

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 11, 2018

4:30 P.M.

USDA Service Center

SWCD Office

Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Bob Picket, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kathy Tesmer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling

Willford called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Pickett, Hazel, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Hazel to approve the December, 2017 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve the October-December, 2017 supervisor's vouchers. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Pickett to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Secretary's Report – December 14, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Payment of FSP Phase II Implementation Cost Share Contract CC16-01, Dave Scheevel, Milk House Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$4,806.50
3. Payment of Healthy Forests for Healthy Water Contract 2017-1-FP, Andrea Konetchy, Woody Plants, moderate infestation, 2.5 acres, in the amount of \$500.00
4. Payment of 2018 Envirothon Dues in the amount of \$175.00
5. Payment of 2018 SE SWCD Technical Support JPB membership fee in the amount of \$1,000.00
6. Payment of 2018 MASWCD Dues in the amount of \$3,281.07

7. Payment to Jared Troendle, Graduating High School Senior Scholarship Recipient, in the amount of \$500.00

Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity reports

Willford reported attending a Personnel Committee meeting.

Hazel reported attending a Personnel Committee meeting.

Gossman reported attending a Forestry Committee meeting in Rushford. The Forestry Field Day has been scheduled for July 25th at Magelsen Bluff.

Pickett reported attending a Forestry Committee meeting in Rushford.

Tesmer was not in attendance.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

- a. Watershed based funding for the Root River
BWSR has approved grants for 1W1P pilot areas. Dollar amounts are calculated on a base amount to each plus additional funds based on the percentage of land in the watershed. The Root received the highest allocation in the amount of \$851,301.00 which is supposed to be stable for two years.

The deadline for submitting work plans in eLINK is March 12th and Grant agreements will be issued in April. There is a 10% match requirement and funds will be distributed on a 50-40-10 basis.

- b. Area training update
Training is being planned this winter in our area by Aaron Peter and Chris Nelson on basic hydrology, waterways, water and sediment basins, and survey plus other topics. Mathison and Koliha will be attending. Additional training in electronic GIS survey and use of the field tool used by NRCS are also being planned. Thomas, who is a member of the Training Team, will have at least one training in the southeast area on soil health and cover crops.

- c. Newspaper insert articles
The newspaper insert will be published the week of February 5th in the Bluff Country Reader. All staff will be providing articles.

- d. BWSR Performance Review and Assessment Program (PRAP)

BWSR has requested to meet with staff in February to begin the process of doing a PRAP. BWSR staff isn't available to attend the February 15th meeting so further discussion will be needed to decide on a date that works for all.

4. NRCS

No one was present from NRCS.

5. County

No one from the County was present.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider continuing pre-approval of the Minnesota Energy Resources bills for the next twelve months not to exceed \$400.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Hazel to continue the pre-approval of the Minnesota Energy Resource bills for the next twelve months not to exceed \$400.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider continuing pre-approval of the Verizon Wireless bills for the next twelve months not to exceed \$200.00

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Gossman to continue the pre-approval of the Verizon Wireless bills for the next twelve months not to exceed \$200.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider MDA Noxious Weed Grant application

An application to remove Japanese Hops along the Root River has been reviewed by DNR staff, Mike Frauenkron and Mike Cruse, who were all helpful in preparing the grant application.

A Conservation Corp crew will work on the land and a hired vendor will apply the water-based herbicide.

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve the MDA Noxious Weed Grant application for submission. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Discuss hiring of Nutrient Management Specialist

Rasmussen reported only one application had been received for the Nutrient Management position. There was extensive discussion on the length of time to extend the application deadline. Also discussed was whether there was still a need for the position.

The Board suggested contacting all of the producers to tell them of Boyum's resignation and what they need to do and/or contact if updates are needed in the interim.

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Hazel to extend the application deadline to February 16th for the Nutrient Management Specialist position. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider partial payment of FSP Phase II Implementation Contract CC16-11 Beverly J. Mensink Revocable Trust, Structure Restoration, in the amount of \$3,821.65

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Pickett to approve partial payment of FSP Phase II Implementation Contract CC16-11 Beverly J. Mensink Revocable Trust, Structure Restoration, in the amount of \$3,821.65. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider amendment to Field to Stream Monitoring Grant subcontract with Mower SWCD adjusting the amount from \$119,942.00 to \$113,942.00

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Pickett to approve the amendment to the Field to Stream Monitoring Grant subcontract with the Mower SWCD adjusting the amount from \$119,942.00 to \$113,942.00 due to an error found in the contract. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of officers

Chair Willford called for nominations for Chair. Pickett nominated Hazel for Chair. Motioned by Pickett seconded by Gossman to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Hazel. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Chair Hazel took over the meeting.

