

Minutes of the Renville County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors regular meeting held on November 10, 2011 at the Ag Services Building in Olivia MN

Present: **Marc Iverson**
 Dave Guggisberg
 Loyal Fisher
 Kathryn K. Kelly
 Jim Schafer

Also Present: John Stahl, Renville County Board; Tom Fischer, BWSR; Jeff Kjorness, NRCS; Jason Beckler, Pheasants Forever; and Tom Kalahar, Tara Latozke & Karen Flom, staff.

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Marc Iverson at 7:00 a.m.

MSC (Dave, Loyal) to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2011 regular meeting.

MSC (Kathryn, Loyal) to approve the October bills as presented and the October Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

Staff Reports:

- **Karen updated the Supervisors** on various grants and receipts. She reported that staff have been preparing for the Nov. 15th regarding drainage and wetland issues in western Renville County. Agencies with wetland responsibilities will all be represented. A handout outlining jurisdiction and workload is being prepared.
- MASWCD Resolutions Ballot was mailed before the deadline and Convention Registration was submitted. Staff will be bringing a poster to the convention for the Poster Display. Karen will get a gift card for the auction.
- Karen reported on the BWSR Academy. With the number of representatives from the SWCD, Hawk Creek and the County, those attending were able to attend most sessions.
- In response to Karen's questions, Kathryn spoke to correspondence from the SW/WC regarding an internet issue and liability. There is no liability to those members who did not get internet service through the coop.

- **Tom reported** that he has been working with Lac qui Parle and Yellow Medicine SWCDs to make sure they get their 2009 LCCMR easements paid by 12/31/2011 as the grant extension expires then.
- Phase 1 of the Korkemeier wetland repair was completed. The remainder will be completed next summer.
- Four feedlot inspections completed. Tom is working with several feedlot owners to upgrade and correct problems from previous inspections. There are 9 inspections to be completed for 2011. Those folks have not responded to phone calls and letters. Tom will keep trying to get hold of them to schedule before the deadline.
- Scott Kudelka from the Water Resources Center was here Oct. 19th to complete *Ask an Expert* filming. That day filming was done at the Korkemeier wetland restoration and Paul Schroedl manure storage pit.

- **Tara reported** that she's completed the monthly well measurements on the road bank easements and she's updated the spreadsheets. She also had to do amendments so there could be payment for tree removal on these sites.
- Tara brought up the question of State Cost-Share policy regarding trees. After discussion, the Supervisors requested that the item be tabled to next meeting and that a summary of current policy be included in the board packet for the Dec. meeting.
- Tara has been setting up seed and seeding for Renville County parks and other fall plantings under the Buffer Cost Share program. She's been consulting with DNR on projects as appropriate.
- Tara has inspected 15 WRP sites under the contribution agreement with NRCS.
- Most WCA workload has been reviewing ag requests. Tara also attended several wetland sessions at the BWSR Academy and she passed the test to be a Certified Wetland Delineator. She reported that the cost of the license is \$140. MSC (Kathryn, Loyal) to pay the \$140 for Tara's Wetland Delineator Certification.
- Tara has been working with two landowners who have funding for tree removal projects under DNR CPL grants.
- Tara spoke to an RCW Careers Class, she attended the CROW Chemical and Biological Review meeting, the CROW Technical meeting and the BWSR Academy.

Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant:

MSC (Dave, Loyal) to approve an amendment to increase the total cost from \$95,000 to \$146,000 for Contract FWQM 02-10 with Paul Schroedl for a Wastewater & Feedlot Runoff Control Practice D6, 784 & 313. Project located in NW ¼ of Sec. 01, Camp Twp.

MSC (Loyal, Kathryn) to approve a \$17.00 payment to Paul Schroedl for Contract FWQM 02-10 (Wastewater & Feedlot Runoff Control Practice D6, 784 & 313) located in NW ¼ Sec. 1, Camp Twp for 100% Cost-Share payment on engineering close out and inspection. TAA Kyle Vogt.

MSC (Dave, Jim) final approval and payment of \$15,922.25 or 75% to Paul Schroedl for Contract FWQM 02-10 (Wastewater & Feedlot Runoff Control Practice D6, 784 & 313) located in NW ¼, Sec 1, Camp Twp. Final cost of project \$145,916. TAA Kyle Vogt

- **Jason reported** that he contacted a total of 32 people regarding CRP and completed two contracts for 8.6 acres. He is working with seed vendors and landowners to complete dormant seedings this fall. He worked with 7 landowners on mid-contract management plants.
- Jason reported that he is still sending out quotes for the RIM Buffer Easement program and has several applications ready to go as soon as program details are released.
- There is just over \$4,000 left to spend in the original WLI Grand. Jason is working to wrap up 3 WLI projects. He also did a mass mailing to 62 landowners located in a new proposed WLI area in Sacred Heart TWP.
- Jason attended a PF teleconference, a Walk-In meeting in Montevideo, a meeting with Kevin Ausland from Sportsman for a Change, he taught 2 RCW Careers classes with Tara and he attended the BWSR Academy.

NRCS Report – Jeff Kjorness, D.C.

- Jeff reported that staff have been working on annual status reviews for EQIP and WHIP and cleaning up contracts that were not on schedule. These contracts may require either modification or cancellation depending on where they are in their process. Staff are also working on CSP to verify the compatibility of enrolled enhancements within CSP contracts.
- The Olivia Field Office is now officially in NRCS Area 5 and Jeff attended his first DC meeting in the new area on Nov. 2nd.

Board Reports

- Loyal requested partial funding for the NACD meeting in Las Vegas. He will need approximately \$400 for registration from the SWCD. MSC (Dave, Marc) to pay for Loyal Registration at the NACD meeting pending approval of travel expenses by Area VI MASWCD.
- Marc reported that he'd been contacted by Mark Erickson to set up a meeting to discuss the feedlot contract. Marc also plans on attending the Nov. 15th drainage info session.
- Dave reported that he was filmed for the *Ask an Expert* segment.
- Kathryn reported that she attended a clean waters presentation. She reported on the MASWCD Board meeting and mentioned that there are openings on the BWSR Board. She reported on the progress of the Roundtable group and mentioned that Dennis McNamara was at the meeting. She reminded everyone of the MASWCD convention and said there are 2 new directors on the executive committee. Her term as President expires in Dec. 2012.

John Stahl commented that he hopes the Nov. 15th Drainage info session will promote dialogue. He also reported that he has heard SMBSC reached an agreement with a landowner which will help solve the Ditch 45 issues.

MSC (Jim, Kathryn) to approve the FY12 Grant Agreement with BWSR for the conservation delivery grants.

Loyal left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

The December meeting date was discussed. Tara reported that there may be a need for a special meeting later in the month to approve cost-share payments. Consensus was to hold the regular meeting on December 8th at 7:00 a.m. and to schedule an additional meeting later in the month if the need arises.

There was discussion regarding the employee health insurance options. **MSC (Dave, Jim) to change to the \$300 deductible CMM Plan through the SW/WC.** Karen will notify the agent to submit the changes to BCBSM.

Tom Fischer updated the Board on the Water Plan rewrite. He did indicate that there could be a request in the future for each SWCD to contribute to the cost of writing the plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15

