



MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 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
Michael Sandager

Administrative
Assistant
Melissa
Edmondson

Board Members Present: Jim Hebrink, Kathryn Kelly, Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch, Dean Schroeder
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): Dispensed, no citizens present
- III. Consent Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: Approved the meeting minutes from December 13, 2018 regular meeting, bills, and treasurer's report. (Kelly, Koenig) MSC
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Staff Grievance: Dispensed, no grievance
 2. One Watershed One Plan- Discussed the direction and future of BWSR Area 53. The Renville SWCD supervisors expect open, concise and censored dialog moving forward from the steering committee to avoid any future communication barriers. The SWCD Board wants more information from the Steering committee as to why they felt the need to separate the services of Ms. Rauenhorst as a contracted coordinator, so we can avoid any future issues with other coordinators.

Motion, the Renville SWCD is in favor of 1W1P for Area 53, we would like to see an outline and/or directional plan on how the steering team is going to move forward without a designated outside coordinator, (Hebrink, Schroeder) MSC
- V. New Business:
 1. Drill Rental program for 2019, discussed the SWCD financial responsibility to properly maintain equipment. Motion, lease drill to Dambrotten in 2019, with the same agreement as 2018, and if someone wants to use the drill get them in contact with Dambrotten to try and get them access to the drill. (Kelly, Koenig) MSC
 2. Discussed the upcoming Legislative Days.
 3. Personnel Committee
 - a. Mid-Year reviews, all employee mid-year reviews have been completed. The personnel committee meeting is scheduled for Feb. 25th to review employee mid-year reviews and complete Holly's mid-year review.



- b. Approve contribution of \$315.30 into Hatlewick's HCSP, per the employee handbook policy, Exempt employees' credit time, HCSP annual contribution. (Kelly, Koenig) MSC
- c. Motion to approve Hatlewick leave request for June 14-24th, (Kelly, Schroeder) MSC

VI. Program Updates

1. Cost-Share Program Updates

- a. Skalbeck Stream Bank Project Approve contract 65-11-14 DRAP II streambank restoration project in the amount of \$484,455.00. Land occupier waived O&M plan to Renville County as voted on. Has a preliminary design done with an estimate. (Kelly, Koenig) MSC

2. Staff Reports

- a. Holly Hatlewick: Hatlewick attended One Watershed One Plan Team meetings. SWCD special board meeting on Feb. 7th was cancelled due to weather. Assisted with organization of first MN Soil Health Coalition board and continues to assist with original documents and agreements. Working with HCWP to organize and plan Feb. 12th Reduced Till and Cover Crop meeting. Working with HCWP on the execution of our 2019 NWF Cover Crop Champion Grant. Attended South Dakota Soil Health Coalition. Worked on and completed 2018 BWSR elink annual grant reporting. Attended buffer committee meeting and Area VI Managers meeting.
- b. Cody Dale: Working on Hawk Creek Streambank. Completing conservation plans, improvements, and ownership changes for both RIM and CREP easements. Working on CREP quotes. Worked on CD #59 application, county wetland determinations, and Kingman wetland bank. Worked on State grant reporting, Walk in Access applications, MN Ag Water Quality promotion and Land and Water Management well sealing program. Attended BSA 7 Stakeholders meeting.
- c. Karen Wermers: CRP closed until further notice. Keeping list of interested landowners for both CREP and CRP. Completed CPO modifications for FSA. No known CREP batches currently. Processing 35 CREP easements. Continues to update easement tracking spreadsheets. Assisted Mike with buffer law related tasks. Assisted Holly with office organization. Updated SWCD display for Reduced Tillage and Cover Crops



meeting. Teaching Cody about Easement processing. Attended Reduced Tillage and Cover Crops meeting.

- d. Mike Sandager: Received 68 contracts for buffer cost-share. Sent non-compliance list of 173 landowners to the County. Discussing the buffer law with landowners and completing site visits with landowners to determine compliance and evaluate alternative practices. Attended Township meeting. Scheduled to attend pesticide applicator training. Updating social media and website. Working on U of M precipitation monitoring. Attended weed inspector meeting with County, buffer committee meeting, and ag inspector training. Working on conservation plans.
 - e. Melissa Edmondson: on Maternity leave
2. NRCS Report- printed copy provided
 3. Board Reports:
 - d. Kelly- attended the 1W1P meeting, attended buffer committee meeting.
 - e. Hebrink- Attended annual township meeting and Reduced Tillage and Cover Crop meeting, enjoyed the small group discussions.
 - f. Koenig- Attended Crow River Watershed meeting. Mark was nominated and accepts a position on the MASWCD Audit committee. The first meeting will be April 2nd. Was excited to see the Area VI Scholarship in the MASWCD Newsletter.
 - g. Kokesch- Attended the board meeting in January
 - h. Schroeder- Attended the National No-till Conference, so he missed the January Board meeting.

VII. Other:

1. Motion to approve Peterson Company 2018 audit engagement letter. (Hebrink, Koenig) MSC
2. Edmondson, requested to extend her Maternity leave to April 3, 2019. (Schroeder, Koenig) MSC
3. SWCD representation was requested on the Olivia Park's Board, the Board is supportive of their activities, and wants to be a resource but won't be assigning an employee to the board.

VIII. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember: MASWCD Area VI Chair's meeting Feb. 15th, Presidents Day Feb. 18th (Office Closed), SWCD Board Work Session Feb. 25th, SFA Cover Crop meeting in Renville Feb. 28th, Legislative Days March 5 & 6

IX. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 A.M. (Hebrink, Koenig) MSC

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CHAIRMAN