



MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 12, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Supervisors

Chair
District 2
Kevin Kokesch

Vice Chair
District 3
Terrylea Ness

Treasurer
District 5
Jim Hebrink

District 4
Kathryn Kelly

District 1
Mark Koenig

Staff
Holly Hatlewick
District
Administrator

Karen Wermers
Farm Bill
Technician

Cody Dale
Technician

Michael Sandager
Technician

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Renville Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 7:30 A.M. by chair, Kevin Kokesch, and opened with the pledge of allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch, Terrylea Ness, Jim Hebrink, Dr. Kathryn Kelly,

STAFF PRESENT: Holly Hatlewick, Karen Wermers

Others Present: Commissioner John Stahl

Citizens Comment Period: Dispensed, no citizens present

Consent Agenda: Approved the minutes from March. 2018 regular meeting and bills to pay (**Kelly, Hebrink**) MSC

Treasurers Report: Approved March treasury report (**Ness, Koenig**) MSC

Other Watercourses – Resolution 2018-1: A general overview of what was discussed at work session was given. Approved resolution (**Hebrink, Ness**) MSC

Time Tracking: Discussed a phone application that would provide a different method for staff time tracking along with tracking employee's location during the work day. It was suggested that more information be gathered before approving this method of tracking.

Cost-Share Policy – Draft: This policy will be a standard policy for the SWCD, allowing changes to encompass the needs of different cost-share programs that become available through the SWCD. Approved Policy (**Kelly, Koenig**) MSC

Buffer Laws: a) Cost-share: Authorize staff with appropriate Job Approval Authority (JAA) to approve buffer cost-share seed mixes that they feel will be successful and meet some type of state, local or federal seeding guidelines. (**Ness, Koenig**) MSC

b) Draft APO: Board decided to wait to hear the results from the BWSR Special Board Meeting that took place on April 12, 2018. No action taken at this time.

Drill Operations for 2018: Approve season long drill lessee agreement with Dean & Joe Dambrotten and not rent the drill to individual landowners for the period of April 12- September 15, 2018, the SWCD will no longer accept requests for drill

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rentals from April 12, 2018- Sept 15, 2018. (**Hebrink, Kelly**) MSC

May Board Meeting Date: Next board meeting will occur on May 18, 2018 at 7:30 am at the USDA Service Center. (**Ness, Koenig**) MSC

Data Privacy: Discussed that Renville County will conduct a data privacy training with staff and board members. Holly will also look into extra online videos to enhance training.

Staff report:

Administrator Hatlewick: Attended Legislative Days in St. Paul, MN March 12 & 13 with Karen Wermers and Supervisor Ness. Attended CROW River Project meeting, 1WIP meeting, Commissioner Work Sessions, Admin Accounting training, Land O' Lakes Buffer meeting. Worked on BWSR training acceleration grant, BWSR buffer cost-share and acted on BWSR Biennial Budget Request (BBR). Conducted administrative Conservation Assistant interviews with the help of Employment Plus, a candidate was selected. Prepared and attended Board Work Session April 5, 2018.

Wermers: Submitting 9 CREP applications for April 15, 2018 batch. Assisting landowners with the CREP program. Processing title work with each new CREP easement and putting together NRCS Cultural Resource review worksheets upon request from BWSR. Assisting landowners with the buffer law. Attended the RUSLE II training, presented at 2 County Buffer meetings, CREP Webinar, and will be attending CREP updated meeting in Marshall.

Dale: Beaver Falls WMA grade stabilization project awarded to Rough Country Excavating. Bolton & Menk awarded engineering and design of Hawk Creek streambank restoration. Streambank is a joint project with Renville County. Continue to work on RIM enhancement projects. Continue to send quotes for current CREP sign-up. Collecting applications for State cost-share projects. Worked through Individual Development Plans (IDP) with technicians for BWSR assessment.

Sandager: Completed 15 feedlot site visits as of 4/6/2018. Working with landowners in regards to the Buffer Law, this includes developing alternative practices, administering the policy and keeping a wait list for buffer cost-share. Continue to administer and participate in the precipitation monitoring program. Held two public buffer meetings and attended Land O' Lakes buffer meeting.

Board Report:

Supervisor Kelly: Attended SWCD work session, CERTS conference in St. Cloud, BWSR board meeting

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Supervisor Hebrink: Attended SWCD work session

Supervisor Ness: Attended SWCD work session, Legislative Days in March, Area VI meeting, will be attending 1W1P meeting April 26

Supervisor Koenig: Attended SWCD work session, Area VI meeting, Crow River meeting

Supervisor Kokesch: Well-head management meeting for the City of Franklin

NRCS Report: Kjorness has been working on the EQIP RCPP program, as a result, there were 3 applications submitted. Kjorness also worked on 7 eligible 2018 EQIP applications. 15 new CSP applications were submitted for 2018. Kjorness continues to work on contract modifications to remove acres lost or enrolled into the CRP program for the 2018 cropping year.

Other:

Commissioner John Stahl: Reported that Ditch 132 is being worked on. Attended both County buffer meetings put on by the County and SWCD

JAA: Board approved Holly Hatlewick's additional JAA request

Farm Bill Listening Session: Listening sessions are open to the public. Holly Hatlewick will be attending the FB listening session located in Granite Falls, MN on April 19, 2018.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting will be Friday May 18, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Olivia, MN.

ADJOURNMENT: To adjourn the Renville SWCD Meeting 9:15 a.m. (**Kelly, Hebrink**) MSC

SUPERVISOR