

North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2017
Northland Office Building
307 First St S, Suite 118
Virginia MN 55792

Supervisors Present: Chuck Bainter, Peggy Pearson, Mark Peterson & Gary Rantala
Staff Present: Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist; Emily Nelson, Water Resources Specialist, Beth Peterson, Forester; Anita Provinzino, District Administrator
Others Present: Marge Sella, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:32 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Agenda - Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve the agenda.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
2. Minutes – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the minutes as written.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
3. Treasurer's Report – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report as updated on 4/12/17.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable as updated on 4/12/17.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
5. Ratify Email Votes – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to ratify email vote on tree order for DNR CPL Grant.
6. Guest Introductions & Comments – None present

REPORTS:

7. Supervisor & Committee Reports
 - a. Chuck's reports on Laurentian RC & D meeting and MASWCD Day at Capitol were included in packet.
 - b. Mark reported on the MN Farmers Union meeting he attended. He also indicated there is an MPCA meeting in Cook on April 25 on the Littlefork River Watershed.
 - c. Peggy indicated the MN Farmers Union is addressing livestock kills by wolves.
8. NRCS District Conservationist Report – See report on file.
9. District Administrator Report – See report on file, plus.
 - a. Chuck volunteered to staff the Earth Fest booth in the afternoon on 4/22/17.
 - b. Anita reported on the BSWR meeting focused on TSA Organization & Management Structure in Bemidji on 4/13/17. Results of all statewide meetings are expected by

the end of April for comment. Once finalized they will be forwarded to BWSR's Board for action in 2018.

10. Resource Conservationist - See report on file, plus
 - a. PH monitoring – Discussion was held on requests for PH monitoring from lake associations. It is a simple test that can be performed in a matter of minutes with the PH probe. The board determined that PH monitoring is a service the District will offer for free when staff are in the area for another purpose.
11. Water Resources Specialist Report - See report on file
12. Forester Report – See report on file
 - a. Gary, Chuck and Mark volunteered to staff the tree sale pick up with Beth.
 - b. The Board asked Beth to get pictures of tree planting volunteers for the DNR grant and at the tree sale to be used in its promotional efforts.
 - c. Beth reported on a new subcontract opportunity she was made aware of this morning through Lake County SWCD. The University of Michigan is requesting verification of white cedar trees that were planted some years ago. Many sites are in northern St. Louis County. Time and mileage will be reimbursed. Due to Beth's time constraints, if the District is able to participate it will be through Phil and Emily.

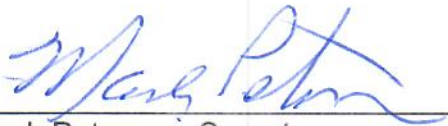
OLD BUSINESS:

13. Regional Forester Funding Request – No new information to warrant action at this time.
14. MASWCD Dues – No new information to warrant action at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

15. Curt Kleist's resignation – process for new supervisor appointment (District 3) - Anita is to look in file and ensure similar steps are followed as last time: press release, website, contacting local County Commissioners for recommendations and set timeline for applications etc.
16. 2017 SLC Aquatic Invasive Species – Board Resolution 2017-3 for Contract – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to adopt Board Resolution 2017-3 regarding acceptance of SLC AIS funding.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
17. New - Lake County AIS Purchased Services Agreement – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to enter into an agreement with Lake County to provide watercraft inspection services on Fall Lake in Lake County for a fee.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
18. BSWR Forester Questionnaire – Board responded to a questionnaire regarding the Area 3 Forestry Committee's proposal to BWSR for a statewide forester. Anita will complete the questionnaire and send it to Mitch Lundeen by May 5th.
19. 2016 Financial Reports – Anita reviewed the complete 2016 financial statements with notes and management discussion & analysis as submitted to BWSR.
20. 2017 First Quarter Financial Review – Budget vs Actual – Anita reviewed the first quarter financial information.

21. Retroactive Salary Adjustment for Anita and Phil – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to increase wages for Anita by \$3.00 per hour and for Phil by \$1.50 per hour retroactive to their anniversary dates.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
22. Existing SSL Shared Services Agreement Forester Billing Rate Increase – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to table. Motion carried.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
23. Other – There was no other business.
24. Upcoming Meetings and Trainings
 - a. Sidestep Risks When Conducting SWCD Business – May 11, St. Paul – Anita- \$35 – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to authorize Anita's attendance at the above conference.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
25. Confirm Next Meeting Date – The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, May 17.
26. Poster Judging – The board and staff selected the final 5 posters for Earth Fest crowd to choose top 3 poster contest winners.
27. The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.



Mark Peterson, Secretary

May 17, 2017
Date