



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

Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2020

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

**Staff Present:** Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Becca Reiss, Community Conservationist, Beth Kleinke, Regional Farm Bill Forester; Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist, and Natalya Walker, AIS Program Coordinator

**Others Present:** Mike Kennedy, Watershed Project Manager, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; Samantha Wocken, Peterson Company, Ltd.

The electronic meeting using Zoom was called to order by Chair Peggy Pearson at 10:31 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. Agenda – Moved by Mark Peterson/Chuck Bainter to approve the agenda after adding home office expense discussion.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

2. Minutes – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes as written. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

3. Treasurer's Report & Program Summary for September– Moved by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the Treasurer's Report and Program Summary. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

4. Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve accounts payable and accounts receivable. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

5. Guest Introductions & Comments – Mike Kennedy, Watershed Project Manager for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency gave a presentation on the Rainy River: Study of the river's health.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

6. AIS Resort Contract Change & Retroactive Payment– Life of Riley Resort – Motion by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to retroactively approve contract change for Life of Riley Resort to accept \$7/uploaded inspection. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

Frank Modich joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

7. Area III Business

- a. Minutes, Annual Meeting – 9/26/19 - Moved by Mark Peterson/Chuck Bainter to approve the annual meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- b. 2021 Dues – proposal same as 2020 - \$300 - Moved by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Area III dues of \$300 for 2021. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- c. Sept. 2020 – Area III Treasurer's Report Moved by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve the treasurer's report. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- d. 2021 Budget: (fiscal year Sept. 1 - Aug. 31) Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to approve the 2021 budget. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- e. By-Laws – provide comments on proposed changes, if any - NONE

- f. Voting - Executive Board:

- i. Director - Moved by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to elect Russell Kurhajetz, Carlton SWCD as Director. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- ii. Co-Director - Moved by Frank Modich/Gary Rantala to elect Jake Janski, Mille Lacs SWCD as Co-Director. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- iii. Treasurer — Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to elect Frank Turnock, Aitkin SWCD as Treasurer. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- iv. Secretary – Moved by Frank Modich/Chuck Bainter to elect Robert Hoefert, Mille Lacs SWCD as Secretary. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

8. Audit - 2019 Draft – (This business was conducted out of order and prior to Frank Modich joining the meeting) Samantha Wocken, Peterson Company, Ltd. presented the 2019 draft audit. Motion by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve audit with change in source classification of NACD funding to other and not state. Samantha will submit the corrected audit to BWSR. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

9. BWSR 2021 Local Capacity & Buffer Workplans & Board Resolution 2020-12 – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2020-12. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

10. COVID-19 Impacts Update, if any - NONE

11. Financial Review – Anita Provinzino presented a 2020 financial review

- a. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
- b. Balance Sheet
- c. Appoint 2021 Budget Committee – Peggy Pearson appointed Chuck Bainter and Mark Peterson to the ad-hoc budget committee.

12. Forester Job Description & Posting – Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve the Forester job description and to post for a full-time forester. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye

Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

Chuck Bainter left the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

13. Land Occupier Cost Share Contract Updates

- a. FY19-01 Contract Amendment 2 (City of Eveleth - additional \$886.50)
- b. FY19-03 Contract Amendment 1 (Mike Wiskow et. al - extension) –

Motion by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve both contract amendments.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

- c. Board Resolution 2020-13 Changing Funding Sources – Motion by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2020-13. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

14. MASWCD Resolutions (email 9/30) – Each supervisor will provide Anita with their votes in time for submission by November 12.

15. MDA Noxious Weed Grant Application & Board Resolution 2020-14 – (This business was conducted out of order. Frank Modich was not yet present) Motion by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2020-14. Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

16. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and/or Trainings

- a. a. MASWCD Annual Meeting – Virtual – morning of 12/8/20

**REPORTS:**

- 17. District Administrator Report – See report on file.
- 18. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator Report – see report on file.
- 19. Community Conservationist Report – see report on file.
- 20. Forester Report – see report on file.
- 21. Resource Conservationist Report – see report on file, plus Phil also informed the board of a pending WCA & Public Waters violation on the West Swan River where an unpermitted, undersized culvert was installed. The Technical Evaluation Panel is advising removal.
- 22. NRCS Report – NONE
- 23. Supervisor & Committee Reports
  - a. Home Office Expenses - Mark indicated he would like to see supervisors reimbursed for home office expenses (printing costs) due to the pandemic. Anita advised supervisors could also check out a tablet to see if having two devices to use during a meeting would eliminate the need to print. A phone could be used for the zoom

connection and a tablet to scroll through the meeting materials. This item will be added to the agenda in November.

- b. Mark reported on the Area III Forestry Association call. John Carlson, DNR, presented on the Landscape Stewardship Plan grant that will link with 1W1P. The next meeting is November 19.
- c. Gary chaired the TSA III meeting. He also had a second call with Carlton SWCD regarding pelletizing tag alder.
- d. Peggy referred to the email that was forwarded on the carbon credit program that the Laurentian Resource Conservation and Development group is exploring.

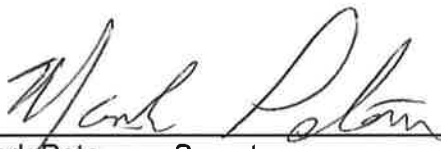
**CLOSING:**

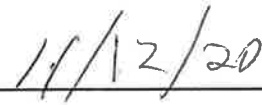
- 24. Confirm Next Meeting – The next meeting was set for Thursday, November 12 at 10:30 a.m. due to the Veterans Day Holiday.
- 25. Adjourn – Moved by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to adjourn meeting at 12:36 a.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Bainter	Aye
Modich	Aye
Pearson	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Rantala	Aye

Motion Carried

  
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Mark Peterson, Secretary

  
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Date

