

**Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
USDA Service Center Foley, MN
June 16th, 2010**

Attendance: Supervisors - Wade Bastian, Bernie Thole, Chuck Rau, Phil Grosland and Joe Jordan.
Others: Gerry Maciej (Benton SWCD Manager), Pat Gehling (NRCS District Conservationist),
DeAnna Doran (Sherburne SWCD Manager – part of the meeting).

I. Call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order by Bastian at 8:31 A.M.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - Recited

III. Approve Agenda

Maciej asked to remove item VI. C. and VI. D. and add items VII. A. 4) FY2009 Audit, VII. A. 5) Little Rock Creek TMDL Phase 3 contracts and IX. C. 4) 2010 Tour of Practices. Motion by Jordan second by Grosland to approve the agenda with the changes. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to approve the minutes from the May 19th, 2010 regular board meeting as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

V. Treasurers' Report

Maciej presented the Money Market Account Report, Account Quick Report and May Program Summary Report. Motion by Rau, second by Thole to approve the reports. All were in favor. The motion passed. Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report. Motion by Grosland, second by Rau to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VI. Conservation Plans

A. Greg Novak – State Cost Share & Clean Water Amendment Fund cost share application – Motion by Jordan, second by Grosland to approve State Cost Share contract FY09-06 in the amount of \$4,704.04. All were in favor. The motion passed. Motion by Rau, second by Grosland to approve Clean Water Fund Cost Share contract CWF-11 in the amount of \$75,879.71. All were in favor. The motion passed.

B. Raymond Goulet – Clean Water Amendment Fund cost share application - Motion by Grosland, second by Jordan to approve Clean Water Fund Cost Share contract CWF-12 in the amount of \$26,287.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

C. Guy Spence – Native Buffer Cost Share application - Motion by Thole, second by Grosland to approve Native Buffer Cost Share contract NB09-04 in the amount of \$841.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

E. Wayne and Audrey Larson – Native Buffer Cost Share application - Motion by Rau, second by Jordan to approve Native Buffer Cost Share contract NB09-05 in the amount of \$1,218.00. All were in favor. The motion passed.

F. Tom and Jan Rothanburg – State Cost Share amendment – Motion by Jordan, second by Grosland to approve amendment 1 for contract FY09-03, changing the start by date to September 1st, 2010. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VII. Action Items

E. New Business

- 1) Consider preliminary 2011 budget – Maciej presented the recommendations of the finance committee who met prior to the board meeting. Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve the preliminary 2011 budget as presented. All were in favor. The motion passed.

- 2) Consider DNR Observation Well agreement – Motion by Thole, second by Rau to accept the groundwater monitoring agreement. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 3) Outstanding Conservation Cooperator contest – Candidates for the Outstanding Conservation Cooperator contest were presented. A listing of conservation practices installed by each candidate was distributed and discussed. SWCD supervisors, NRCS staff and SWCD staff completed voting by secret ballot. The results of the voting will be considered during the July board meeting.
- 4) FY2009 Audit – Maciej reported that bid proposal letters have been mailed. He is waiting for one more proposal to arrive before making a final recommendation. Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to authorize Maciej to select an audit firm and proceed with a fiscal year 2009 financial audit. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 5) Little Rock Creek TMDL Phase 3 contracts – Motion by Grosland, second by Thole to authorize the District Manager to sign Little Rock Creek TMDL Phase 3 contracts and sub-contracts. All were in favor. The motion passed.

VIII. **Progress Reports**

E. Staff reports – There were reviewed.

F. NRCS reports – Gehling reported on NRCS activities for the month and discussed Civil Rights responsibilities.

G. U of M Extension Service report – Martens was not available for a report.

IX. **Information Items**

E. Supervisor Reports

- 1) Benton Beach pond buffer planting – May 22 (Tiffany) – No supervisors were able to participate in the planting. Maciej reported the final planting was completed.
- 2) Mississippi River Renaissance luncheon – May 20 (Wade) – Rau reported he attended the luncheon and provided details about the small group discussions that occurred.
- 3) MASWCD Area 2 and WCTSA meeting – June 3 (Bernie and Gerry)- Thole and Maciej reported on BWSR budget reductions including impacts to SWCD's and Technical Service Areas (TSA), MASWCD Area resolutions, TSA workload and a letter written to Don Baloun (NRCS State Conservationist). Posters from Benton County students placed 1st (Holly Milejczak) and 3rd (Randy Grundhoefer) in the MASWCD Area 2 poster and essay contest.

F. Old Business

- 1) Vacation and sick leave policy discussion – Maciej distributed a copy of the Sherburne SWCD policy for paid time off. No action was taken.
- 2) Elk River TMDL's update – Maciej reported on a recently held meeting of the technical advisory committee. The meeting discussed the final modeling results for the load studies and potential implementation strategies for the implementation plan. Stakeholder meetings are being planned for July.

G. New Business

- 1) Mississippi River Renaissance LCCMR Proposal – Rau reported that the proposal made it through the first round. The proposal will be presented to the LCCMR committee on June 21st.
- 2) Water Management Summit – Maciej presented information about a the summit being sponsored by the Association of Minnesota Counties, Association of Watershed Districts and Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. At least two supervisors plan to attend the summit.

- 3) Services agreement with Mille Lacs SWCD – Maciej had prepared an agreement between the Mille Lacs and Benton SWCD’s for the Benton SWCD to perform manure management planning services through the Clean Water Fund. Mille Lacs SWCD signed the agreement during their last board meeting. Motion by Rau, second by Jordan to sign the agreement. All were in favor. The motion passed.
- 4) Tour of practices – Potential dates for a summer tour of conservation projects were discussed.

X. Adjourn

Motion by Rau, second by Thole to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:49 A.M.

Secretary, Board of Supervisors

Date

Calendar of Future Events:

- June 21, Elk River Watershed Association board meeting
- June 22, Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting
- June 29, SWCD/Commissioner luncheon
- July 19, Elk River Watershed Association board meeting
- July 20, Little Rock stakeholder committee meeting
- July 21, Benton SWCD board meeting
- To be determined, Elk River Watershed TMDL stakeholder meeting