

MINUTES FOR THE May 12, 2016, BOARD MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE CLAY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, MOORHEAD, MN.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Krabbenhoft, at 4:00 p.m.

- ROLL CALL: Members present: Paul Krabbenhoft, Chairperson
 Joel Hildebrandt, Vice Chairperson
 Carol Schoff, Treasurer
 Randy Schellack, Secretary
 Steve Dalen, Reporter
- Others present: Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
 Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
 Craig Halverson, District Technician/CFO
 Lynn Foss, Water Resource Management Technician
 Tony Nelson, PF Biologist
 Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner
 Sharon Lean, District Conservationist
- Absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA: M/S/P Schellack/Hildebrandt to approve the May Agenda. Motion Carried.

Meeting and mileage forms completed by Supervisors.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: A draft copy of the April 14, 2016 meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the May meeting. **M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schoff to approve the April 14, 2016 minutes.** Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Mandy discussed the financials.
M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried.

INTRODUCING GABRIEL FOLTZ:
Kevin introduced, Gabriel Foltz, our new seasonal employee to the Board of Supervisors.

APPROVAL ITEMS:

APPROVE AG BMP LOAN APPLICATION
K. Carlson.....SSTS6448.00

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve the above mentioned loan application. Motion carried.

APPROVE STATE COST SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:
O. Ramstad.....Field Windbreak 253.00
B. Bjerken Well Decommissioning..... 300.00

M/S/P, Schellack/ Schoff to approve the above mentioned Cost- Share contracts. Motion carried.

APPROVE STATE COST SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING PAYMENT:
K. Simonson C/S 15-17.....Field Windbreak3345.00
E. Aakre C/S 15-21Field Windbreak 646.00
M. Thompson C/S 15-22.....Field Windbreak 444.00
C. Dalby C/S 15-18Field Windbreak 523.00

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff to approve the above mentioned Cost-Share contracts for payment. Motion carried.

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID: The list of vouchers from Elect #16-31 to 16-35, QuickBooks checks #18914-#18952 and Bank checks # 15475 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by due date. **M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed.** Motion carried.

Sharon Lean arrived to the meeting at 4:55

BRETT ARNE- BWSR BC: Brett gave a presentation to the Supervisors on their role as an SWCD supervisor. There was discussion held about some of the rules and regulations for the Board of Supervisors to follow.

Jenny Mongeau arrived to the meeting at 5:05

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Brett discussed the Amendments that were made to the Buffer Law. (See attached reports) There was a discussion held on the DNR Maps and the comment period that is taking place for the maps. Kevin stated that the comment period for the DNR maps is very confusing, and that there hasn't been a lot of direction given from the DNR on how to guide landowners to make their comments.

NRCS ITEMS: See attached report

Sharon Lean left the meeting at 5:25

EXCESSIVE SOIL LOSS PROGRAM UPDATE: Kevin stated that there have been 2 complaints brought to him. However, the landowners are not ready to make a written complaint at this time. Kevin discussed the process for the program. Brett stated that BWSR has been asking for input on the process for the program. The program has not gotten as much attention since the Buffer Initiative is coming through at the same time.

FARMBILL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP GRANT APPLICATION: Kevin discussed the new grant agreement. The grant agreement would be for \$58,500 with the Clay SWCD match to be \$6500 for a total agreement of \$65,000. In the past, the Clay County and Pelican Pheasant Forever Chapters, along with the Buffalo Red River Watershed have given donations towards our portion of the match. We will continue to ask for their donations.

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve the application for the Farm Bill Assistance Partnership. Motion Carried.

WALK – IN ACCESS PROGRAM AMENDMENT: Tony discussed the Joint Powers agreement and the amendment for the Walk-in Access Program.

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schoff, to approve the Walk- in Access program agreement. Motion Carried.

MAWQCP: Kevin discussed the questions about the application. The wordage for the Septic System on the application has been changed to be clearer. There were 24 applications submitted throughout our area with 2 of those being submitted by Clay SWCD.

RESOLUTIONS: Kevin discussed the resolution process. Supervisor Joel Hildebrandt presented his resolution for pollinators on public land. Paul would like to readdress the Per Diem resolution from 2015. The Per Diem has been \$75 since the 80's, the board would like to see it raised to \$150.00.

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack to approve the above stated resolutions for submission at the Area 1 meeting on June 21. Motion Carried.

LONG LAKE CONSERVATION CAMP:

Amanda stated that there was one application submitted by a girl that attended the camp last year. At this time the board would like to offer the camp to children that have not been able to attend in the past. The board suggested staff decide on the final camp attendees.

M/S/P, Dalen/ Hildebrandt, to approve Clay SWCD staff to select the Camp attendees. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR ELECTIONS: Kevin stated that the period for Filing is May 17-31. Supervisors Joel Hildebrandt and Carol Schoff are planning to file.

OFFICE SPACE: Kevin stated that Dave Overbo, County Highway Engineer, said that MN DOT would like to use the space that we previously requested at the County Joint Facility. Kevin told Dave that we will not need the space at this time. Discussion was held for future space requirements.

2017 COUNTY BUDGET REQUEST: Kevin discussed the changes that could affect the 2017 Budget. The Budget request is usually due to Brian Berg, Clay County Administrator, sometime in June.

