

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM April 12, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes from the Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting at 603 Central Avenue North, Park Rapids, MN.

Members present: Lynn Goodrich, Chair
Don Sells, Vice-Chair
Bob Iles, Treasurer
Don Rettinger, Secretary

Absent: Marcel Noyes, PR&I

Others present: Julie Kingsley, District Manager
Annette Olson, Administrative Assistant
Jamin Carlson, Water Quality/Resource Specialist – via phone
Dan Pazdernik, District Conservationist
Ed Smith, Hubbard County Commissioner

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

AGENDA

Items asked to add to the agenda –under New Business/Action – d. Jim Luoma – Pineland Sands Grant Contract, e. Joel Rehm – Pineland Sands Grant Contract. A motion was made by Supervisor Iles to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Sells with an additional item under Old Business/Action – b. Forester Questionnaire. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Water Quality/Resource Specialist's Report: Jamin Carlson gave his report early so he could attend a meeting:

- WCA – calls, inquiries, and possible violations.
- Trees – calls, inquiries, meetings, equipment, orders for Pineland Sands projects.
- Conservation Delivery – Awarded Ecofootprint Grant for Deerview Road, Airport Pollinator Project fell through and have a project to cover those acres, site visit, presentation at office for new products for steep area erosion control projects, got more information on AgBMP Loan Program.
- Cost-Share – Fredman Project almost complete, meetings on Shively Group Project, calls on shoreline erosion/storm-water issues needing site visits, Better Connection Project for storm-water treatment plan and possible rain garden plantings with a community center for kids.
- Meetings/Trainings – attended Area 8 Meeting, SAM Training, Board Meeting, NRCS Field Tools Webinar, met with Darrin and Chad about finding 20 to 25 projects for Clean

Water Fund Grants for Long Lake and pick the top 5 most needing, and met with township supervisor and residents about ideas for Junco Road issues.

- Community Partners – multiple meetings, emails and calls for Pine Haven plan revisions and the second project.
- Next Month – Cost-Share/Community Partners/WCA projects, JBP Tech Meeting (March 12), do Obwells, Tree Sales, Buffer Letters and Projects.

MINUTES

Supervisor Iles moved to approve the minutes as presented. Supervisor Sells seconded the motion. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Updated the Profit & Loss Expenses and total and Balance Sheet totals with 2 credit card charges that were not included in original report sent out to board. Treasurer Iles questioned a few items and then presented the treasurers report as updated to the board, subject to the auditor's review.

PUBLIC INPUT

Commissioner Smith: Announced the new Assistant County Attorney to be Jonathan Frieden and the new Human Resources is Gina Teems. Seven unions are still in negotiations. Road work will start soon on truck bypass on Highway 28. There are MNDOT plans for a roundabout for the intersection of highways 15 and 71. There will be a lot of paving this year including Hwy 15 and work on manhole covers. A question was asked about the county audit, Commissioner Smith will check into it. The commissioners are looking for a third county attorney – they've received several applications. He will be attending the 1W1P meeting on April 18.

REPORTS

Supervisor Goodrich: 1W1P meeting is April 18th. Attended the work session – information will be updated and sent out to review before next board meeting. Attended the Area 8 meeting. Asked for an update on help needed for the Freshwater Festival. – Julie reported that 297 students are signed up to attend the May 17th event and could still use 10 more volunteers.

Supervisor Sells: Was not able to attend the last forestry meeting. Attended the Area 8 meeting. He received a survey for the board to complete later this meeting, and return before May 5th.

Supervisor Iles: Attended the Area 8 meeting, the strategic work session and will need to meet with the office staff/Budget Committee to adjust the 2017 budget and start the 2018 budget. May 24th at 9:00 am is set for this meeting. A couple letters to the editor were passed around regarding their view about AIS from citizens.

Supervisor Rettinger: Attended Area 8 meeting and wanted to thank us for the get well card that was sent to his wife.

District Conservationist Report: Dan Pazdernik reported on the following:

- Conservation Stewardship Program evaluations are due June 9th, they are notifying the 2013 expiring CSP contracts for renewal.
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) preapproved application list (13 of 16) received and participants will be notified over the next few days. Funds have not been allocated yet and contracts must be signed by May 26th.
- Current Activities include working on EQIP and CSP applications for Hubbard and Wadena, modifications and contract maintenance, work on mid-year performance staff reviews, site visits for interested parties in conservation practices. NRCS is having soil health training on June 21st in Thief River Falls and again June 22nd in Fergus Falls. He will check with Jamin and request a spot for him if any seats available. Dan is still splitting his time between Park Rapids and Wadena.

