

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM AUGUST 12, 2014 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

Members present: Don Rettinger, Chair
Lynn Goodrich, Vice-Chair
Bob Iles, Secretary
Don Sells, Treasurer
Ruth Grandy, PR&I

Members absent: Nathan Sitz, Water Quality Resource Specialist
Kathy Grell, Hubbard County Commissioner

Others present: Julie Kingsley, District Manager
Melissa Koebernick, District Administrative Assistant
Dan Pazdernik, District Conservationist
Michael Shen, Conservation Corps Apprentice
Jeff Mosner, Friends of the Headwaters

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

AGENDA AND MINUTES

A motion was made by Supervisor Goodrich to accept the agenda, as amended, with the addition of Environmental Education Building, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Iles to approve the minutes of July 8, 2014, seconded by Supervisor Grandy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was accepted as presented, by the board, subject to auditor's review.

PUBLIC INPUT

Friends of Headwaters – Jeff Mosner gave an update on the proposals for alternate routes presented to the Public Utilities Commission and asked for the SWCD's support for the alternate route.

Supervisor Sells made a motion to authorize Supervisor Goodrich to write a resolution in support of the PUC to consider all alternate Sandpiper pipeline routes, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Supervisors' Reports: Supervisor Rettinger attended a personnel committee meeting and the next Giziibii meeting will be in Baudette.

Supervisor Iles brought in articles from Outdoor News regarding AIS and DNR rearing ponds affecting walleye & musky distribution and an article regarding pines to potatoes.

Supervisor Sells attended a forestry meeting. They approved a grant writer from Laurentian RC&D to write the grant for a forester for Area 3 & 8. He also brought in an article from Farm Forum that says weeds are getting resistant to chemicals. He had a meeting with Fish Hook Lake Association regarding the proposal of closing the river access. The proposal was withdrawn.

Supervisor Goodrich is looking into decontamination for the "Let's Go Fishing" boat. He attended the watercraft inspector picnic and attended the parks board meeting.

Conservation Corp Apprentice – Michael Shen helped with the nitrate clinic where we tested over 300 samples, went with Nate Sitz to do veliger and lake sampling and uploaded the car counter information. He helped the DNR with goose banding. He has finished locating wells in Todd Township and Farden Township is partially done. He thanked the board for the opportunity to work at the Hubbard SWCD this summer.

Water Quality/Resource Specialist Report

- Hubbard SWAG sampling
- Water quality monitoring on Long Lake
- Initial visit for LincPass credentials.
- Preliminary plan completed for priority management and ready for public input for Crow Wing watershed.
- Ditch inventory mapping is done, need to identify sites of erosion to field verify.
- Helped set up fair displays.
- Attended final day of Blandin Community Leadership program.
- Car counters are all working properly.
- Gave 2nd report to lakes.
- Attending AIS task force subgroup meetings to come up with a plan for state aid.
- Veliger sampling.
- Decontamination unit was used 13 times in July.

District Manager's Report – Kingsley reported on the following:

Last Month

- AIS meetings
- Obwell run
- Attended MACDE meeting
- Audit completed
- Presented budget to County Board
- Set up display at fair grounds and nitrate testing clinic
- Viewed 1 cost-share projects
- Melissa and Michael Shen have been working on the Geologic Survey
- Attended Groundwater Management Area meeting

- 3 Wild Rice RIM easements completed, 2 more applications will be submitted
- Local Water Plan district meeting
- 1WCA site visits, 1 violations

Next Month

- Straight River Groundwater meeting
- Leech Lake watershed zonation survey
- Present at Association for Counties on AIS Funding
- Crow Wing TMDL meeting

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Civil Rights

- Women's Equality Month

Program Update

- CSP
 - o Expiring CSP contracts in FY2014 will have a renewal option and must submit offer by September 12.
- EQIP
 - o Additional application deadlines for FY2014
 - August 15 has been removed as an application deadline. July 18 was the last official application deadline for FY 2014. Applications can be taken on a continuous basis but the next date of consideration is to be announced).
 - o Local Work Group Meeting
 - 8/13/14 in the Service Center Conference Room

Current activities/other

- Finishing and obligating remaining EQIP preapprovals
- Irrigation Plans
- CSP renewals
- FSA tract compliance reviews.
- Potato field gleaning to be determined. Feds Feed Families food drive runs through 8/27/14.

OLD BUSINESS

Employee Cell Phone – we will do a comparison between TracFone and Consumer Cellular and have an SWCD cell phone by next year.

Nitrate Testing Clinic – Supervisor Iles made a motion to authorize district staff to set up a monthly date and time to test nitrates in well water, seconded by Supervisor Grandy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Fixed Asset Dollar Threshold – Supervisor Goodrich made a motion to change fixed asset dollar threshold from \$500 to \$2,500, seconded by Supervisor Grandy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Cost – Share– Supervisor Sells made a motion to approve payment of \$232.50 to King for cost-share contract, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

