

MINUTES FOR THE April 12, 2018, 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
Richard Menholt, Reporter

Others present: Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
Lynn Foss, Water Resource Management Technician
Gabe Foltz, District Technician/ CAI
Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
Tony Nelson, PF Biologist
Brandon DeFoe, Area Soil Scientist
Jim Haney, County Commissioner

Absent: Craig Halverson, District Technician/ CFO
Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA: M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the April agenda. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A draft copy of the March 8, 2018, meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the April meeting.

M/S/P, Schoff/Menholt, to approve the March 8, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mandy discussed the financials.

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

SELECT SPRAYER CONTRACTOR FOR 2018: Gabe stated that there were 2 requests for bids and 2 bids were received; one from Leo Splonskowski and the other from DBI for the 2018 spraying season. Discussion held on the bids.

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve the bid submitted by Leo Splonskowski. Motion carried.

APPROVE STATE COST SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

L. Stuhaug CS 18-04 for a Field Windbreak in the amount of \$1,334.20

N. Stattelmann CS 18-02 for a Field Windbreak in the amount of \$1,215.00

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

LONG LAKE CONSERVATION CAMP: Mandy discussed the 2018 Conservation Camp and registration costs for Clay SWCD to sponsor two attendees.

M/S/P, Hildebrandt/Schellack, to approve sponsoring 2 camp attendees. Motion carried.

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID: The list of vouchers from Elect #18-14-18-22 and #19669 -19701 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by due date. **M/S/P, Menholt/Schoff, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed.** Motion carried.

NRCS SOIL HEALTH PROJECT: Brandon DeFoe, NRCS Soil Scientist, discussed the project being conducted on Mike and Ryan Hough's property. There was a discussion held on funding for the project and the costs associated with it. Clay SWCD Board of Supervisors tabled the decision to fund part of the project until further discussed with Wilkin SWCD. More to come.

PHONE SYSTEMS UPDATE: Kevin stated that he spoke with Scott Wendorff, LCSC this morning and he stated that the phones could potentially be in the office by the end of the month.

COUNTY BUYOUT PROPERTY PROJECT: Tony discussed the project. Mandy and he attended a Land Committee meeting to discuss the project. Everyone was interested in moving forward with the project. Mandy, Steve Burdick, Kevin and he attended the County Board meeting on Tuesday April 3rd where they presented the project to the board for approval. The project was approved and will move forward. The project will be held in a two-stage plan with the pollinator restoration taking part first and the tree restoration following. Discussed the potential to expand this type of project to other county properties down the road. Discussed potential partners in the project and the workload.

DISTRICT CAPACITY LOCAL MATCH GRANT FUNDS: Kevin discussed the County's match for the grant. We will work with Kirk Rosenberger at the Landfill and the Highway Engineering Department for potential projects to spend these funds.

2018 DAY AT THE CAPITOL: Paul, Carol, Randy, and Richard attended the session. Discussed the session.

MASWCD LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: Paul discussed the training opportunity. Discussion held on the process and how the decision is made who is accepted. There is funding assistance for the start-up fee through the Area.

AREA 1 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Paul, Randy, Carol, Richard, Kevin, and Mandy attended the meeting. Discussed the meeting.

SWCD FUNDING AUTHORITY BILL: Paul discussed the Bill. The District Capacity funding will come again from the Clean Water Funds for 2019.

CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS: Kevin stated that he received the information packet for the 2018 resolutions. Any resolutions will need to be completed before the June Area meeting.

2019 WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYROLL ESTIMATES: Kevin discussed the estimates that need to be submitted by April 30th. There was a discussion held on the COLA. We have previously followed the County's COLA and will continue to do so for 2019. For planning purposes the Board decided to submit a Payroll estimate including a 2% COLA and a 2% Merit increase for employees.

BUFFER LAW UPDATE: Gabe discussed properties that have been removed from the Buffer map. Roger Hemphill, MN DNR, will conduct a site visit as soon as the weather permits on a property that is questionable for the buffer law. Gabe stated that he and Kevin attended a meeting with the WRWD to discuss potential for Cost-Share dollars to buffer public ditches in the WRWD. WRWD would like us to continue to do the work we are doing without involving them in the process. Gabe discussed the redistribution of the Buffer Cost Share funds that were sent back to BWSR after the first Cost-Share deadline. We are currently requesting an additional \$18,000 of Buffer Cost-Share funds. We will hold a landowner meeting once the funds are available to us to inform landowners of the program. Gabe stated that he attended a meeting with Land-O-Lakes to learn about a program that they are using for alternative practices. Gabe discussed the program and the process for alternative practices. Gabe discussed the Operation Buffer APO Amendment. The BWSR Board turned down the Amendment the morning of April 12, unanimously.

U OF M TILLAGE TRANSECT PROJECT: Kevin stated that Dan Wheeler contacted us to work with them on the project again for the 2018 season. There was a discussion held on the project. We will work with Dan in completing the project for the 2018 season.