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

- Interviewed with the Enterprise, they are also interested in having regular articles in the paper. Also interviewed with Northwoods Press. Attended Area 8 meeting – learned about the AgBMP low interest rate loans available for a variety of water quality improvement projects for community members. Attended a Brock White Company presentation for new materials available to use for steep areas of erosion. Attended the Embridge Line 3 replacement meeting with BWSR and Clearwater County. Watched the NRCS webinar on Field Tools for Engineers. Had a conference call for a possible easement at Camp Wilderness Boy Scout Camp on 1,500 to 1,800 of their acres for permanent protection. Attended a forestry meeting regarding the Headwaters of the Crow Wing River. Attended the Strategic Planning work session. Spoke at the League of Women Voters Meeting about the Mississippi Headwaters WRAP in Hubbard County.
- Cost-Share – site visit to the Fredman Project that is working well, just needs land to thaw and groom then the landowners will finish with sod.
- Envirothon – conference call – found out no teams were signed up yet. We now know that there are 14 senior and 16 junior teams signed up for the May 3rd event.
- Leech Lake River 1WIP – Policy Committee meeting rescheduled to April 18th - here.
- Local Water Management Plan Task Force – met April 6th at Extension Office and set up the budget – will include Supervisor Iles in future meetings.
- Mississippi Headwaters WRAP – work plan was amended to re-allocate grant funds.
- Nitrate Testing for April – We had 6 individuals bring in 9 samples to be tested on Friday, April 7th.
- Pineland Sands Aquifer – Pollinators/trees: Airport project was ready to go then the city pulled their application, they indicated that they have development plans for the airport. We have 2 other producers that are interested and should cover those acres.
- Straight River GWMA grant – attended a workshop for producers at Osage Community Center. 45 people attended and did 12 nitrate tests.
- Tullibee Forest Stewardship – only one plan needing completion yet to complete grant.
- WCA – site visit to large violation in Lakeport Township.
- Upcoming Events include: April 19 is Water Action Day, May 3 is Envirothon and trees will be delivered to SWCD, May 4-tree packing at fair grounds, May 5th – Nitrate testing at office and sell trees at fair grounds from 1-6 pm, May 6 – sell trees at fair grounds from 9 am – 3 pm and Farden Township wants us to do nitrate testing in the morning,

May 7 – sell trees at fair grounds from 1-3 pm, May 10 SWCD board meeting, May 16 – package trees at Camp Wilderness for FWF at 1 pm, May 17 – FWF at Camp Wilderness Boy Scout Camp, May 22 – JPB meeting at Beltrami Admin Bldg 10-12:30 pm, May 25 – will be speaking at the COLA meeting at 6:30 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

- Strategic Planning Work Session – went over the By Laws and Policies. Annette will type up and send out to review before next board meeting to approve.
- Laporte Independence Celebration Days – June 30 –July 1st – we need to get a booth and be present as SWCD, we will revisit at next months meeting.
- Information on Deer View Road with the Ecofootprint Grant just recently awarded for \$105,000 with a township match of \$105,000 to cover erosion issues. Engineering plans and surveying already started.
- Reminder to go through the Sunsetting Resolutions and present any you would like continued and any new resolutions you might want to present at the May board meeting.
- Will be doing some site visits to be compliant with the Buffer Law on a few ditches that need to be verified, some aerial views were not clear through trees or other issues.
- 2017 Local Capacity Grant – covered how grant dollars have been appropriated.

Chair Goodrich called for a break at 10:40 am.

Meeting reconvened at 10:55 am.

- Review By-Laws - reviewed By-Laws and Policies at the April 11th Strategic Work Session and will be updated and sent out before next board meeting to preview for approval at next board meeting.
- Forester Survey – survey items gone over at work session, survey will be typed up and verified before next board meeting to send response out before May 5th.

NEW BUSINESS

- Photo of Supervisors – individual photos will be taken at the next board meeting to be kept on file for upcoming articles as needed.
- JPB Meeting will be May 22 (10:00-12:30) at the Admin. Bldg. Center in Bemidji.
- WCA Fees for Services – past fee schedule was reviewed at work session and will be updated for approval at next board meeting.
- MASWCD Sunsetting Resolutions – information given to board members to review and will be voted on at next board meeting. Members were also informed to bring any new resolutions to the next board meeting.
- Sign Deerview Road Ecofootprint Grant and Pine Haven Ecofootprint Grant – Board members had the opportunity to review grant agreements prior to voting. Supervisor Iles moved to accept and sign the two Ecofootprint Grants. Supervisor Sells seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

- Jim Luoma Pineland Sands Cost-Share and Joel Rehm Pineland Sands Cost-Share contracts – the final paperwork needed our signature. Supervisor Iles moved to accept and sign the two contracts. Chair Goodrich seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Written information regarding the time (checking) and savings (savings plus CD's) accounts are insured up to \$250,000 each. This means that our accounts are covered.
- Minutes from the MASWCD last meeting were sent out to everyone.
- Information for Embridge routes for Line 3.
- Mississippi Headwaters Board (Focus) Interactive Maps for GIS users.
- State of the River Report.
- Hubbard County Hazardous Mitigation 5 year plan being completed.
- MDA launched new Cropland Grazing Exchange.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular board meeting of the Hubbard County Board of Supervisors will be on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. in the office at 603 Central Avenue North, Park Rapids, MN. Items to cover: Laporte Independence Celebration Days, Sunsetting and new Resolutions, Policies and By Laws, WCA Fees for Services, tree sales review, fair booth activities, Envirothon and State Envirothon, Freshwater Festival, Budget Committee meet. Supervisor Sells will have refreshments.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Supervisor Sells to adjourn the meeting; meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.

APPROVED: _____ SECRETARY Robert A. Iles
 Date Bob Iles, Acting Secretary