



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2015
Northland Office Building
307 First St S, Suite 118
Virginia MN 55792

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

Supervisors Absent: Curt Kleist

Others Present: Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Jared Ecklund, Resource Conservationist; and Marge Sella, NRCS.

Guests: none

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Peggy Pearson at 10:35 a.m.

1. Agenda - **Motion** by Gary Rantala supported by Chuck Bainter to approve agenda.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
2. Minutes - **Motion** to approve the minutes dated September 14, 2015 by Chuck Bainter supported by Gary Rantala.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
3. Treasurer's Report – **Motion** by Gary Rantala, supported by Chuck Bainter to approve the Amended Treasurer's Report for July 31, 2015.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
4. Treasurer's Report – **Motion** by Gary Rantala, supported by Chuck Bainter to approve the Amended Treasurer's Report for August 31, 2015.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

Mark Peterson arrived at the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

5. Treasurer's Report – **Motion** by Gary Rantala, supported by Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report for September 30, 2015.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None
Motion Carried

6. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – **Motion** by Chuck Bainter, seconded by Gary Rantala, to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
7. Guest Introductions: None present.

REPORTS:

8. Supervisor & Committee Reports
 - a. Chuck Bainter reported on the Local Work Group meeting held in August, the Itasca SWCD Board Meeting held on October 6 and the MASWCD Award Selection Committee meeting held on October 8.
 - b. Mark Peterson attended the MN Forestry Association meeting on 9/17.
 - i. The Area has hired Mitch Lundeen as a forester. Districts should expect a survey on forestry needs.
 - ii. MASWCD due structures are being revised to include a rate based on 5 year rolling average of 75% population and 25% valuations.
 - c. Peggy Pearson attended the RC & D meeting on September 22 and there was not a quorum present. Discussion was held regarding the Lake Superior Coastal Symposium to be held January 6 & 7, 2016. The Laurentian RC & D is in charge of planning the event. The wild rice shoreland protection project is complete. She attended Beef Cow Calf Field Day on 9/26 at Brodeen's.
 - d. Gary Rantala drove to the TSA 3 meeting on 9/23 and was unable to find a handicap accessible parking space, so he did not attend the meeting.
9. NRCS District Conservationist Report – A copy of the written report is on file. In addition, Marge indicated a public address system and microphones/headsets are available for future farm tours. EQIP program has only one sign-up period this year. Sign up by November 20.
10. District Administrator Report – See report on file.
11. Resource Conservationist Report – See report on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

12. Retreat Review – Board members discussed the value of the retreat. A consensus was present that the Board should have one of these per year, generally in the fall (Oct/Nov) to plan for the coming year.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. Upcoming Meetings and Training
 - a. BWSR Regional Manager's Meeting in Duluth– Anita will attend

- b. Area 3/BWSR Administrative Meeting in Carlton about 2016 funding – Anita will attend
- c. MASWCD Annual Convention (December 6-8)
 - i. Supervisors discussed this. Agreed to look at calendars to see who may attend as registration is not due until after next Board meeting.

14. General Business

- a. 2015 Budget Revision – Motion by Chuck Bainter, supported by Gary Rantala to approve the 2015 Budget Revision.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- b. 2015 Billable Rate – Motion by Chuck Bainter, supported by Mark Peterson, to approve the 2015 Budget Revision.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- c. 2016 Tree Order – Motion by Mark Peterson, supported by Chuck Bainter to allow staff to spend up to \$5500 on tree stock, exclusive of plantskydd or repellex.
Affirmative: Bainter, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- d. Essay Contest – Chuck suggested the District sponsor an Essay Contest for students in the spring. Staff were directed to look into this further. It is an activity of Stewardship Week.
- e. Envirothon – Invitation by Lake County to participate in planning. Staff were directed to get more information about potential District involvement.
- f. MASWCD Resolutions – Board members turned in their ballots to Anita for recording on the final ballot to be sent to MASWCD.
- g. Other
 - i. Gary questioned the impact of reflooding the Zim area.
 - ii. Chuck inquired of the 6-month review status of the employees. The Personnel Committee will meet to address this.

15. Confirm Next Meeting Date: The Board set the next meeting date as Monday, November 9, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

16. **Motion** to adjourn by Gary Rantala at 12:47 p.m.

Chuck Bainter
Board Secretary

Date