



## North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 2015  
Northland Office Building  
307 First St S, Suite 118  
Virginia MN 55792

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

**Others Present:** Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Pam Tomevi, Koochiching SWCD District Administrator; Marge Sella, NRCS, and Ryan Hughes, BWSR

**Guests:** Curt Kleist, Board Supervisor Applicant; Dan Schutte and Derrick Passe of Lake County SWCD, Sam Soderman of Koochiching County SWCD, Terry Grosshauser and Jeff Lovgren of Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion.

The regular meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Gary Rantala at 10:32 a.m.

- 1) Agenda - **Motion** to approve agenda by Chuck Bainter, seconded by Mark Peterson to approve agenda. Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 2) Minutes - **Motion** to approve the minutes dated May 11, 2015 by Chuck Bainter, seconded by Mark Peterson. Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 3) Treasurer's Report – **Motion** by Mark Peterson, supported by Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report ending May 31, 2015. Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 4) Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – **Motion** by Mark Peterson, seconded by Chuck Bainter to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable. Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 5) Guests: All guests introduced themselves

### REPORTS:

- 6) Supervisor & Committee Reports (Peggy Pearson arrived at 10:40 a.m.)
  - a. Mark Peterson reported on the Gathering Partners Conference held in May in Grand Rapids. He has learned of a Master Naturalist Program similar to the Master Gardener Program. He also attended the MN Forestry Association Meeting in McGregor. The Area 8 TSA has an opening for a forester.
  - b. Peggy Pearson did not attend the recent Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development committee meeting.
  - c. Gary Rantala reported that he and Jared attended the TSA Area III Resolutions meeting last Friday.
- 7) NRCS District Conservationist Report – A copy of the written report is on file. In addition, Marge reported they are working on 39 EQIP projects (double the usual amount). They have worked on 90 since October. The Local Work Group needs to

meet again before August 21. The Forage Council will hold a Field Day on August 18. MN Women's Woodland Network is developing bylaws and a position description.

- 8) District Administrator Report – See report on file. Anita indicated unsold trees were donated to the DNR, Merritt Elementary and Laurentian Environmental Learning Center. She is actively working on grant applications for Aquatic Invasive Species. Pam stated this is her last meeting. She will send in a final bill for Koochiching County's admin services after June 30<sup>th</sup>. She is available by phone for meetings or consultation.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- 9) Board Vacancy – **Motion** by Gary Rantala to appoint Curt Kleist as a Board Supervisor from District 3. Chuck Bainter seconded. Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 10) MASWCD –
  - a. Chuck Bainter has not written the letter to Leann Buck at MASWCD requesting that MASWCD review the rate structure for St. Louis County.
  - b. Chuck has not invited LeAnn to a meeting.
  - c. Chuck Bainter indicated he would like the Board to think about and propose names for nominations to the MASWCD Annual Awards. Deadline is generally in August.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- 11) Funding Requests
  - a. BWSR Cost Share Funds – **Motion** by Chuck Bainter seconded by Mark Peterson to approve \$6427 of FY15 Cost Share Funds for technical assistance to allow staff to work on EQIP eligible projects with NRCS staff. Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
  - b. AIS
    - i. **Resolution 2015-2** – Motion by Gary Rantala seconded by Chuck Bainter to approve Resolution 2015-2. Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
    - ii. **Resolution 2015-3** - Motion by Chuck Bainter seconded by Mark Peterson to approve Resolution 2015-3 with the change to the second sentence to read: "Whereas, this grant application will provide for local boat decontamination and/or AIS education on an international basis; and" and to allow the District Administrator the discretion of applying for one or both grants. Affirmative: Bainter, Kleist, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala. Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 12) Upcoming Meetings and Training
  - a. Marge indicated AgLearn class requests for FY2016 need to be submitted by June 19. If Jared or Anita wish to attend, the Board will take an email vote.
  - b. A Local Work Group Meeting was set for the afternoon of August 10.

c. Other - None

- 13) General Business – The Board agreed to help staff a booth at the St. Louis County Fair with NRCS August 12-16. Marge will arrange for it. It may also be possible to locate next to SeaGrant and jointly staff the booths. SeaGrant is also having a booth and looking for volunteers for the Blueberry Fest July 24-26.
- 14) The next meeting date was confirmed for Monday, July 13, 2015.
- 15) Motion to adjourn by Curt Kleist.

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Chuck Bainter  
Board Secretary

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Date