



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Regular Meeting Minutes
July 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: Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist; and Beth Peterson, Forester (intermittently)

Others Present: Marge Sella, USDA NRCS

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Agenda - Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the agenda.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
2. Minutes – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the minutes as written.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

Gary Rantala joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

3. Treasurer's Report – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the Treasurer's Report as updated on 7/11/17.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Anita indicated staff made an error on the landowner reimbursement payment calculation for FY2015 cost share resulting in an overpayment to John Sweet of \$93.75 paid from District funds. Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable as updated 7/11/17 except the item listed on agenda as Item 13.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
5. Guest Introductions & Comments – No guests present

REPORTS:

6. Supervisor & Committee Reports
 - a. Mark indicated there is a Master Woodland Owner course beginning July 27 at Laurentian Environmental Learning Center. He stated South St Louis SWCD is hosting meetings on the St. Louis River Watershed on Friday, July 21 in Virginia and Aurora. Discussion was held about SSL SWCD hosting meetings in our District without asking for our participation. Anita was asked to speak with SSL regarding this.

- b. Gary reported on the TSA meeting held in Duluth on June 28.
- 7. NRCS District Conservationist Report – See report on file.
- 8. District Administrator Report – See report on file.
- 9. Resource Conservationist - See report on file.
- 10. Water Resources Specialist Report - See report on file.
- 11. Forester Report – See report on file. Beth reported she will attend a workshop in August on Tree Farm Inspections.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 12. MASWCD Dues – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to pay 2017 dues to MASWCD.

Affirmative: Bainter, Rantala

Opposed: Pearson, Peterson

Motion Failed

The Board asked Anita to send a letter to MASWCD with the outcome of the letter and indicating belief that dues amount is not equitable. She will also check with Commissioner Rukavina about where to get data on property values and population by township (basis of MASWCD's dues).

NEW BUSINESS:

- 13. AIS Resort Payments – precontract – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve payments for inspections done prior to contract signature date for McKinley Park Campground.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- 14. AIS joint proposal to Initiative Foundation – Anita indicated the District has been invited to join a grant proposal with Cass and Itasca Counties. If invited to submit a full proposal, the Board will need to approve application in August.

- 15. BWSR Cost Share Grants –

- a. Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the cost share policy preliminary draft as revised for submittal to St. Louis County Attorney.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- b. Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Nonstructural Land Management Practices Request for 2018 Cost Share Grant.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- 16. 2015 BWSR Cost Share Grant Closeout – Motion by Mark Peterson/Gary Rantala to approve the Final Financial Report for the 2015 Cost Share Grant.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- 17. 2017 BWSR Billable Rate Revision – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve the 2017 BWSR Billable Rate as presented, retroactive to 1/1/17.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

18. 2018 BWSR Buffer Cost Share Grant Acceptance – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to accept Board Resolution 2017-5 accepting 2018 Buffer Cost Share funding and authorizing the District Administrator to sign all documents.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

19. Credit Limit Increase for Phil & Emily – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to increase Phil and Emily's credit limit on their credit cards to \$1500 each.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

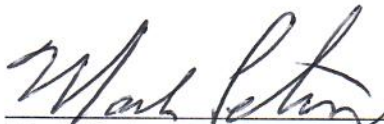
Motion Carried

20. Upcoming Meetings and Trainings

- a. TSA III Forestry Meeting is July 20 in McGregor – Mark will attend
- b. Tools for Effectively Engaging Landowners - Carlton – July 19&20 – Phil and Beth
- c. Buffer Law Meeting – July 21 in Aitkin – Phil and Anita
- d. RC& D meeting will be on July 24 in Duluth – Peggy or Chuck will attend
- e. St. Louis County Fair is August 9-13 – Board, staff and NRCS will cover the booth
- f. 25 x 25 Governor's Town Hall Meeting – September 12 in Ely
- g. Fall Field Forage Day is September 29 in Aitkin County

21. Confirm Next Meeting Date – The next meeting date is confirmed for Wednesday, August 9 at 10:30 a.m.

22. The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m. by Chair Peggy Pearson.



Mark Peterson, Secretary

August 9, 2017

Date