



Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Avenue North, Suite 3, Bagley MN 56621 • (218)694-6845 • www.clearwaterswcd.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MARCH 22nd, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

.....

Board Members Present:

Marty Cobenais, Harlan Strandlien, Alroy Lewis, Paul Rydeen and John Gunvalson

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell and Chester Powell

NRCS Staff:

Guests: John Nelson-County Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.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 that action item, Special Meeting Minutes be added under District Manager Report. Strandlien made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition as requested by Buell. Second by Cobenais **Motion carried 5-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular February meeting were reviewed by the board. Strandlien noted that under the “Applicant Ranking Motion” it read that Lewis made a First and Second motion. Buell noted that it should have read Lewis made a motion and Strandlien Second. Rydeen made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes as presented. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Special Minutes: Minutes of the March 9th Special meeting were reviewed by the board. Cobenais made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

NRCS: No Report

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS: Powell reported that there will be an AIS Inspector training conducted in conjunction with Beltrami County on April 26th.

Powell noted that the 2018 AIS inspection plan has been sent to the DNR.

Powell attended the 2018 Aquatic Invaders Summit on Feb 28th-March 1.

Buffer Law: Powell reported that money encumbered for the FY2018 buffer Cost Share has been recorded and submitted to BWSR.

Tree Sales: Powell reported that 66% of the trees have been sold.

Forestry Program: Powell presented the board with a possible Forestry Program outline. Powell proposed that landowners will receive a 75% reimbursement of the cost of having a Forest Stewardship Plan written, if their parcel is located within county boundaries and partially or entirely within a priority watershed boundary. Parcels located within county boundaries and outside the priority watersheds will receive a 50% reimbursement of their plan cost. Lewis made a motion to approve the Forestry program outline as submitted by Powell. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Soil Health Program: Powell went over the soil health outline noting that the 2018 rates will remain the same as in 2017, \$40 for primary and \$25 secondary zone. Powell noted that he did change the Soil Sampling guidelines as recommended by the board, to \$25 per sample capped at 10 samples per landowner per year. Lewis made a motion to approve the 2018 Soil Health Program outline as submitted by Powell. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Cost Share Rates: Powell presented the board with the 2018 Cost Share Policy. Lewis made a motion to accept the Cost Share Policy as presented by Powell. Second by Strandlien **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Other:

Water Plan: Powell noted that there was a meeting with Ben Underhill of East Ottertail SWCD to discuss Clearwater SWCD's and the County's involvement in the East Ottertail Watershed WRAPS process.

Powell attended a Mississippi Headwaters 1W1P meeting on March 23rd.

Education/Outreach: Powell reported that Bagley Elementary is currently using the District's Envirosapes. Powell noted that the Envirosapes are used as an educational component that help students understand impacts of water and soil runoff and pollution.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Income: Buell noted that in the month of February the SWCD recognized revenue from plat books sales, tree tube sales, tree sales, interest earned on accounts and tree order overpayments. **Expenses:** Buell noted that outside of regular expenses for the month of February additional charges were added to line items; Fees and Dues, vehicle maintenance, and Staff Retention.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of February, outside of normal expenses there was a payment made to Farmers for the 2-page Newsletter (a 2017 expense), a payment to the DVS for tab renewal and a payment to the DNR to renew the boat license.

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of February deposits included, tree deposits, plat book sales, Envirothon donation, AIS invoices and Water Plan invoices (both recognized as 2017 income) and interest earned.

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that the Accounts Receivable balance in February was \$616.32. Buell noted that \$288 of that amount was from the Clearwater County Land Department for Plat Books and the remaining amount is for open tree order balances. Buell noted that the accounts payable balance is \$12,308.92 which is open tree invoices that will be

paid in May after tree sales have concluded. A motion to accept the February financial reports was made by Lewis. Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 5-0.**

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items

Project Committee: Buell noted that it might be helpful to form a Project Team committee to meet with the Technician and Water Plan Coordinator periodically to discuss logistics of possible new projects prior to bringing to the board for approval. Lewis made a motion for Strandlien and Cobenais to be the board representation on the project team committee. Second by Stradlien. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Fair Calendar Ads: Cobenais made a motion to place four ads with Farmers Independent in the 2018 fair calendar at \$75.00 an ad. Second by Rydeen. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Water Plan Coordinator Position: Lewis made a motion to offer the Water Plan Coordinator position to Carlson and if he declines then Anderson. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

Wage: Rydeen made a motion to offer \$16.50 to the new Water Plan Coordinator with a wage increase to be discussed after the 6 month probation has been completed. Second by Cobenais. **Motion Carried 5-0.**

MASWCD Area VIII meeting update by Cobenais

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:22 p.m. was made by Lewis. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

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.