

# **HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

## **MINUTES FROM November 8, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Minutes from the Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting at 603 Central Avenue North, Suite 100, Park Rapids, MN.

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

Others present: Julie Kingsley, District Manager  
Annette Olson, Administrative Assistant  
Jamin Carlson, Water Quality/Resource Specialist  
Dan Pazdernik, District Conservationist  
Ed Smith, Hubbard County Commissioner (arrived at 8:45)

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

### **AGENDA AND MINUTES**

One item added to New Business under Action Items: 2018 Nursery Stock Dealer Certification Renewal. A motion was made by Supervisor Iles to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Rettinger. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Correction on page 4 under District Manager Review: evaluation date should read October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Other spelling corrections were noted. Supervisor Rettinger moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Supervisor Noyes seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Questions about transfer of funds: supervisors' pay show as a check or direct deposit/auto withdrawal in the checkbook register. Additional information was requested on a credit card charge and the name of the grant used to cover the Pine Haven project (Community Partner and MARC&D Enbridge Ecofootprint Grants). Treasurer Iles had no additional questions and presented the treasurer's report to the board, subject to the auditor's review.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Commissioner Smith: The next county work session should be discussing our request for WCA match funding, and it would be good for someone to be there to represent SWCD. A notice of resignation was received from their Deb Thompson (HR). The county engineer position was filled by Jed Nordic and will be in the process for taking applications for the county coordinator. Budget talks are still going on. The Heritage Living Center will be having a walk-through for the Commissioners.

Commented that the road projects are done and the crew is working on the salt/sand mix to use on the roads this winter. They haven't heard more on the Enbridge tax proposal. No more information on the buffer law proposal.

## **DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST**

Dan Pazdernik reported on the following:

- Civil Rights – November is American Heritage Month
- Program Updates – Conservation Stewardship Program-nothing new; Environmental Quality Incentive Program-18 applications submitted & eligibility and planning deadline is January 19, 2018; Regional Conservation Partnership Program-MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification applications due March 2, 2018.
- Current Activities & Other Items – still working in Wadena 2-3 days per week; EQIP practice certifications and payments (checked out a couple of pastures and one high-tunnel certification); working on CSP payments on existing contracts; completed year-end performance reviews; completed the FSA compliance reviews for wetland compliance; Lance Smith is Acting Area Conservationist; all employee area meeting was October 24<sup>th</sup> in Detroit Lakes; and they lost their second truck with the vehicle fleet reduction but they may get another one because of his shared position. NRCS was informed they cannot drive a SWCD vehicle.
- Dan will be out of the office as planned for the next week.

## **REPORTS ON PROJECTS AND MEETINGS**

Chair Goodrich: Attended the Leech Lake 1W1P Advisory Committee Meeting and will attend the meeting on November 17. (Advisory Meeting at 9:00am and Policy Committee at 1:30pm)

Supervisor Sells: Will plan to attend the Forestry Meeting this month. He was part of the MN Department of Agriculture (MDA) Township Testing Program nitrate study analysis and shared his results just recently received.

Supervisor Noyes: Attended the Mississippi Bi-Annual Conference in Walker, well attended in the morning. They had good speakers, the hot topic was Geo Mapping. He also brought back some Mississippi Headwaters Guidebooks for us to hand out. Noted that the Marshall SWCD sent out post cards to land owners requesting a response back if they were in compliance or what they were doing to get their property in compliance with the Buffer Law. Hubbard SWCD used the new air photography from the county mapping data to verify what parcels were not in compliance.

Supervisor Iles: No activity. He shared a couple of newspaper articles and shared an invitation from East Ottertail on Agricultural & Groundwater to be held November 30 in Perham, December 12<sup>th</sup> in Parkers Prairie and January 25, 2018 in Osage.

Supervisor Rettinger: No activity.

Water Quality/Resource Specialist's Report: Jamin Carlson's report covered the following:

- Wrote a notice of Decision for client in Guthrie Township (TWP), Restoration Orders to clients in Guthrie and Farden TWPs, and a Certificate of Satisfactory Restoration in Farden TWP.

