the SWCD Board on the American Peat operation in Rossburg. There are two shifts, approximately 50 people employed.

COST-SHARE PROJECT REVIEW/CITY OF MCGREGOR/DISTRICT CAPACITY 17/\$1390.13

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve a partial payment of \$1390.13 to the City of McGregor. Approved unanimously.

CAROL BUSCH/ROUND LAKE, HAZELTON TOWNSHIP/COST-SHARE PROJECT REVIEW, CISCO LAKE TULLIBEE GRANT/\$3207.75

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve payment of \$3207.75 to Carol Busch. Approved unanimously.

COST-SHARE PROJECT APPLICATION/AITKIN COUNTY HABITAT, FY 19 STATE COST-SHARE GRANT/\$999.75

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Roger Vogt to approve a cost-share project for Aitkin County Habitat for \$999.75. Total cost is \$1333.75 75 percent of the total eligible project cost. Approved unanimously.

MARY ROY/COST-SHARE AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve a cost-share amendment for Mary Roy extension for cost-share project until August 2019. Approved unanimously.

MFA DUES

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve payment of \$75 to MFA. Approved unanimously.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN'S REPORT (see attached report)

The Big Sandy Watershed Group took a tour of American Peat on Wednesday, September 12, 2018.

There will be a Compass Open House on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 (free nitrate testing will be available) at the Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Clubhouse from 5-7 p.m.

Continue to stay busy with cost-share projects.

There was a Technical Team WRAPS/Grand Rapids meeting on Monday, September 17, 2018 at Long Lake Conservation Center. There will be an Ambassador meeting next week.

There will be a WRAPS/Brainerd Open House on Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at the Aitkin Public Library from 4-6 p.m.

We are a collection site for MN Native Landscapes for milkweed pods.

OTHER

Mark Jacobs last day was September 14, 2018. A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Janzen to send a card or certificate from the SWCD Board recognizing Mark's years of service. Steve Hughes will take care of that. Approved unanimously.

MILLE LACS LAKE ATV TRAIL SYSTEM

There was a meeting held Thursday, September 13, 2018. Frank updated the SWCD Board on the Mille Lacs Lake ATV Trail System meeting.

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (Bob Roseberg)

Grant is extended for another year.

There is still discussion re: project for landowner in the Snake River Watershed. Steve Hughes has tried to contact the landowner.

DISTRICT FORESTER'S REPORT (see attached report)

FARM BILL BIOLOGIST REPORT

-Mississippi River Easement Outreach—120 letters were sent, 42 people called out of the 120 letters, 27 applications were submitted.

-There will be a ranking meeting on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 for potential easements.

-Jake was in St. Paul at the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Hearing to testify for Wild Rice Program Phase VI.

-Forestry Training

NORTH REGION FORESTER REPORT (see attached report)

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT (see attached report)

An update was given on the Forage and Grassland Tour.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ag Service Center.

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Bob Roseberg to adjourn at 12:15 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Janzen
Secretary

