



## North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

### Regular Meeting Minutes

**March 14, 2018**

Northland Office Building, Suite 118  
307 First St S. Virginia MN 55792

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

**Staff Present:** Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Beth Peterson, Forester

**Others Present:** Marge Sella, USDA NRCS

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:34 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Agenda – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve the agenda.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
2. Minutes – Motion by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve the minutes as written.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
3. Treasurer's Report – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the February 2018 Treasurer's report.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Motion by Frank Modich/Gary Rantala to approve accounts payable and accounts receivable.  
Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried
5. Guest Introductions & Comments – None.

### REPORTS:

6. Supervisor & Committee Reports
  - a. Mark and Gary reported on the East Range Joint Powers All Lands Meeting in Aurora.
  - b. Mark opted out of attending MASWCD Legislative Days due to lack of hotel availability.
  - c. Gary stated he will give two presentations on soils held in Duluth & Embarrass in April.
  - d. Peggy will attend the Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development on March 19<sup>th</sup>.
7. NRCS District Conservationist Report – See report on file.
8. District Administrator Report – See report on file.
9. Resource Conservationist - See report on file.
  - a. St. Louis River WRAPS (MPCA) local suggestions – Frank suggested additional monitoring is needed on the East Swan River. Anita indicated Phil would contact Frank for specifics needed to bring forward the recommendation. Decisions will be made in late April.

10. Water Resources Specialist Report – See report on file.

11. Forester Report – See report on file.

NEW BUSINESS:

12. BWSR Related

a. 2016 LV Community Partners – Cost Share Application – CP18-01

Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve cost share application CP18-01 with Vermilion Dam Lodge for stormwater runoff control in the amount not to exceed \$26,736 or 75% of the total cost to establish the practice, whichever is less and will be funded by 2016 Lake Vermilion Community Partners Fund.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

b. 2016 LV Community Partners request for extension to 12/31/19

Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve letter to BWSR requesting one year extension of grant to allow for survey, design and construction of above project.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

c. 2017 Financial Report to BWSR

Motion by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the 2017 Financial Statements prepared by Peterson Co, Ltd. for submittal to BWSR.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

d. 2018 BWSR Capacity Workplan Reflecting Additional \$18,200

Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve 2018 Capacity Work Plan totaling \$118,200 in BWSR funding.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

13. AIS Inspector Shared Services Agreement with Lake SWCD - 2018-2020

Motion by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve Shared Services Agreement with Lake County SWCD. NSLSWCD will provide AIS inspectors for Fall, Moose and Snowbank Lakes under the agreement.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

14. Bookkeeper Contract Renewal with Always There Staffing

Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve new contract with Always There Staffing for new bookkeeper at their rate of \$20.70 per hour.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

15. St. Louis River Tree Planting (DNR CPL) – Award Bid

Motion by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to award bid for tree planting on 3 parcels on the St. Louis River as described in the bid, to TNT Timber at the low bid of \$.47/tree anticipating a total cost of \$634.50.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

16. Request to use sick time for recent funeral leave

Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to allow an employee to use 42.5 hours of sick leave as funeral leave for death in immediate family due to extenuating circumstances. This is a non-precedent setting, one-time action.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

17. Request for Additional Technical Staff Person

Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve posting for one full-time Community Conservationist position to be funded primarily through MPCA CE/WRAPS & SWAG funds and BWSR Capacity funds.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

18. 2018 Local Work Group Meeting Date – set date and hold by May 1

The Board set the Local Work Group meeting for April 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00.

19. 2018 Area III Annual Meeting – Plan & Host

Discussion was held about hosting the Area 3 Annual Meeting on either September 20 or 21, possibly at the Cook Community Center with potential tours of project(s) on Lake Vermilion or the AIS decontamination station. Staff were asked to explore additional options and begin planning event.

20. Upcoming Meetings and Trainings

a. Area III Forestry Meeting – McGregor – March 15

b. Area III TSA Meeting – Duluth – March 28

c. Laurentian RC & D Meeting – Duluth – March 26

21. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, April 11, at 10:30 a.m.

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



Mark Peterson, Secretary

April 11, 2018

Date