Chair Hazel called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Willford nominated Gossman for Vice-Chair. Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Gossman. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Chair Hazel called for nominations for Secretary. Willford nominated Tesmer for Secretary. Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Tesmer. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Chair Hazel called for nominations for Treasurer. Gossman nominated Pickett for Treasurer. Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to cease nominations and cast a

unanimous ballot for Pickett. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none.

2. Appointment of Committees

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| Personnel: | Hazel, Gossman |
| Cost Share: | Willford, Hazel |
| Finance: | Pickett, Hazel |
| Education/Safety: | Pickett, Tesmer |
| RR 1W1P Policy Committee : | Hazel, Gossman (Alternate) |
| Area VI SRF Joint Powers Board: | Tesmer, Willford |
| EQIP Local Work Group: | Willford, Hazel |
| Hiawatha Valley RC&D: | Tesmer, Pickett |
| Building Committee: | Willford, Gossman |
| Forestry: | Gossman, Pickett |

3. Set board meeting dates and times

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to set the board meeting dates to the Thursday after the second Monday beginning on February 15, 2018 at 4:30 pm with staff being directed to pick three meeting dates for daytime meetings at 8:30 am. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Set per diem and mileage rates

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Gossman to set the mileage rate for 2018 at the current Internal Revenue rate and set the per diem rate at \$75.00 per day. It was noted that the current IRS rate is \$.545 cents per mile and reimbursements would follow any 2018 federal changes to the rate. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Select district depositories

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to select Security, State Bank, Wykoff; First Southeast Bank, Canton and Harmony; Bank of the West, Mabel; First State Bank, Fountain; Home Federal Savings Bank, Spring Valley; First State Bank Minnesota, Spring Valley; Root River State Bank, Chatfield; Security State Bank, Spring Valley; Merchants Bank, Lanesboro and Rushford; Rushford State Bank, Rushford; and F & M Community Bank, Preston, as district depositories. Affirmative: Hazel, Pickett, Gossman, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Review and approve 2016 Fillmore SWCD Audited Financial Statements

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve the 2016 Fillmore SWCD Audited Financial Statements as presented. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider payment of 319 Feedlot Grant Cost Share Assistance Contract F6G-06, Dave Scheevel, Milk House Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$6,500.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to approve payment of the 319 Feedlot Grant Cost Share Assistance Contract F6G-06, Dave Scheevel, Milk House Waste Treatment System, in the amount of \$6,500.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB14-13 Marvin Klema, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$102.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB14-13 Marvin Klema, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$102.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB14-14 Brad Kraling, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$391.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to approve the District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB14-14 Brad Kraling, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$391.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Consider State Cost Share Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FY17-04 Rodney Koliha, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,560.00

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Gossman to approve the State Cost Share Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FY17-04 Rodney Koliha, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$1,560.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett. Opposed: none. Abstained: Willford. Motion carried.

11. Consider State Cost Share Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FY17-05 Dennis Severson, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$2,226.00 using \$758.58 from FY17 funds and \$1,467.42 from FY18 funds

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve State Cost Share Conservation Assistance Contract FY17-05 Dennis Severson, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$2,226.00 using \$758.58 from FY17 funds and \$1,467.42 from FY18 funds. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

12. Consider sponsorship of U of MN Extension Cow Calf Days

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to sponsor the U of MN Extension Cow Calf Days at two locations, Oronoco and Caledonia, at \$100.00 per location. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

13. Consider staff attendance to the Driftless Area Symposium in LaCrosse, WI Feb 5-6, 2018

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve attendance at one or both days of the Driftless Area Symposium in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and pay for accommodations, if needed. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

14. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB14-11 John Rein, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$612.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to approve the District Conservation Contract WB14-11 John Rein, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$612.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

15. Consider SE MN Water Resources Board Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Request for Technical Assistance and Promotion Funds in the amount of \$2,500.00

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Willford to approve the SE MN Water Resources Board Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program Request for Technical Assistance and Promotion Funds in the amount of \$2,500.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Pickett to approve the January 2018 payables. Affirmative: Hazel, Gossman, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Thursday, February 1st. Gossman volunteered.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Gossman to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Pickett, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Hazel
Chair

