



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2015

Northland Office Building
307 First St S, Planning Conference Room
Virginia MN 55792

Supervisors Present: Chuck Bainter, Mark Peterson & Gary Rantala

Supervisors Absent: Curt Kleist and Peggy Pearson

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

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Gary Rantala at 10:30 a.m.

1. Agenda - Motion by Chuck Bainter seconded by Mark Peterson to approve agenda.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
2. Minutes – Hearing no objections, the minutes dated November 9, 2015 were approved by Vice-Chair Rantala.
3. Treasurer’s Report – Motion by Chuck Bainter, seconded by Mark Peterson to approve the Treasurer’s Report for November 30, 2015.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Motion by Chuck Bainter, seconded by Mark Peterson, to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
5. Guest Introductions: none present

REPORTS:

6. Supervisor & Committee Reports
 - a. Mark Peterson reported on the Forestry Meeting he attended in McGregor. Discussion was held on a draft letter from the Carlton County SWCD to Minnesota Association of SWCD’s. Learned of Sweetwater Energy in Mt. Iron, looking to arrange tour.
 - b. Personnel Committee: The committee met prior to today’s Board meeting to review Jared’s performance. An updated job description will come before the committee in early 2016.
 - i. Motion to take Jared Ecklund off of probationary status by Mark Peterson, seconded by Gary Rantala.

Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

7. NRCS Conservationist Report – A copy of the written report is on file.
8. District Administrator Report – See report on file. In addition, Anita Provinzino reported on the northern region's Aquatic Invasive Species inspection program wrap-up meeting held in Brainerd and discussed staffing needs for upcoming grants.
9. Resource Conservationist Report – See report on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

10. Contests – Motion by Chuck Bainter seconded by Mark Peterson to conduct a poster contest for grades 4-6 and an essay contest for grades 10-12 in conjunction with the National Association of SWCD's. Chuck will notify the superintendents of all school districts and private schools in North St. Louis County.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
11. Envirothon – Staff reported no response to an earlier email to high school science teachers regarding participation in Envirothon. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

12. Cost Share Contract with Landowner – Motion by Gary Rantala seconded by Mark Peterson to approve FY15 Cost Share Funds of \$5152.50 toward a streambank stabilization and shoreline protection project estimated at \$6870 and designed by TSA III for John Sweet on property located on Lake Vermilion.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
13. Tree Sale Prices
 - a. Motion by Mark Peterson seconded by Chuck Bainter to sell tree bundles at \$30 and \$45 as per 2016 Proposed Pricing sheet and to change the jack pines to transplants instead of seedlings.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
 - b. Motion by Mark Peterson seconded by Chuck Bainter to permit staff to order 500 of white spruce and red pine in 6 cubic inch plugs from Itasca Greenhouse and set the retail price for each. This order exceeds the \$5500 budget.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
14. 2016 BWSR Capacity Funding Resolution 2015-5 and Work Plan – Motion by Gary Rantala seconded by Chuck Bainter to approve Board Resolution 2015-5 and the Work Plan for 2016 BWSR Capacity Funding.
Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
15. 2016 Budget – Motion by Chuck Bainter seconded by Mark Peterson to add \$3000 to the budget for Dues & Fees and approve the agency budget for 2016.

Affirmative: Bainter, Peterson, Rantala.

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

16. Other Business

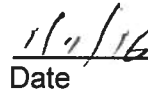
- i. Discussion was held on Carlton County SWCD's draft letter indicating they were not renewing their membership with MASWCD for 2016. Mark recommended the Board send a letter to LeAnn with key issues before re-extending an invitation for her to attend a Board meeting. Items of importance are dues amount, dues structure in St. Louis County, action of Legislative Committee and MASWCD role.

17. Next Meeting Date: The Board set the next meeting date as Monday, January 11, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

18. Meeting was adjourned by Mark Peterson at 1:05 p.m.



Chuck Bainter
Board Secretary



Date