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Approved Minutes

The meeting of the Waseca County SWCD Board of Supervisors was held at the Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District's meeting room on April 12, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Bob Drager, Chairman.

Members Present

Bob Drager, Chairman
Jurgen Peters, Vice Chairman
Ron Purcell, Treasurer
Larry Hagen, Secretary
Wayne Cords

Staff Present

Marla Watje, District Manager
Darlene Kukuczka, Office Assistant

NRCS: Jim Jirik

Motion by Wayne, second by Ron to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Motion by Jurgen, second by Ron to approve the minutes of March 8, 2012. Motion carried.
Affirmative: All Opposed: None

The treasurer's report dated March 2012 was presented to the Board for review. Motion by Wayne, second by Larry to approve the Treasurer Report as presented and file for audit. Motion carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Invoices: Motion by Jurgen, second by Ron to approve the payment of the presented invoices.
Motion Carried: Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Staff Reports:

Marla – Reported on arrival of trees, postcards sent for April 20th and 21st pick up days; field work, some wetland requests, and plans for 1st Grade environmental day.

Darlene – Reported on tree orders, GBERBA and Three Rivers RC&D work activities.

NRCS Report: Jim reported that an office appraisal is scheduled for the week of April 23rd. The appraisal will be conducted by area staff from Rochester. It will cover all programs, administration and office functions. In previous appraisals the board and SWCD employees were visited with along with landowners. I have not received any dates or request to meet with the board or staff at this time.

Conservation Reserve program General Sign-up ends the 13th. 143 contracts are expiring, most are signing up again. Some of the environmental CRP contracts do not meet eligibility so some of the acres need to be offered in the general. According to FSA there is a proposed bill that would require a workload analysis prior to closing of an office. Not sure of the status on this or when a decision will be made. As of now the plans are to close the FSA office the end of July. All the Conservation Stewardship payments have been made 65 participants.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program sign-up ranking just ended. We have around 15 that were funded for about \$120,000. Not all practices were funded and we are awaiting additional funds.

Gave a presentation on NRCS programs and controlled drainage at a farmers meeting in New Richland. There was very good discussion and feedback from the meeting. Around 30 farmers attended.

SWCD Base Grant: Motion by Wayne, second by Jurgen to accept and submit the base grant agreement.

Cost Share Assistance Applications (SWCD):

Payment request:

Cost share payment requests for Dave Arndt:

FY11-FR2-2 payment request \$1675.00

FY09-3NB payment request \$2925.00

Motion by Wayne, second by Jurgen to approve payment request of \$1675 and \$2925 for work completed. Motion carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Cancelations: Motion by Wayne, second by Ron to accept the cancelations of FY09-1NB (Woodruff) and FY09-2 NB (McGregor). Motion carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Approval:

In partnership with the City of Waseca and the Waseca Lakes Association (WLA) a proposed native buffer project located on Clear Lake was previously submitted and denied through the CWL grant process. The city of Waseca and WLA would like to proceed with the project and requested cost share assistance. City staff will present the project to the City Council on May 2, 2012 for final approval. Motion by Wayne, second by Ron to approve the City of Waseca cost share assistance contract to install a native buffer; requested amount \$9678.00, contingent on the city council final approval. City council minutes will be noted in the file. Motion Carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

GBERBA Shoreland Buffer Incentive contracts:

81-03	Willie Eichorst	\$ 2,320.00	2.9 acres
81-04	Gerald Lohberger	\$ 4,240.00	5.3 acres
81-05	Lloyd Amundson	\$ 3,200.00	4.0 acres
81-06	Al Hagen	\$ 2,480.00	3.1 acres
81-07	Clarence Guse	\$14,000.00	17.5 acres
81-08	Edna Wenzel	\$3,520.00	4.4 acres
81-09	Blaine Amundson	\$5,680.00	7.1 acres
	Total	\$ 35,440.00	44.3 acres

Motion by Wayne, second by Ron to approve the submitted buffer incentive contracts totaling \$35,440 and forward them to GBERBA for approval. Motion Carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

Budget: Discussion. Consensus by board members to move funds from savings to checking; and to set up two checking accounts: one for District operations and the other for encumbered grant funds.

Misc:

Wetland Conservation: Motion by Ron, second by Wayne to approve a contracted amount of \$75.00/meeting for Hugh Valiant as a representative on the TEP. Motion carried. Affirmative: All Opposed: None

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Bob Drager, Chairman.

The Next Board Meeting will be May 10, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. at the Waseca SWCD office.