



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING October 18th, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen, Alroy Lewis and John Gunvalson

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell and Jamin Carlson

NRCS Staff: Absent

Guests: John Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 a.m. by Chair Gunvalson in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Chair Gunvalson called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Buell requested action item TSA8 meeting be added to the agenda. Rydeen made a motion to approve the agenda with changes as requested. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular September meeting were reviewed by the board. Strandlien made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 4-0.**

NRCS: Roepke Absent

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS Program: -Powell reported that all the AIS inspector kits have been collected.

Forestry Program: Powell reported that he assisted landowners with their questions regarding the Forest Stewardship Cost Share Program.

Soil Health Program: Powell reported that Tyler Strandberg was currently using the No-Till-Drill.

Buffer Law: Powell has been busy conducting compliance checks and updated the board on the Side Water Inlet Projects.

Conservation Farm: Powell reported that he and Carlson have been working out at the Conservation Farm. Powell noted that Dyrdaahl submitted a quote for brushing the trails in the amount of \$600.

Cost Share: Powell reported that he and Carlson have been working on the Eco-Footprint-Clearwater Lake project. Powell noted that he and Carlson visited Thulin to discuss options to correct a Shoreline Violation.

County Match Grant: Powell reported explained that BWSR has allocated \$18,200 to the SWCD as a match for the County to work together on a project. Powell and Carlson proposed using Pictometry to update the counties aerial imagery in 2019. Powell noted that the SWCD would encumber the \$18,200 from BWSR if the county could come up with the remaining funds. Strandlien made a motion for the staff to move forward with the project. Second by Gunvalson. Rydeen opposed. Lewis abstained. **Motion Carried 3-1.**

Meetings/Other:

Powell attended MHB AIS traditions meeting on 10/9, met with Chad from BWSR on 10/4 and attended a County Board Meeting to discuss the possibility of partnering with the county with the Local Capacity County Match Funding.

Upcoming-Powell will be attending BWSR Academy on 10/29-10/31 and a Department Head Meeting on 11/09.

NRCS:

CSP: Roepke No Report.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR

Forestry Program: Carlson reported that he has already has 11 signed contracts. Carlson noted that the landowners with contracts are waiting on foresters or to be registered with the DNR.

Carlson reported that Tony Merschman completed his forest management plan and is eligible for 75% Cost Share on 54 acres. Rydeen made a motion to pay Merschman 75% Cost Share in the amount of \$497.90. Lewis Second. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Cost Share: Carlson and Powell conducted a site visit on the Thulin property on the North Side of Clearwater Lake.

County Match Grant: Carlson reported that he and Powell met with county departments heads on a possible imagery project. Carlson spoke with John Ringle and Jesse from Cass County SWCD and GIS departments to get information on their imagery project. Carlson noted that he received quotes from Pictometry.

Ecofootprint-Clearwater Lake Project: Carlson reported that the Contractors, Engineers, Technicians and Zach from Beltrami County all met for a pre-construction meeting at the Mason's property. Carlson noted that the bid came in at \$15,300 and is near completion. Carlson reported that it has been difficult to find a qualified contractor willing to do the Corser project but was finally able to go with Triple D Construction with a bid of \$37,265.00.

1W1P: Carlson worked on putting together information packets for the commissioners and gave an update at the county board meeting.

Other Waters: Carlson put together a letter to the required agency partners, townships and municipalities that addressed the updated addendum.

Conservation Farm: Carlson and Powell cut trees out at the farm and cleared trails. Carlson noted that the SWCD has been handing out hunting permits.

Meetings/other:

Carlson met with Chad Severts from BWSR concerning grants, programs and JAA. Carlson will be attending a County Board Meeting for ideas on match grants, BWSR Academy Oct 29th-31st, a Wild Rice 1W1P kick off meeting 11/7, Leadership Institute in Mankato Nov 13-14 and a Civic Engagement meeting in Grand Rapids on 11/15.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

Financial Reports: Financial statements showing revenue and expenditures for the month of September were presented to the Board for review.

Profit & Loss: Income: Buell reported that in the month of September the SWCD recognized revenue from No-Till-Drill Rental payments, Buell noted that there was income recognized for an invoice sent to the County for the 2018 WCA funds. **Expenses:** Buell noted that outside of regular expenses for the month of September additional charges were; a \$900 payment to Strenge from the Soil Health program and an increase in Local Capacity Training for rooms booked for staff to attend BWSR Academy.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of September, outside of normal transactions there was a payment made to Wadena SWCD for registration for the Fall Tour and Area Meeting.

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of September deposits included, Down Payments for No-Till Drill, Plat Book payments and Aerator rental payments, and Interest earned on accounts.

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of September the Checking Account balance was \$344,743.43 down from \$359,525.61 the previous month. Buell noted that the Accounts Receivable balance in September was \$1797.67. Buell noted that this amount was mostly from an open invoice to the county and from plat book sales to vendors. Buell noted that the Accounts Payable balance is a \$328.22 from the Bagley Co-Op. Buell noted that this bill has since been paid.

A motion to accept the September financial reports was made by Rydeen. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 4-0.**

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items

NACD Assn of Cons. Dist.: Lewis made a motion to decline membership of the NACD Association of Conservations Districts. Second by Rydeen. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Annual Convention: Buell reported that Area VIII is the host of this year's annual convention. Buell noted that the Convention will be held December 9th-11th at the Double Tree Hilton in Minneapolis, MN. Rydeen made a motion for the district to cover the cost of any Board Member that is interested in attending and two SWCD staff members. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried. 4-0.**

TSA8 (JPB Meeting). Buell reported that she will be attending a TSA8 SWCD Staff meeting on 10/26.

Employee Review: Buell reported that she gave Carlson a 6-month review and Powell a 1-year review. Buell discussed the reviews with the board members. After board discussion Rydeen made a motion to increase Carlson's wage to \$18.00 per hour and Powell's wage to \$18.50 per hour. Second by Lewis. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 p.m. was made by Rydeens. Second by Cobenais. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Harlan Strandlien, District Secretary

Date

"Leadership is the art of giving people a platform for spreading ideas that work." --*Seth Godin*

Our mission is simple - to promote the wise use and improvement of our county resources, in order that future generations will inherit an economically viable county that has made wise choices in resource management.