

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM JULY 8, 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: None

Others present: Julie Kingsley, District Manager
Melissa Koebernick, District Administrative Assistant
Nathan Sitz, Water Quality Resource Specialist
Dan Pazdernik, District Conservationist
Michael Shen, Conservation Corps Apprentice
Kathy Grell, Hubbard County Commissioner
Christine Davis & Sara Ploetz, Enbridge speakers
Mary Adams & Tom Creighton, Spider Lake Association

Supervisor Rettinger opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA AND MINUTES

A motion was made by Supervisor Sells to accept the agenda, as amended, with the addition of Mississippi Headwaters Board and moving Enbridge speakers to after the approval of minutes, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Goodrich to approve the minutes of June 10, 2014 with the following corrections: add Nathan Sitz to others present and change Dan Pazdernik to Alicia Laturus under others present, seconded by Supervisor Grandy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Enbridge Speakers - It is Enbridge's goal to meet with groups that are involved with the proposed sandpiper route. The speakers updated us on the regulatory Public Utility Commission process. They discussed how they decide where to propose a pipeline and their environmental analysis of the proposed area.

Commissioner Grell – County board passed the AIS resolution that stated the Hubbard County Task Force would develop a plan and present it to the commissioners for approval. They are planning on contracting out the funds for different aspects of the statutes that the state setup.

Spider Lake Association members – They discussed their disappointment that their application for Community Partner's grant was denied. They felt that we should have a better way of communicating the decision by calling the applicant and sending them a letter. They also would like to have all entities

come together to find a solution to the road that was being addressed in the Community Partner's Grant.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

REPORTS

Supervisors' Reports: Supervisor Rettinger attended the Giziibii RC&D meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. Red Lake Reservation was awarded a \$50,000 grant to build block houses.

Supervisor Goodrich attended AIS advisory group meetings and is pleased with the efforts of the staff.

Supervisor Sells mentioned the wetland article in the Enterprise and brought in an article from the Farmers Forum showing how they use straw to make containers. He will be attending the MN SWCD Forestry meeting.

Conservation Corp Apprentice – Michael Shen met with Bruce Bloomberg to set routes and physically locate wells for the Geologic Survey. He went on the obwell run with Kingsley. He helped Sitz with lake monitoring and Surface Water Assessment work. He also helped Fish Hook Lake Association with their vegetation sampling.

Water Quality/Resource Specialist Report – Sitz reported on the following:

- Hubbard SWAG sampling
- Water quality monitoring on Long Lake
- Cleaned and organized upstairs storage area and back room with Shen.
- Attended Crow Wing WRAP meeting.
- Working on county map of ditch lengths for the ditch inventory.
- Hubbard County AIS task force will create the plan for the state funding.
- Car counters are all checked.
- Gave first report to lakes.

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

Last Month

- AIS meetings
- Obwell run
- Attended Mississippi Headwaters Board meeting
- MPCA meeting on Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network
- Wrote article for paper on Wetland violations and how to avoid them
- Master Gardner's Community Partners Grant application approved
- Viewed 3 cost-share projects
- Melissa and Michael Shen have been working on the Geologic Survey
- Attended Groundwater Management Area meeting – dealt with draft strategy #2
- Attended Leech Lake zonation model meeting
- Local Water Plan meeting with District Managers to set up a template for the new plans
- Water Quality monitoring.
- 12 WCA site visits, 4 violations and 2 road applications

Next Month

- Straight River Groundwater meeting
- Meeting with BWSR and Water Planners
- Leech Lake watershed zonation social input meeting
- MACDE meeting
- Present SWCD budget to County Commissioners

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Civil Rights

- All Cultural Appreciation Month

Program Update

- CSP
 - o Preapprovals must be obligated by July 25
 - o Expiring CSP contracts in FY2014 will have a renewal option
- EQIP
 - o Additional application deadlines for FY2014
 - July 18
 - August 15
 - o Local Work Group meeting due by August 15
 - Date TBD

Current activities/other

- Finishing and obligating remaining EQIP preapprovals
- Preparing for CSP renewals
- Field checks – tree plantings, grass and forage plantings, grazing system installations.
- Practice certifications and payments
- FSA tract compliance reviews.
- FOIA review (acknowledgement of Section 1619 Compliance)
 - o Supervisor Rettinger signed FOIA agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

Obwell Contract – Supervisor Rettinger signed the updated contract with increased compensation for well monitoring.

Employee cell phone – tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Cass County – Supervisor Sells made a motion to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Cass County to allow them to share our AIS Inspectors, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Cost – Share volunteer hourly rate – Supervisor Sells made a motion that we set the volunteer hourly rate for grants at \$18/hour, seconded by Supervisor Goodrich. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Comp time revision – Supervisor Iles made a motion to increase accumulated comp-time allowed to 80 hours, seconded by Supervisor Goodrich. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Mississippi Headwaters Board – Supervisor Goodrich made a motion to designate Supervisor Grandy as the SWCD board representative to the Mississippi Headwater Board to replace Supervisor Sells because he is a representative for the SWCD Area 8 Forestry Association, seconded by Supervisor Iles. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

JPB report, MASWCD candidate prospectus, and MCIT worker's compensation adjustment notice

NEXT MEETING: The next regular board meeting of the Hubbard County Board of Supervisors will be on August 12, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the office at 212 ½ Second Street W, Park Rapids. We will be discussing employee cell phones.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Supervisor Sells to adjourn the meeting, meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

APPROVED: 8-12-14 SECRETARY Robert A. Iles
Date Robert Iles, Secretary