



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2019

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: Beth Kleinke, Forester and Anita Provinzino, District Administrator

Others Present: Jon Sellnow, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:32 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Agenda – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to add discussion about EarthFest to the other meetings section of the agenda (13g) and approve the agenda.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

2. Minutes – Motion by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to approve the minutes as written.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

3. Treasurer's Report - Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report, updated 3/11/19.

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 present

OLD BUSINESS:

6. New Office Space – Lease revisions and negotiations continue.

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Approval to Hire

- a. Administrative Assistant (PT thru staffing agency) – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to hire an administrative assistant for 4 hours per week at a cost between \$16.56 and \$20.70 per hour based on skill and wage needed to attract limited hour applicants.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- b. AIS Interns – Motion by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to hire two interns at \$15.50 per hour for the lead worker positions through the 2019 AIS grant.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- c. Regional Farm Bill Forester – Motion by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to hire Roger Marks at \$28.85 per hour, full-time with benefits, through the USDA NRCS Conservation Collaborative Grant.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

8. Bookkeeper 1-yr wage increase effective 4/1/19 – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to increase bookkeeper's wage by \$0.50 per hour effective April 1. The District will pay Always There Staffing \$21.39 per hour.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

9. 2019 BWSR Additional Capacity Funds & Board Resolution 2019-3 – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to accept 2019 BWSR additional capacity funds and approve Board Resolution 2019-3.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

10. County Agreements & Board Resolution 2019-4 – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2019-4.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

11. NACD membership – Motion by Mark Peterson/Peggy Pearson not to join the National Association of Conservation Districts.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

12. Resolutions/Resolutions Committee – No action was taken.

13. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and Trainings

- a. Area 3 Technical Service Area Meeting – March 20, Duluth – correct date is March 27

- b. Area 3 Forestry – March 21, McGregor

- c. Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development – March 25, Duluth

- d. Local Work Group Meeting – motion by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to host the Local Work Group in the afternoon of April 10 at a location to be determined.

Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- e. Area 3 Resolutions Meeting – June 14, Carlton

- f. Area 3 Annual Meeting – September 26, Hinckley

- g. Other – Earth Fest – The District will have a booth at Earth Fest. Becca will be in contact with Board members regarding staffing the booth.


REPORTS:

14. District Administrator – See report on file. Anita also discussed lessons learned through an embezzlement case at an SWCD. She will continue to search for and bring ways to implement prevention strategies.

15. Resource Conservationist Report – See report on file.
16. AIS Program Coordinator Report – See report on file.
17. Forester Report – See report on file.
18. Community Conservationist Report – See report on file.
19. NRCS District Conservationist Report – See report on file. Jon Sellnow indicated that Itasca County will be transferring to the Baxter NRCS office.
20. Supervisor and Committee Reports
 - a. Legislative Committee – MASWCD Day at the Capitol – Mark and Anita shared their experiences at Legislative Days. There was a presentation by MASWCD with a panel discussion of four legislators, followed by a reception for all legislators. The following day they visited with 9 area legislators and a member of the Governor's staff.
 - b. Other – Gary indicated he saw a feature on the dust bowl on channel 8.

Closing

22. Confirm Next Meeting and Annual Planning Session – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.
23. Adjourn – Motion by Mark Peterson/Frank Modich to adjourn at 12:01 p.m.
Affirmative: Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala
Opposed: None
Motion Carried



Mark Peterson, Secretary

April 10, 2019
Date



**North St. Louis
Soil and Water Conservation District**

Northland Office Building
307 First St S, Suite 114
Virginia MN 55792
(218) 749-2000
www.nslswcd.org

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) has authorized an amended grant agreement for the FY19 Local Capacity grant, increasing the amount from \$100,000 to \$120,000.

AND WHEREAS, this funding will provide the District with funding critical to the District's operations; and

WHEREAS, the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board desires to accept this funding to continue conservation practices and service delivery in northern St. Louis County according to its strategic plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors authorizes the District Administrator or Board Chair to secure the above grant and sign all documents related to such funding.

Motion Made by: *Bainter*
Seconded by: *Peterson*

Affirmative: *Bainter, Madich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala*

Opposed: *none*

Certification of Recording Officer

I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the North St Louis SWCD Board on the 13th day of March 2019; and that I am duly authorized to execute this certificate.

Mark Peterson, Board Secretary

3/13/19

March 13, 2019



**North St. Louis
Soil and Water Conservation District**

Northland Office Building
307 First St S, Suite 114
Virginia MN 55792
(218) 749-2000
www.nslswcd.org

WHEREAS, the North St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District has been awarded the following funding for 2019 from St. Louis County:

\$378,000	Aquatic Invasive Species
\$60,000	General Services
\$9,003	Wetland Conservation Act
<u>\$9,000</u>	Natural Resources Block Grant
\$469,353	TOTAL

AND WHEREAS, the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board desires to accept this funding to provide services related to its mission.

NOW THERE BE IT RESOLVED, the North St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors accepts said funding and hereby authorizes the District Administrator or Board Chair to sign all documents related to said funding.

Motion Made by: *Rantala*

Seconded by: *Peterson*

Affirmative: *Baier, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala*

Opposed: *none*

Certification of Recording Officer

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Mark Peterson

Mark Peterson, Board Secretary

3/13/19

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