



MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 14, 2019 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Supervisors

Chair

District 2

Kevin Kokesch

Vice Chair

District 4

Kathryn Kelly

Treasurer

District 5

Jim Hebrink

District 1

Mark Koenig

District 3

Dean Schroeder

Staff

District

Administrator

Holly Hatlewick

Farm Bill

Technician

Karen Wermers

WCA/Water Plan

Coordinator

Cody Dale

Buffer

Specialist/Agricultural

Inspector

Michael Sandager

Administrative

Assistant

Melissa

Edmondson

Board Members Present: Jim Hebrink, Kathryn Kelly, Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch, Dean Schroeder
Dean Dambrotten Hawk Creek Watershed Project, Rick Schmidt County Commissioner
Staff Present: Holly Hatlewick

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kokesch at 7:30 A.M.
- II. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person): Dean Dambrotten attended to talk about 1W1P. Dean read a recap of the events that lead to our current MOA, from his and the Hawk Creek prospective and encouraged the SWCD Board to think of ways to rebuild relationships without partnership. Dean wanted to help clear the name of Hawk Creek Watershed Project and its coordinator.
- III. Consent Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: Approved the meeting minutes from Feb 14, 2019 regular meeting, bills, and treasurer's report. (Kelly, Koenig) MSC
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Staff Grievance: Dispensed, no grievance
 2. One Watershed One Plan Draft MOA- approve Area 53 1W1P MOA DRAFT dated March 13, 2019 (Koenig, Schroeder) MSC, opposed Kelly
 3. Board Work Session – Board would like a doodle pole sent out to try and schedule a work session for the first part of April.
 4. SWCD Levy Authority- Tacit support the concept of SWCD levy authority (Koenig, Kelly) MSC
 5. 2019 Drill Rental- offer a seasonal lease to Joe Serbus, contract will mimic the 2018 lease contract use with Dean Dambrotten including making the drill available to the public upon request. If no agreement is made, drill will be rented on a first come first serve basis just as in 2017. (Kelly, Schroeder) MSC
- V. New Business:
 1. Minnesota River Congress- discussed the proposal presented at the Area VI Chairs meeting. Discussion was supportive of the concept of additional appropriate easement sites and acres. However, the Board was not supportive of another layer of government having potential impact on our easements or creating additional potential barriers for applicants.



2. Fleet- Discussed if we wanted to utilize the Area VI Enterprise Fleet purchase contract in 2019. Discussion was to take no action at this time.
3. 2019 Local Workgroup meeting -Discussed possible agenda topics and meeting date and time. Meeting was set for April 11th, at 10am at the County office building.
4. Simulator- Administrator Hatlewick was approached by The Nature Conservancy for their Green Tie fund raising event. Board discussed, and this event was not different then other outreach request and we should follow the established policy of fee for demo services or an anonymous donation of a minimum of \$400.00 (Koenig, Hebrink) MSC

VI. Program Updates

1. Cost-Share Program Updates
 - a. Skalbeck Stream Bank Project design is still being finalized by the engineer and hopes to go out for bids in March.
 - b. Discussed Goblirsch retention pond working on wrapping up contract financials.
2. Staff Reports
 - a. Melissa Edmondson: on Maternity leave
 - b. Holly Hatlewick: Attended One Watershed Once Plan Team meetings, MASWCD Legislative Days, State SWCD Managers 2-day meeting. Presented at Sustainable Farming Association Cover Crop Café Chat. Worked on Skalbeck stream bank project development. Working towards Conservation Planning recertification. Doing Edmondson's admin duties and accounting work. Minnesota Soil Health Coalition board planning. Reduced Tillage and Cover Crops SWCD and HWP producer meeting in Renville. Presented benefits of Soil Health at local workshop to 21 attendees.
 - c. Michael Sandager: 78 contracts have been received or in process of receiving buffer cost-share payments. Working on Public Ditch Compliance for 190 landowners that received Corrective Action notices. Discussing buffer law with landowners and performing site visits with landowners to determine compliance and evaluate alt practices. Attended Ag Inspector Training. Administered Pesticide Application Testing for applicators. Attended County Board session to discuss Ag Inspector Committee. Updating social media and website. Working on conservation plans.



- d. Karen Wermers: No CRP at this time. Keeping list of interested landowners and working on estimates when time permits. CPO modifications for management activities and ownership changes. No CREP sign-up at this time. Sending out cold estimates. Continue to process 35 CREP easements. Continue to update easement processing tracking spreadsheet. Transferring local managements from RUSLEII over to IET. Assist Mike with buffer law related tasks. Teaching Cody about Easement processing. Attended Reduced Tillage and Cover Meeting and CREP Wetland Restoration Training.
 - e. Cody Dale: Worked on Hawk Creek streambank project and additional retention pond project. Completing conservation plans, improvements and ownership changes. Working on CREP quotes, new CREP construction and tree/shrub plantings. Working on CD #59, county wetland determinations and Kingman Wetland Bank under the Wetland Conservation Act. Working on Walk in Access applications, MAWQCP promotion and Land and Water management well sealing program. Attended Drainage Water Management meeting, WASCOB worksheet training, and CREP Wetland Restoration Training.
2. NRCS Report- printed copy provided
3. Board Reports:
- d. Kelly- no activities since last month
 - e. Hebrink- no activities since last month
 - f. Koenig- Attended Crow River Watershed meeting. Mark also attended the Area VI Chairs meeting on Feb 15th. Reported that to date one application for the Area VI scholarship program, deadline April 15th.
 - g. Kokesch- Attended Area VI Chair meeting on Feb 15th
 - h. Schroeder- Attended Ontario Soil Health Conference and brought back some good information and outreach ideas he shared with Administrator Hatlewick.
- VII. Other: Lactation Room Policy – Approve drafted policy, to be inserted to handbook (Kelly, Koenig) MSC
- VII. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 A.M. (Koenig, Hebrink) MSC

Renville Soil & Water Conservation District
1008 West Lincoln, Olivia MN 56277
Phone: 320-523-1550 ext. 3 Fax: 320-523-2389



CHAIRMAN