



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2016

Northland Office Building

307 First St S, Planning Conference Room

Virginia MN 55792

Supervisors Present: Chuck Bainter, Peggy Pearson, Mark Peterson & Gary Rantala

Supervisor Absent: Curt Kleist

Staff Present: Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Jared Ecklund, Resource Conservationist; and Phil Norvitch, Water Resources Specialist

Others Present: Marge Sella, NRCS; Dean Debeltz, Twin Metals; Ingrid Lyons and Becky Rom, Save the Boundary Waters.

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

1. Agenda - Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve 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 Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve the Treasurer’s Report for March 2016.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
5. Ratify e-mail votes: Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to ratify email votes noting correct amount of SLC Contract is \$9000:
 - a. Sonde Repair \$1539.43 (with return S&H total was \$1624.56)
 - b. Pickup purchase \$27,533.54
 - c. St. Louis County Contracts (\$40,000 and \$9000)

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

6. Becky Rom and Ingrid Lyons made a presentation on proposed sulfide-ore copper mining near the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and its potential impact on behalf of Save the Boundary Waters.

REPORTS:

7. Supervisor & Committee Reports

- a. Mark Peterson attended the Area 3 Forestry meeting. There is a trend of using wood in construction of large buildings versus steel. He also reported on the legislative action heard at that meeting.
 - b. Gary and Anita attended the TSA 3 Area meeting in Duluth on March 23. A full-time manager was not supported as there was not enough work to demand it. Both Kanabec and South St. Louis Districts were asked to provide a report of their costs to host the TSA for 2015.
 - c. Peggy attended the recent Resource Conservation & Development committee meeting. The Stream Symposium was attended by 160 people.
8. NRCS Conservationist Report – Written report is on file.
 9. District Administrator Report – Written report is on file.
 10. Resource Conservationist Report – Written report on file.
 11. Water Resources Specialist Report – Written report on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

12. Contests – Judging will take place after this meeting.
13. Envirothon – Gary and Jared will attend Envirothon on behalf of the District. It will be held in Cloquet on May 2.
14. MASWCD dues for 2016 – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to table a decision until the District is visited by LeAnn Buck, MASWCD Executive Director.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
15. Shared Services Agreement with South St. Louis SWCD – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to table until additional information is received.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
16. Website Upgrade – Motion by Mark Peterson/Chuck Bainter to table a decision.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

17. SCLV Subcontract – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve purchase tablets and supplies up to \$5200 for use by watercraft inspectors.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

18. BWSR

a. Landowner Cost-Share Contract – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve Cost-Share Contract 16-02 totaling at least \$17,887 with Scott Braaten up to \$13,415.25 with at least 25% match \$4471.75 as follows:

i. 2016 Cost Share Funds of \$6840.00 and Technical Assistance \$1710

ii. 2016 Capacity Funds of \$6575.25 and Technical Assistance \$1315.05

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

b. MAWQCP – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to authorize Anita to purchase up to \$2000 for radio, newspaper and internet ads using MAWQCP funds remaining by May 31, 2016.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

c. 2015 Financial Statements – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the 2015 Financial Statements, Notes & Management Discussion & Analysis as submitted to BWSR.

Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

19. Upcoming Meetings and Trainings

a. Jared & Phil are attending the State of Water Conference in Alexandria in April.

b. Local Work Group Meeting – It was determined that the Local Work Group meeting would be held on May 16th at 1:00 p.m. in Suite 118 of the Northland Office Building.

20. General Business

a. Quarterly Budget to Actual Financial Comparison – Anita reviewed this report with Board members.

b. No further business was discussed.

21. Confirm Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be May 16, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

22. Meeting was adjourned by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter at 12:10 p.m.

An informal lunch recognizing Climate Reporting Volunteers was held following the meeting. Participants selected the top 10 posters for public judging at Earth Fest and acknowledged the one essay received.

Chuck Bainter, Board Secretary

Date