Supervisors Joel Hildebrandt and Paul Krabbenhoft left the meeting at 6:00pm

Supervisor Carol Schoff presided over the rest of the meeting - 6:00 pm

TSA RESTRUCTURING: Nothing new to report

GOOSE PRAIRIE WMA ENHANCEMENT PROJECT: Lynn stated that this may be viewed as 3 separate projects. There is a small portion on private land with the majority being on DNR Land. In the past we have appointed other counties to be the LGU and in this case, we may let DNR act as the LGU.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Jenny discussed an area of concern in Crestwood where people have been driving down an embankment and fishing. There was a rock wall with a gravel parking pad approved to prevent the problem. The new jail and Law Enforcement Center passed with a 4:1 vote. It will be on the referendum in November.

CFO PROGRAM: Craig stated that there are different numbers used for State and County animal units. Some landowners would like to get rid of the County units and just use the States. There has been no decision made, it will be discussed at the next Planning and Zoning meeting.

TREE PROGRAM: There is one job left to plant and 2 to mat.

No-Till Drill Program – Craig said that there has been 832 acres planted this spring.

ENVIROTHON: Mandy stated that the Senior Envirothon was held on May 4 at the Prairie Wetlands Center in Fergus Falls. There were 18 teams present with 6 from Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton (DGF). 1st place went to Frazee, 2nd to Underwood and 3rd to DGF. DGF attended the State Envirothon on May 16th. Last year we sent DGF schools \$150.00 to help with their costs for the State Envirothon.

M/S/P, Schellack/Dalen, to approve \$150.00 to DGF for State Envirothon costs. Motion Carried.

URBAN CONSERVATION: Mandy Stated that the Rain Barrel Workshop was held on April 26 at Lindenwood Park in the main shelter. There were 11 attendees with 7 from Clay County. The Compost Tumbler Workshop was held May 3 at Lindenwood Park also. There were 11 attendees with 7 from Clay County. Both workshops were a success with a lot of input from Clay County residents about the Urban Conservation Program and how it could be a success. Tony discussed the potential Rain Garden at Ellen Hopkins and Robert Asp Elementary Schools. There was a meeting held at Ellen Hopkins with a final design for the Nature play area. Heather Neissemyer, Ellen Hopkins PTAC President would like to meet with our Engineer, Jim Hest to have him evaluate the sight to see if there is potential for a rain garden in the area they are planning for. We are waiting to hear from Robert Asp on a possible cost share application for a rain garden project.

LWM/WCA: See report

PLANNING COMMISSION: Randy stated that there was a gravel pit permit approved for Summit Gravel.

RRVCSA: There is a meeting scheduled for June 8th.

CAI PROGRAM: Kevin stated that Mandy submitted the general weed notice to the Fargo Forum. He met with Dave Overbo and Leo Splonskowski, L&M Road Services, to discuss the spraying contract. There have been 17 Pest tests given with 22 scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

PHEASANTS FOREVER:

Tony stated that there were 5 CCRP contracts completed for 30 acres. In Clay county 8 of 26 General CRP offers were accepted for 435 acres. There were 23% of the National General CRP contracts accepted for 411,000 acres. The enrollment/ re-enrollment Walk-In Access sign-up period is underway. There have been 3 re-enrollments and 1 new enrollment for 700 acres for the Walk-In Access Program. The Pheasants Forever North Region Meeting will be in Gary SD May 23-26.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 17-31 – Supervisor Filing
May 21 – Area 1 Sub-Committee Meeting
May 23-26 – Pheasants Forever North Region Conference in Gary, SD
May 24 – 1000th Easement Celebration – Ulen
May 30 – Memorial Day – Office Closed
June 8 – TSA Meeting- Mahnomen

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 9, 2016 - - - 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Supervisor Schoff called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **M/S/P, Schellack/ Dalen, to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm. Motion carried.**

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Randy Schellack
Secretary

Signature after approved Date

NRCS DC Report

May 12, 2016

For Clay County SWCD Board Meeting

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program)

Moorhead NRCS has 10 new 2016 EQIP contracts. These contracts are for:

- 11 Water and Sediment Control Basins (WSCOB)
 - 1 Grade Stabilization Structure
 - 1 Grade Stabilization Structure – Side Inlet
 - 1 Waste Facility Closure
 - 1 Forage and Biomass Planting
 - 1 Prescribed Grazing System
 - 1 High Tunnel System
 - 1 Cover Crops
 - 1 Energy Audit

2016 EQIP Contracts total dollar amount is \$241,037.00.

State Office has announced the 2017 EQIP application deadline. All 2017 applications must be received by August 19, 2016.

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

Our office received 13 2016 CSP applications. I had 2 applications cancel and one application is for the 2017 renewal signup. I have now 11 active applications.

I completed 10 CSP interviews and the CSP renewal application will be interview in June or July. I have enter 9 CSP interview information into the Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT). The total dollar amount for 9 applications is at \$300,755.00/year. For five year, the dollar amount is \$1,503,775.00 if all applications are accepted. I have one application left to enter into CMT and I estimate the value around \$30,000.00. Ranking score are from 471.98 to 263.52.

Other Items

- Hoping to set up the Local Work Group meeting on June 7th.
- Need to complete 16 WRP modifications
- Need to write 2 WRP contracts for restoration costs
- Need to completed field reviews for 16 WRP summary report and complete one full monitoring report
- Need to field view 23 sites in Becker County for the Food Security Act (FSA) compliance reviews
- Engineering surveys for 13 site have started
- Need to complete field reviews for resource concerns on possible future EQIP projects

Sharon Lean
District Conservationist
USDA NRCS