NRCS: Kevin stated that Curtis Elke, MN acting State Conservationist, visited the office on April 3rd along with Jessica Weiss, Initiative Coordinator for RCPP. Kevin stated that Curtis attended the FAC meeting being held in the office between NRCS, FSA, and the SWCD. Kevin discussed the visit. Kevin discussed the webinar he attended discussing the NRCS Conservation Collaboration Grant agreement opportunities. There will be a Local Work Group meeting on April 17. There was a discussion held on the meeting.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDPs): Kevin discussed the reason for the plan and the process of doing the plan.

CCATO:

CAI TOWNSHIP OFFICER'S WORKSHOP: Gabe, Craig, Tony, and Kevin attended the meeting. They each gave an update on current events through the SWCD. Gabe stated that there were 16 townships in attendance.

MDA NOXIOUS WEED GRANT: Gabe stated that he discussed the grant with township officials at the CAI Workshop. We accepted the funds for the grant and are waiting for the contract to complete it. The focus for the grant funds will be Wild Parsnip control on County right of ways and Township right of ways.

MN DOT ROADSIDE DITCHES: Kevin discussed mowing and haying in these areas and the issues with doing so. There was a discussion held.

BEGINNING FARMER PRESENTATION: Gabe and Tony attended the meeting being held by FSA. There were presentations held discussing services provided by each group for up and coming farmers. There were approximately 20 attendees.

RRVFDR WORKGROUP CONFERENCE: Kevin stated that he and Lynn attended the meeting. Discussed the meeting.

WCA RULE CHANGES: Lynn stated that he received an email inviting him to attend a meeting to discuss the new WCA Rules. Discussed the meeting that will be held the end of April. He will be part of the group that will attend the meetings.

NACDE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Gabe and Mandy attended and discussed the meeting.

RIVERKEEPERS "PARTNERSHIP AWARD": Mandy stated that Christine Holland, RiverKeepers selected us for a Partnership award that will be presented to us at the Annual RiverKeepers meeting held on April 23 at 5:30pm.

NRCS: Handout submitted by Sharon Lean

REPORTS:

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Jim Haney stated that the County Board approved the expansion of the juvenile detention center which will help save the County money by not having to transport juveniles to other locations. Discussed the bonding bill and the lift station.

MASWCD: Paul discussed the 1W1P and the process and the potential funding that is available for the program.

CFO PROGRAM: It was noted that Craig passed his year-end review with Scott Schroeder, MPCA.

TREE UPDATE: It was noted that there are 13 machine plants and 28,005 ft. of matting to be applied.

NO TILL DRILL: The drills are being prepared for the 2018 season.

URBAN CONSERVATION: Mandy discussed the upcoming workshops. There were 30 in attendance for the first pollinator workshop with a waiting list, could potentially hold another one in the fall. Discussed expanding the workshops to rural urban areas in Clay County. Discussed the purchase of seed packets and pollinator plugs for workshops, building landscaping, and flowerbeds through the City of Moorhead.

LWM/WCA: See report

PLANNING COMMISSION: Randy stated that there was a gravel pit approved.

RRVCSA: Carol stated that the meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. There was a conference call held in place of the meeting. The budget was passed.

CAI UPDATE: Gabe discussed weed issues on public lands and the process to eradicating weeds on public lands.

PF UPDATE: Tony stated that he has 3 CREP applications that have received preliminary funding. They are all at various stages in the process. Progressing through the process. Met with Sharon and James to discuss a plan of action in case of a sign up. A lot of interest for new and re-enrolled CRP. He submitted 2 Walk-In- Access applications for Max and Richard Peppel. He is working with Mark Askegaard to incorporate a pollinator habitat on his organic farm. His application was submitted and is awaiting approval. He is working with Cass SCD to do the planting.

COUNTY MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING: Kevin stated he attended the meeting. There was discussion held on the meeting topic of "succession in the workplace". All department heads were in attendance.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 17 – Local Work Group Meeting – Ag Service Center
- April 19 – IET Workshop – Fergus Falls
- April 24 – Rain Barrel Workshop – MB Johnson Park, Moorhead
- April 26 – CREP Meeting – Alexandria
- May 1 – Compost Tumbler Workshop – MB Johnson Park, Moorhead
- May 2 – Senior Envirothon – Prairie Wetland Center, Fergus Falls
- May 9 – Rain Barrel Workshop – Lindenwood, Fargo

ADDITIONAL ITEMS: Discussion held on the Goose Prairie project being conducted in the Wild Rice Watershed District.

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 10, 2018 - - - 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Supervisor Krabbenhoft called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **M/S/P, Menholt/Schoff, to adjourn the meeting at 6:30p.m.** Motion carried.

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Randy Schellack
Secretary

Signature after approved Date