

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 15, 2009 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes from the Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting. 212 ½ Second Street West, Park Rapids, MN.

Members present: Don Sells, Chair
Don Rettinger, Vice-Chair
Carol Berg, Secretary
Lynden Nelson, PR&I

Members absent: Doug Ralston, Treasurer

Others present: Shane Foley, District Manager
Marilyn Berry, District Secretary
Russell Johnsrud, NRCS District Conservationist
Kelly Condiff

Sells opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rettinger, to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rettinger to approve the minutes of November 10, 2009. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report for the month of November, 2009 was reviewed and accepted by the board subject to auditor's review.

PUBLIC INPUT

Kelly Condiff presented information to the board on a Shoreland Restoration grant through the DNR that covers all counties in Area 8 and extending outside. Landowners would have to restore over 50% of their lake frontage to qualify. Cost-share would be at 50% for a 10-year contract, but the contract would become void if the landowner sold the property. Johnsrud suggested he develop an application form for districts to fill out before submitting them to him. These plans would not include engineering plans, just vegetation; however, a plan could include both with the grant just paying for the vegetation.

REPORTS

Chair's Report: Sells reported that Nelson, Berg and he attended the State Convention and he asked Nelson and Berg for their comments.

Supervisors' Reports: Nelson said that as a first-time attendee, it was an eye-opener. The speakers were very good and he was pleased with the overall theme. Berg was pleased that an NACD representative had been invited. She listed those who received awards. On the amendments, 7 failed, 15 passed, and the emergency resolution to use cost-share on non-NPDES

feedlots passed. On December 16 she will be attending the Giziibii RC&D planning meeting in Mahnomen where they will continue their meeting from last month.

Manager's Report: Foley reported on his activities during the past month:

- Well run;
- Met with County Assessor on Green Acres program. The Assessor will be sending letters to landowners involved to give them the opportunity of enrolling in the new Rural Preserves program. They would be required to have a conservation plan written which the SWCD would have to approve;
- Met with Northwest Foundation, Beltrami and Clearwater SWCDs on the new Healthy Lakes and Rivers Program;
- Wrote and submitted a Clean Water grant for shoreline rehabilitation;
- Rockford Map Publishers sent a quote for 2010 plat books; will get a quote from another company also;
- 4 wetland violation checks, 3 WCA exemptions, 1 WCA restoration;
- Met with Long Lake to help plan for HL&R;
- Reviewed a new BWSR RIM program; at present, it doesn't look like it will pertain to Hubbard County.

Activities for the next month will include:

- E-link reporting for NRBG;
- AIS planning meeting;
- Coordinate a LWP meeting with the County and City Engineers to discuss upcoming projects.
- 2 WCA violations need restoration orders;
- 1 WCA restoration will be completed;
- Meet with county board to sign WCA agreement.

Foley also asked permission for leave as he and his wife are expecting their baby's birth this month. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Berg to approve leave up to 2 weeks for childbirth. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger, Sells. Opposed: None. M/C.

OLD BUSINESS

Health insurance was discussed. Berg had contacted an accounting firm about setting up a cafeteria plan. They quoted a \$500 first time fee with \$100/person/year thereafter and a possible \$200 annual fee if needed.

Foley explained that a plan could be set up using an on-line company, Core Documents, who specializes in this. He had checked with another business in Park Rapids who has worked with them and the report was positive. The cost would be \$99 plus \$15 shipping for documents.

The board discussed both of these options at length. Motion by Nelson to order the document from Core Documents for a premium only plan for \$114. Motion died for lack of a second.

NEW BUSINESS

The board reviewed proposed changes to the Annual Work Plan for 2010 and the 2010 Calendar of Events. The final drafts will be reviewed and voted upon at the January board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Giziibii RC&D sent application forms for the Hubbard Co. SWCD representative and the county at-large position. Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rettinger to approve reappointment of Carol Berg and Jerry Cole. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger. Opposed: None. M/C.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Johnsrud handed out a brochure on a “Year-Round Grazing Systems Seminar” that will be held January 19-21 at Central Lakes College, Staples Campus. The SWCD could purchase and man a booth at the seminar. The board declined. Copies of “Board Diversity” were also handed out to supervisors.

An MPCA notice on proposed amendment to rules governing the underground storage tank program was noted. The hearing will be held on January 8 and 21, 2010 and may be viewed in Detroit Lakes at the MPCA office.

Johnsrud reported on meetings and activities:

November 23—Net conference on CSP at Bagley; November 24—Area meeting at Thief River Falls; December 16—RC&D at Mahnomen; December 17—Urban Forestry meeting.

Johnsrud will lead the EQIP local work group meeting in January. Motion by Berg, seconded by Rettinger to hold the LWG meeting at 1:00 on January 12, 2010. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger. Opposed: None. M/C.

There were 17 eligible CSP applications; 6 are pre-approved.

Johnsrud presented a new form for FOIA that is a blanket statement for agencies, SWCD included. The board members read the agreement. Motion by Berg, seconded by Rettinger to sign the form. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Rettinger. Opposed: None. M/C.

An executive order was received that federal offices will be given leave the afternoon of December 24. This office will be included as it follows federal policy.

Berg thanked Johnsrud for all his assistance through the years and presented him with a gift and card from the board in appreciation. Johnsrud will be retiring on January 1, 2010.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular board meeting of the Hubbard County Board of Supervisors will be on Tuesday, January 12, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the office at 212 ½ Second Street W, Park Rapids.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____ SECRETARY _____
Date Carol Berg, Secretary

