



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District
505 3rd St N, Ste A
Virginia MN 55792

Regular Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2020

Supervisors Present at Roll Call: Chuck Bainter, Frank Modich, Peggy Pearson, Mark Peterson and Gary Rantala

Staff Present: Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Beth Kleinke, Regional Farm Bill Forester; Phil Norvitch, Resource Cons.; Grace Van Hammond, AIS Intern; Natalya Walker, AIS Program Coordinator

Others Present: Erin Loeffler, MN Board of Water & Soil Resources; Beth Points, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

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

1. Agenda – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the agenda. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

2. Minutes – Moved by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to approve the June 10, 2020 minutes as written. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

3. Treasurer's Report & Program Summary for July as updated 6/9/2020 – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the Treasurer's Reports and Program Summaries as updated 7/7/2020. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Moved by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to approve accounts payable and accounts receivable dated 7/7/2020 plus payments of \$211.60 to Natalya Walker and \$236.41 to MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

5. Guest Introductions & Comments – Erin Loeffler, BWSR indicated that their competitive grant process for clean water funds is open and that there is a team looking at the future of Technical Service Areas.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 6. COVID-19 Impacts Update – None
- 7. Culvert Restoration Contract Award & Board Resolution 2020-8. Moved by Mark Peterson/Frank Modich to approve Board Resolution 2020-8 awarding contract to Viita's Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$39,742.00. This is the lowest of 4 bids received. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- 8. DNR Groundwater Monitoring Contract & Board Resolution 2020-9 – Moved by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve Board Resolution 2020-9. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- 9. FY19-02 Cost Share Contract Funding Source Change & Board Resolution 2020-10. Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2020-10. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- 10. BWSR Technical Training Team Grant & Board Resolution 2020-11 – Moved by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to approve Board Resolution 2020-11. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- 11. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and/or Trainings
 - a. Area 3 Forestry meeting canceled; next meeting September 17
 - b. Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development – July 27 via video conference
 - c. Technical Service Area 3 – August 24 – Gary indicated the next meeting is September 23.

REPORTS:

- 12. District Administrator Report – See report on file.
- 13. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator Report – see report on file.
- 14. Community Conservationist Report – see report on file.
- 15. Forester Report – see report on file.
- 16. Resource Conservationist Report – see report on file. Discussion was held on a recent heavy rain event that resulted in two recently constructed projects creating erosion. Unofficial reports indicate that 3" of rain was received in about an hour. Erin recommended documenting the extreme rain event via NOAA or a similar service.
- 17. NRCS Report –Beth Points stated that Alison Praet of Michigan will begin on July 20 as the District Conservationist in Duluth. EQIP contract awards are in the pre-approval process. Livestock producers can get financial assistance under the CARES act by applying to the USDA Farm Services Agency. This is an easy self-certification process with no need to have been a previous FSA customer. She asked us to spread the word and will provide us with additional information.

18. Supervisor & Committee Reports

- a. Technical Service Area 3 – Gary indicated he electronically attended a personnel committee meeting on June 23 and recommended most staff receive a 3% increase, exceptions were new staff and those just receiving an increase. Gary also electronically attended the TSA meeting on June 24th where those increase were approved.
- b. Other – Chuck reported on the Policy Committee meeting for the St. Louis River Watershed One Watershed One Plan process. The committee approved sending out a Request for Proposals to have a consultant lead the process. They are seeking recommendations of names of people who may be interested in serving on the advisory committee.

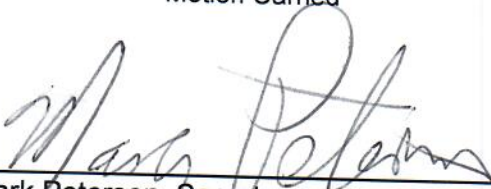
CLOSING:

19. Confirm Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 12 at 10:30 a.m.

20. Adjourn – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to adjourn meeting at 11:30 a.m. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried



Mark Peterson, Secretary

8/15/20

Date