



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2018

Northland Office Building, Suite 118

307 First St S. Virginia MN 55792

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

Staff Present: Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist; and Anita Provinzino, District Administrator

Others Present: Marge Sella, USDA NRCS

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

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

REPORTS:

6. Supervisor & Committee Reports
 - a. Mark attended the July Area 3 Forestry meeting. Sappi gave a very interesting presentation on the work they are doing: making dissolving pulp for clothing that is railed to Vancouver for shipment to India, making coated or glossy paper, and making craft paper using maple - 40% from WI and MI. The DNR indicates the emerald ash borer is not yet north of Duluth, except in Winnipeg and Thunder Bay. Mark would like to see us conduct a tree inventory similar to Sherburne County. He would also like information on emerald ash borer put on the website. Mark would like the District to consider selling individual trees. There is a Field Day at the North Central Experiment Station in Grand Rapids on August 23 from 3 to 7.
 - b. Peggy did not attend the Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development meeting.
 - c. Gary attended a committee meeting to propose changes to the Area 3 Bylaws. Those changes will be voted on at the Area 3 Annual Meeting on September 20. Gary attended a public meeting for the draft St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use plan.
7. NRCS District Conservationist Report – See report on file.
8. District Administrator Report – See report on file; plus

The mission of the North St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District is to provide leadership and programs that protect our natural resources by uniting people and organizations to overcome obstacles while protecting and maintaining the diversity of our environment.

- a. Distributed report of TSA hours for first and second quarters of 2018
 - b. Read a thank you note from cost share recipient Matt Urness complimenting Phil and the TSA staff.
 - c. Reviewed the schedule for the booth at the north St. Louis County Fair.
 - d. Informed the board of pending 2019 capacity funds and matching grant of \$18,200.
 - e. Advised of the St. Louis County Comprehensive Land Use Plan draft and comment period through 8/13/18.
 - f. Reviewed the MASWCD award categories which are due September 16. Board and staff will think about potential candidates for nomination and approval at the next meeting.
9. Resource Conservationist - See report on file.
 10. Water Resources Specialist Report – See report on file.
 11. Forester Report – See report on file.
 12. Community Conservationist Report – See report on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

13. New Office Space – Anita and the building owner went to a Committee of the Whole meeting yesterday requesting an easement to build a ramp on the sidewalk. Approval was granted and will be forwarded to the Virginia City Council for their review. Anita has not received a draft lease.
14. Area 3 Annual Meeting Planning Update – Due to the high cost of transportation, Anita revised the tour to be an on-site demonstration of the decontamination unit and presentations by staff.
15. Strategic Plan– Motion by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to approve strategic plan as drafted.
Affirmative: Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

16. BWSR 2019 Clean Water Funds Application & Board Resolution 2018-6 – Motion by Mark Peterson/Gary Rantala to approve Board Resolution 2018-6 authorizing application to the BWSR Clean Water Funds.
Affirmative: Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
17. DNR Groundwater Monitoring – Anita indicated the DNR has granted the District authorization for the Board to volunteer to take groundwater monitoring readings at the Cook site, pending training.
18. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and Trainings
 - a. St. Louis County Fair – August 8-12 - Chisholm
 - b. Area 3 Annual Meeting – September 20, 2018 – Mt Iron
 - c. Other
19. Confirm Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m.
20. Adjourn – Motion by Gary Rantala to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.



Mark Peterson, Secretary

September 12, 2018
Date