Minutes of the Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the Ag Service Center. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Those present were:
Frank Turnock, Chair
Roger Vogt, Vice Chair
Bob Roseberg, Treasurer
Tom Fasteland, Secretary
Bob Janzen, Reporter
Steve Hughes, District Manager
Lori Nelson, District Secretary
Chris Pence, MN BWSR Board Conservationist

Those absent were:

Additions to the agenda:

-Cost-Share Assistance Contract, Shoreline Stabilization, Long Lake
-Bill over $3000/RESPEC $13,312.78
-Rum River One Watershed One Plan Agreement reaffirm over the phone approval

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

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve the March 19, 2019 minutes. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

No Treasurer’s Report was received from Hugh Heinecke, CPA. Steve gave an estimated report of $ on hand. A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Roger Vogt to approve Steve’s report. Approved unanimously.

CHECKS WRITTEN
A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve checks written. Approved unanimously.

AIS UPDATE

- Contractor Workshop 4/17/19.
  Steve will talk about docks and boatlifts
- Level 1 AIS Inspector Training at Mille Lacs Energy
- AIS meeting will be Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

WRAPS UPDATE/GRAND RAPIDS & BRAINERD

Brainerd WRAPS has started to talk funding for One Watershed One Plan. Grand Rapids WRAPS isn’t at that point yet.

RUM RIVER ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN AGREEMENT

Approval was done over the phone to enter into an agreement for Rum River One Watershed One Plan. A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Roseberg to reaffirm this. Approved unanimously.

DRILL RENTAL POLICY

Discussion re: delivering the drill instead of allowing landowners to pick it up.

DISTRICT FORESTER’S REPORT

Dennis Thompson, District Forester gave his resignation.

Monthly report was given (see attached report)

- FSC Certification
  - FSC audit is coming up in June-tried to get an audit done earlier but wasn’t able to. Question is it something we should continue with? Certificate is good through the year and audit could be done in September or October depending on a new forester. Dennis will help the new forester with the audit.

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Roger Vogt to accept Dennis Thompson’s resignation with regrets and post for a new forester. Approved unanimously.
BILLS OVER $3000

EOR/$12,702.33

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Janzen to approve payment to EOR for $12702.33. Approved unanimously.

RESPEC/$13312.78

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Roger Vogt to approve payment to RESPEC for $13312.78. Approved unanimously.

BUFFER PLANNING & ZONING POSITION

Interviews were cancelled Friday, April 12, 2019 and rescheduled for Friday, April 19, 2019.

PERSONNEL POLICY/SICK LEAVE

Discussion re: sick leave Article 5: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND SERVICES SUBJECT 5.d SICK LEAVE. The Aitkin County SWCD Board asked to put in writing what should be changed and bring back to the Board at the May meeting.

Read as follows: The maximum carry-over of sick leave from one year to the next per employee shall be 192 hours. **Maximum sick leave at any time during the year is 288 hours.**

Regular part-time employees earn sick leave benefits on a pro-rated basis. **Regular part-time employees maximum carry over of sick leave from one year to the next per employee shall be 192 hours.**

DISTRICT CAPACITY 18/COST-SHARE $20,000

A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Bob Janzen to designate $20,000 for cost-share from the District Capacity 18 Grant. Approved unanimously.

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (Bob Roseberg)

Discussion re: Snake River Watershed One Watershed One Plan
DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT

AIS training coming up.

MN BOARD CONSERVATIONIST REPORT


One Watershed One Plan request for proposals May 6, 2019.

BWSR Academy (save the date) Breezy Point

Prescribed Grazing Workshop Technical Team July 16-18, 2019

Question was asked what Aitkin County SWCD does an Annual Plan, BBR or both. Aitkin County SWCD does a BBR.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN’S REPORT

COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT/WOLFGRAM PROPERTY/LONG LAKE/GLEN TOWNSHIP

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve a cost-share assistance contract for the Wolfgram property, total project cost is $7492, 75% of the project costs not to exceed $5619 is requested. Approved unanimously.

NORTH REGION FORESTER REPORT (see attached report)

FARM BILL BIOLOGIST REPORT (Jake Granfors)

-Brush mowing projects (6 done, 15 to do)
-Conservation Easement Update

NRCS REPORT (Candi Fuller)

SHORELAND POLICY (see attached)

Discussion. A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Bob Roseberg to adopt the Shoreland Policy. Approved unanimously.
Local Work Group meeting at 1:00 p.m. today.

The next SWCD Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ag Service Center.

A motion was made by Bob Janzen and seconded by Roger Vogt to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Fasteland
Secretary