



WASECA

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SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Final 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 June 18, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Wayne Cords, Chairman.

Members Present

Wayne Cords, Chairman
Todd Stencel, Treasurer
Scott Hildebrandt, Vice Chair

Staff Present

Dan Arndt, Manager
Tyler Polster, District Technician
Adrienne Justman, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Noel Frank, NRCS District Conservationist
Brenda Tonn, NRCS Area Conservationist

The agenda was reviewed and it was decided to make a couple of changes. The Legislative Update would be bypassed and nominations for the 2016 Outstanding Conservation Farmer would be submitted by email rather than discussed during the meeting. Motion was made by Stencel, second by Hildebrandt, to approve the agenda with the noted changes. Motion carried. All yes

Minutes of the May Board Meeting were distributed to the supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Hildebrandt, second by Stencel, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried. All yes.

Cash flow worksheet was reviewed. The treasurer's report dated May 2015 was presented to the Board for review. Motion was made by Stencel, second by Hildebrandt, to approve the Treasurers Report. Motion carried. All yes.

Bills: (See Attached) Motion was made by Stencel, second by Hildebrandt, to approve payment for the presented invoices that total \$6,056.41. Motion carried. All yes.

Old Business

1. Meeting Reports – No meetings to report

New Business

1. 2014 Audit – Justman presented the bid received from Peterson Company, LTD. for the 2014 audit. The bid totaled \$2,300 and was well within the budgeted amount. Motion was made by Hildebrandt, seconded by Stencel, to accept the bid and hire Peterson Company, LTD to perform the 2014 audit. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. Legislative Update – By-passed
3. 2016 Proposed Budget – Arndt presented the proposed budget to the Board. He highlighted some of the more significant changes compared to the 2015 budget including increased personnel costs and a variety of smaller changes. Motion was made by Stencel, seconded by Hildebrandt, to approve the budget. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. 2016 Outstanding Conservation Farmer – It was decided to accept nominations for this award by email.

5. Letter to NRCS State Conservationist – Justman presented the letter to the Board. The letter requests that the State Conservationist make hiring a new NRCS technician in the Waseca office a priority to prevent the conservation programs and practices in Waseca county from suffering due to lack of staff. Brenda Tonn spoke briefly about her recommendation that the office would benefit from both a Technician and a full time District Conservationist and encouraged the Board to send the letter. Motion was made by Hildebrandt, seconded by Stencel, to approve signing and sending the letter. Motion carried by voice vote.
6. June/July SWCD Newsletter – Arndt presented the topics that we plan to cover in the newsletter including Continuous CRP and increased rental rates, the upcoming Equip sign-up, and an introduction of Tyler Polster. The goal is to have the newsletter mailed by late June, early July. There was discussion about what group to target with the newsletter. It was decided that, if possible, it would be best to send a hard copy to the local landowners and email a copy to the operators. The budget was set at \$1,200. Motion was made by Hildebrandt, seconded by Stencel, to approve the budget and move forward with the newsletter. Motion carried by voice vote.
7. Area MASWCD Association Meeting – June 23 – Proposed Resolutions – The meeting will be held in Farimont on June 23. The meeting will run from 9 am to 2:45 pm. There is a \$25 registration fee per person attending. Motion was made by Stencel, seconded by Hildebrandt, to approve the registration cost for Polster and a Supervisor to attend the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.
8. RIM meeting – June 23 – Arndt and Polster organized an informational meeting about performing maintenance on RIM easements. They are hoping to receive a grant to provide funding for maintenance and need landowner commitments before they can apply for the grant. The meeting will be held at the East Annex at 6:30. Letters have been sent to the owners of RIM easements in Waseca county.

Agency Reports:

Noel Frank reported on the updated CRP rates, the average rate is \$242. He also stated that there have been a couple of Equip projects funded. The WRP monitoring in Waseca county for 2015 has been completed already. He also let the supervisors know that at the July meeting the Local Workgroup meeting for Equip will be held.

Brenda Tonn spoke about the new Client Gateway that has been established. This will allow landowners to complete tasks, such as signing forms, online rather than having to make a trip into the office. She stated that NRCS is working on filling the backlogged positions. She spoke about the RCPP program put into place by the 2014 Farm Bill. She also spoke about a rotational grazing event on July 9.

Staff Reports:

Justman reported on her time in Waseca. She has primarily focused on basic office duties and assisting with the development of the 2016 Budget.

Tyler Polster reported that he has been working to familiarize himself with the office and programs/practices used in the county. He assisted with creating the contact list of landowners for the RIM meeting

Arndt reported that he has attended 3 feedlot site meeting. He also completed the final inspection on a wetland bank project. He completed the surveying for a terrace project, which is still in search of funding. He stated that Tyler is doing very well and will be starting on CRP plans shortly.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Stencel, seconded by Hildebrandt, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

June Bills

Steele Co. SWCD	Hours		4605.03
	Expenses/Mileage		248.98
Clemons Properties	April Rent		665.00
Sportsman Stop	Gas		60.14
Schumacher's	2015 Trees		204.26
Jared J Dufault	Accounting		125.00
US Post Office	Postage		98.00
Rice SWCD	Soil Health Tour		50.00
		Total	6056.41