- Site visits included: determination for pole shed in Farden TWP, delineation review in Argo TWP, excavation question in Lake George TWP, violation/evaluation/compliance review in Farden TWP, compliance on a Restoration Order in Guthrie TWP, harbor excavation project on existing man-made harbor/channel and found violations in Lake Emma TWP, excavation check in Todd TWP, dumpster in wetland in Straight River TWP, lawn debris in wetland and completion of construction in Lake Emma TWP.
- Miscellaneous Items: worked with walk-ins and emails, an earlier violation that was given 2 extensions and is now with the county attorney for non-compliance.
- Conservation Delivery: dropped off plat books to the Woodland Store in Lake George and the Rock Creek Store in Clearwater County for resale.
- Meetings /Trainings: board meeting, BWSR Academy Nov 1-3.
- MARC&D Grant: wrote article for the Long Lake Association on the Pine Haven projects for COLA Chair.
- Buffers: Met with one client who went ahead with fixing his buffer issues and is now compliant. Met with second client for site plan and waiver is signed. Will be working with landowner on possible grazing plan that will put buffer areas into compliance through November 1, 2018.
- November Items: Cost-Share visits, Obwells, Deerview Road/MARC&D Grant, WCA, Buffers plan for client, training with Mitch Brinks on GPS and wetland delineation, ditch work with Shelly Carole.

District Manager's Report: Julie Kingsley's report included the following:

- New copier installed and staff trained; did a presentation on wetlands for the Park Rapids 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Resource Rendezvous for 6 classes; 3 day BWSR Academy.
- Community Partners: Final reports are being completed and financials were sent in on the Pine Haven Christian Assembly projects.
- Leech Lake River 1W1P: Planning committee phone conference call on October 19<sup>th</sup> and Advisory Committee Meeting in Walker on October 27.
- Nitrate Testing: 14 samples were collected on Friday and tested on Monday. Results issued to clients by email or a phone call.
- WCA: Site visit in Arago TWP and Inland Road delineation site visit; 2 site visits in Straight River TWP; 2 site visits in Lake Emma TWP-one violation will need to purchase WCA credits; Notice of Decision on Wetland Delineation in Argo TWP.
- Upcoming Events: Board Meeting; Crow Wing River Nature Conservancy meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>-Todd Holman to write a grant for the Straight River, Fish Hook/Shell River and Crow Wing River to cover the Becker, Wadena, and Hubbard area for a forestry/easement/stewardship position; Leech Lake River 1W1P Planning Committee conference call November 9<sup>th</sup> with the advisory & policy meetings to follow on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Next JPB meeting will be January 3, 2018.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A draft of the Annual Work Plan was given to supervisors and staff to review and note questions or corrections back to staff to update and then a revised copy will be sent out to everyone before the next meeting. New programs to note-Forest Stewardship (looking to rename this activity), Crow Wing River Forestry, MARC&D Grant for Deerview Road Project and a Clean Water Fund still pending.

- TrafX Counter Letter of Intent – Supervisor Iles moved to adopt the Letter of Intent for rental of the TrafX Counters as proposed. Supervisor Sells seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Awareness article for local papers: Julie submitted a PSA on buffers and has another article on the Nature Conservancy. An article on tree sales would be good for all the local papers.

Another article about zebra mussels that were found on a boatlift from Lake Minnetonka that was going to be transported to another lake. COLA is also doing a survey by email to collect information on veliger and zebra mussels. Supervisor Goodrich will sent the link out to everyone.

- Dain Erickson sent logo samples for review. Supervisors did not like the samples. They would like to suggest that we use our present colors and a simplified version of our present logo, also move the words Hubbard County SWCD under the design. Julie will update Dain and see if he might be able to come to our December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- 2018 MACDE Membership Dues – Supervisor Sells moved to pay the MACDE dues for 2018. Supervisor Noyes seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
- 2018 Nursery Stock Dealer Certification Renewal fee: - Supervisor Sells moved to pay the Department of Ag the Nursery Stock Dealer Certification Renewal fee of \$250.00. Supervisor Rettinger seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** MASWCD Annual Meeting on December 3-5, 2017 – need to know which supervisor will be attending by tomorrow (11/9/17). MCIT sent out the 2016 Annual Report and we should be receiving our reimbursement soon. Staff salary summary was handed out to the supervisors. An email came from LeAnn Buck about the Governor’s press conference relating to the water quality buffers and the waivers available for the farmers facing hardships. The Calendar of Events will be sent out to supervisors, to look over, after staff updates it.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular board meeting of the Hubbard County Board of Supervisors will be on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. in the office at 603 Central Avenue North, Park Rapids, MN. Items to cover will be Approval of Annual Work Plan, Review Calendar for next year, Julie will check to see if Dain Erickson might be available to come and refreshments will be by the staff.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Supervisor Rettinger to adjourn the meeting; meeting adjourned at 9:52 am.

APPROVED: 12-13-2017 SECRETARY Don Rettinger  
 Date Don Rettinger, Secretary