



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2016

Northland Office Building

307 First St S, Planning Conference Room

Virginia MN 55792

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

**Staff Present:** Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Jared Ecklund, Resource Conservationist; and Beth Peterson, Forester

**Others Present:** Marge Sella, NRCS

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

1. Agenda - Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve agenda.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
2. Minutes – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the minutes as written.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
3. Treasurer's Report – Motion by Mark Peterson/Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 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. Guest Introductions – Beth Peterson was introduced as the District's new forester. Beth gave a brief review of her experience and ideas for forestry programs.

REPORTS:

6. Supervisor & Committee Reports
  - a. Mark Peterson shared an email from Mark Thell about bills currently at the legislature.

- b. Gary Rantala reported on Envirothon held in Cloquet on May 2.
- c. Peggy will attend the Resource Conservation & Development committee meeting.

Supervisor Curt Kleist arrived at the meeting at 10:45.

- 7. NRCS Conservationist Report – Written report is on file.
- 8. District Administrator Report – Written report is on file.
- 9. Resource Conservationist Report – No written report. Jared reported on several training sessions: rain gardens, soil loss and buffers. He is working with potential applicants under the community partners' grant. He has been on site visits on Lake Kabetogama, Lake Vermilion and in Chisholm. Wetlands Conservation Act reviews, SWAG sampling and the tree sale have also been on his schedule.
- 10. Water Resources Specialist Report – Written report on file.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- 11. Contests – This year's winners as judged by Earthfest participants, were from Merritt Elementary in Mt. Iron. Chuck agreed to present the award certificates and prizes to the students.
- 12. Shared Services Agreement with South St. Louis SWCD – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve shared services agreement with South St. Louis SWCD for forester position. This will be funded with 2016 Capacity Funds.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
- 13. Quickbooks Contract – Motion by Mark Peterson/Chuck Bainter to approve a six-month contract with Peshel Accounting in Ely in lieu of shared services agreement with SSL SWCD.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
- 14. Website Upgrade – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve quote from WA Fisher.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- 15. General Business –
  - a. Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve USDA APHIS Work Initiation Document for DNR CPL grant.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
  - b. Resolutions to forward to MASWCD – none presented

- c. Tree Sale – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Curt Kleist to allow staff to donate unsold trees to nonprofit and government agencies. Estimated value is \$1150 wholesale/\$2595 retail.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
- d. Authorize up to \$1000 AIS supplies purchased with SCLV grant – Motion by Mark Peterson/Gary Rantala to authorize staff to purchase supplies for use with AIS inspectors up to \$1000.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

16. Upcoming Meetings and Trainings

- a. Forestry Meeting – May 19 in McGregor – Mark will attend.
- b. TSA III Resolutions Meeting – June 3 in Carlton – Gary will attend
- c. Admin Training – June 22 & 23 in Bemidji – Anita will attend

17. Confirm Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be June 13, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

18. Meeting was adjourned by Mark Peterson/Gary Rantala at 11:36 a.m.

  
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Chuck Bainter, Board Secretary

  
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Date