

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM JUNE 9, 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. This meeting was postponed from the regular meeting date of April 14.

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

Members absent: None.

Others present: Shane Foley, District Manager
Marilyn Berry, District Secretary
Russell Johnsrud, NRCS District Conservationist
Cal Johannsen, County Commissioner

Sells opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

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

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Rettinger, to approve the minutes of May 12, 2009. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Ralston, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

PUBLIC INPUT

Foley discussed the issue of holding conservation easements with the board and Johannsen. He asked what the county's response would be if the SWCD decided to hold conservation easements for smaller parcels of land in the county. The county attorney could become involved if there were violations of the easement. SWCD's duties would be to monitor the easement acres. The Board asked Foley to talk with other districts that hold easements and MCIT. This will be on the agenda for the July meeting.

REPORTS

Sells attended the Roy Lake Shoreland Restoration Workshop sponsored by Clearwater SWCD. He made a presentation to the Fish Hook lake Association on information from this workshop.

He noted that the Area 8 meeting will be June 12 and COLA's Aquatic Invasive Species workshop will be held on June 13.

Rettinger will be attending the JPB meeting after the Area 8 meeting on June 12.

Foley noted meetings and activities he has attended in the last month:

- Wrapped up tree sale program
- Well run
- Lake monitoring
- Trained and delivered sampling supplies to monitors for SWAG grant
- HLRP work with Crow Wings, Big Sand and Portage
- Prepared next year's tree order form with Berry
- Worked on several violations/potential violations
- Blue Lake planting for MN Waters Grant. Many volunteers planted spruce, dogwood and seed mix.

Next month's activities will include well monitoring, fair booth, nitrate clinic, lake monitoring, grazing tour and results from WCA flight.

OLD BUSINESS

Copies of older district policies were handed out. Berry will make recommendations on them at the next board meeting.

Johnsrud presented information on the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to the Board, stressing that private information cannot be discussed unless supervisors sign a FOIA agreement. Discussion on what constitutes personal information. Motion by Berg, seconded by Rettinger that supervisors sign the "Certification of Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservation Cooperator" agreement, attachment C. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Ralston, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The grazing tour scheduled for July 23 was discussed and duties assigned.

NEW BUSINESS

The county fair will be held July 8-12. Supervisors will help man the district booth, Sells on July 10 and Berg on July 11.

A new board photo was taken.

Tentatively, there will be another round of funding for the Healthy Lakes and Rivers Program for Beltrami and Hubbard counties funded by the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. A total of eight lakes is required.

CORRESPONDENCE

Berry presented a letter from James Maiser, CPA, with a bid for conducting an audit. Motion by Berg, seconded by Ralston to approve asking James Maiser to conduct the district audit for the year ending 2008 at a fee not to exceed \$1,650. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Ralston, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Information on supervisor training to be held in St. Cloud July 14-15 was reviewed.

Two DNR water permit applications were reviewed: (1) pipeline through Straight River; (2) sand blanket on shoreline. The board will make the comment of “not environmentally appropriate on the second application.

A revised JPB agreement was reviewed. Motion by Ralston seconded by Berg to approve the JPB agreement, contingent on the county attorney’s approval. Affirmative: Berg, Nelson, Ralston, Rettinger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Johnsrud attended these meetings during the last month:

- May 14—GPS training in Thief River Falls;
- May 19—Invasive Weed Workshop in Detroit Lakes;
- May 21—Urban Forestry meeting.

Upcoming meetings:

- June 10—Giziibii RC&D meeting in Hubbard County;
- June 15—Trout Unlimited project meeting;
- June 18—Park Rapids Urban Forestry meeting.

An MPCA Public Notice was reviewed for Enbridge pipeline.

In the ranking period for EQIP there were 5 applications received for \$57,651.

The Giziibii RC&D coordinator’s report for May included: Presented RC&D updates to the Hubbard County Board of Commissioners and the Hubbard County SWCD; assisted Carol Berg in completing and submitting an application for a grant to attend the National Conference; Private Woodlands; Biomass Gasifier; National RC&D Conference in Albuquerque, NM June 14-17; RC&D Summer Meeting in Cloquet July 1929-30.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular board meeting of the Hubbard County Board of Supervisors will be on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in the office at 212 ½ Second Street W, Park Rapids.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

APPROVED: _____ SECRETARY _____
Date Carol Berg, Secretary

