



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

Regular Meeting Minutes
August 12, 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; and Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist
Others Present: Erin Loeffler, MN Board of Water & Soil Resources; Allison Praet and 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/Gary Rantala 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 July 8, 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 – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the Treasurer's Report and Program Summary. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to approve accounts payable and accounts receivable dated 8/7/2020 plus payments of \$106.48 to Anita Provinzino and \$85 to WA Fisher.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

5. Guest Introductions & Comments – Allison Praet was introduced as the new District Conservationist for USDA NRCS. She is based out of the Duluth office.

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Annual Salary Review for Natalya Walker – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve a 3% salary increase beginning on 8/5/2020 for Natalya Walker. She was congratulated on and thanked for her one year of service to the District.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

7. COVID-19 Impacts Update – Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to ratify the changes made to the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan effective 7/25/2020.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

8. Data Access Policy for Data Subjects – Motion by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve the policy with no changes, as presented by Anita.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

9. Data Access Policy for the Public – Motion by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to approve the Data Access Policy for Data Subjects with the changes shown and to approve the Data Access Policy for the Public with no changes.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

10. Financial Statement Review – Anita reviewed the financial statements. Discussion was held about updates needs to them, potential budget revision and funding possibilities for future positions. No action was taken. Once updates are made, Anita will prepare a budget revision and present recommendations for funding sources and FTE for new positions.

11. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and/or Trainings
a. None before next meeting

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.
17. NRCS Report – Allison stated she was recently in an upper Michigan office. There is another internal deadline of August 14 that staff are working on. Beth Points indicated she has accepted a

position in Illinois and will be leaving NRCS soon. The board and staff welcomed Allison and thanked Beth for her service.

18. Supervisor & Committee Reports

- a. Resource Conservation & Development – Peggy indicated she forgot to attend the July meeting. She forwarded the documents to Anita who distributed them to the Board.
- b. Other – Chuck reported on the Policy Committee meeting for the St. Louis River Watershed One Watershed One Plan process. The committee will meet on August 20 to approve consultant contracts.
- c. Other - Mark and Chuck fixed the northern entry sign and trimmed some branches after staff received a call that the sign was leaning. They will go another time to install braces. Motion by Peggy Pearson/Mark Peterson to approve paying for their lunches.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

CLOSING:

19. Confirm Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 9 at 10:30 a.m.

20. Adjourn – Moved by Mark Peterson/Frank Modich to adjourn meeting at 11:33 a.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried



Mark Peterson, Secretary

9/10/20

Date