

HUBBARD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES FROM July 11, 2018 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
Will Lee, Water Quality Resource Specialist
Annette Olson, Administrative Assistant
Dan Pazdernik, District Conservationist (arrived late)
Ed Smith, Hubbard County Commissioner

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

AGENDA AND MINUTES

Items added to the agenda – under Public Input – a. Commissioner Smith and b. Berry Appreciation Certificate. **A motion was made by Supervisor Iles to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Supervisor Rettinger. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.**

Supervisor Iles requested to add the name of the paper – Outdoor News – in his report on page 2. Supervisor Rettinger moved to approve the minutes as amended. Supervisor Noyes seconded the motion. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Iles had no questions. Staff explained the voided check from July 6th. Treasurer Iles presented the treasurer's report to the board, subject to the auditor's review.

PUBLIC INPUT

Commissioner Smith: Mr. Smith announced that the summer road projects are underway. Budget planning is coming up and it will be a busy time. They have had a smooth transition with their personnel changes. There has been a lot of discussion about making the court house secure because of some incidences in the government center. They will be adding monitoring devices at the front door. The pipeline coming through the county may affect the area and our law agencies. He suggests checking out the new nursing home facility. He talked about the 5-year road plan that is scheduled to be presented at the next county board meeting and passed around a

copy of the map showing the projected projects with financial information for it on the back. Some group discussion on different roads needing work done in the county and the new transfer station construction should be starting end of July or beginning of August.

Lynn and Marilyn Berry arrived, and Supervisor Sells presented a certificate of appreciation to them for monitoring rainfall for 34 years for Henrietta TWSP/Hubbard County SWCD and the State Climatology Department at the U of M. We plan to put an article in the local newspaper to highlight their service.

REPORTS ON PROJECTS AND MEETINGS

Chair Goodrich: Attended Leech Lake 1W1P policy meeting – The decision was to go with a memorandum of agreement at this time. The governmental information is next on the agenda. They have set the 3rd Friday of the month, going forward through the rest of 2018, for either an advisory or policy committee meeting, or both.

Supervisor Rettinger: no report.

Supervisor Iles: attended the June 21st Lease Negotiation Committee meeting with our landlord, Bernie Gartner. He helped with the Laporte Independence Celebration Days nitrate clinic on Saturday, July 7th. We had 46 clients and 48 tests. All results were good other than one that was found at last year's clinic.

Supervisor Sells: there will be a Forestry meeting on July 19th.

Supervisor Noyes: attended the June 21st lease negotiation meeting, helped with the Akeley-Paul Bunyan Days nitrate clinic, and worked the Laporte Independence Celebration Days as a Laporte Lion member. Mentioned that there was a trout kill on the Kabekona River on Saturday, July 7th. Speculation is that it could have been from abundant sediment from the many rainfalls that we have been having. He asked if there was any follow-up with the Hwy 71 tanker spill on February. No update at this time.

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

- Meetings attended – Interview with Park Rapids Enterprise on Water Quality projects and new employee with staff photo; staff meeting; Lease Committee meeting with Bernie Gartner; Akeley Paul Bunyan Days nitrate testing clinic-better promotion needed and less hours; NRCS Local Work Group training in Fergus Falls; COLA meeting; Lease change request letter sent to Tessa Garcia, NRCS/USDA; Veliger testing dates.
- Buffer – site visits for potential buffer law compliance-2 in Hubbard and 1 in Lake Emma TWSP.
- Cost-Share – site visit to Long Lake in Henrietta TWSP and will need an engineer to help with correcting the issues; application sent to client in Lake Hattie TWSP.
- Kabekona Rive Sampling – first E. coli sampling-samples were not delivered to the lab in time to test so will have to repeat; quality control samples on East and Middle Crooked and Spider Lakes.
- Leech Lake 1W1P – covered earlier.

- MARC&D Deerview Road – Henrietta TWSP meeting, finalized bid, quarterly report submitted, on-site pre-construction meeting and construction started yesterday, July 10th and hoping to complete by July 25th.
- Wetlands – several calls-building in wetlands in Lake Emma TWSP, Lakeport TWSP and Hubbard TWSP.
- Upcoming Events – this week-county fair nitrate clinics; present budget to county board on July 17th; will attend the MCIT Risk Workshop in St. Cloud; Leech Lake 1W1P Advisory Committee Meeting; District Managers Meeting in St. Cloud; and Lake George Blueberry Festival Nitrate Clinic on July 28th.
- Will be out of office August 17th – September 3rd.

Water Quality/Resource Specialist's Report: Will Lee reported on the following:

- WCA – site visit to client in Lakeport TWSP; setting up site visits in Helga, Guthrie and Lake Emma TWSPs.
- Buffers – meeting with Darren Mayers of BWSR-identified 22 additional parcels to review and then review every 3 years and a few will need site visits; get memorandum of understanding with county so everyone knows who will be responsible for what duties; inspected 2 parcels with Julie in Hubbard County to determine if buffer is compliant; site visit in Arago TWSP also compliant; inspected parcel in Henrietta TWSP and remove from Public Water Inventory (PWI); waiting to hear back from DNR on parcel by Peysenke Lake; letters sent to 4 clients (Helga, Hubbard, Schoolcraft and Arago TWSPs); still working on Lakeport TWSP parcels.
- General – attended cover crop training in Erskine with NRCS staff; visit with potential cost-share client with severe erosion on driveway; worked Akeley nitrate clinic; learned how to calibrate new water chem equipment to offer testing on lakes for: temperature, pH, ORP-Oxidation-Reduction Potential, specific conductivity, resistivity, salinity, TDS-Total Dissolved Solids, DO percent saturation, DO mg/l (ppm) and depth; learned how to generate tables, graphs, depth charts and spreadsheets immediately after testing with one water column drop. Staff will work on figuring costs to offer the total testing to COLA and area lakes.
- Veliger sampling – sampled 3 lakes with Bob Gack.
- Kabekona E.coli – helped with 2 of 3 samplings done so far this summer.
- Long Lake DO readings – 2 samplings done so far this summer. One had unusual results possible from heavy rains.
- TrafX – information was pulled from 3 meters in June to see if they were working.

Administrative Assistant's Report: Annette Olson reported on the following:

- Workshop/training seminars – information for possible sessions interested in. Refresh on Excel - Beyond the Basics, Excel – Advanced (July 20th in Bemidji), and Access. Board agreed the Bemidji session would be beneficial.
- Rain Monitoring data collection and submission – we have 30 active monitors.
- Forest Stewardship – a few more contacts and one more contract.
- MASWCD Convention – request for ideas for presentations/speakers.
- Fair preparation – ready to go – we will be handing out pollinator seed packets to interested parties.

- Nitrate clinics – Akeley, Laporte already discussed. In house clinic had 14 clients and 21 tests with 1 over 20 ppm in Hubbard TWSP; 4 over 15 ppm in Henrietta, Becker, Crow Wing TWSP's; 1 over 10 ppm in Todd TWSP; the others were good results. The Nitrate flag has arrived and will be posted in front of the Educational Building when we are holding the clinics.
- SWCD & Forestry booklets – booklets are being printed and should be able to have available at the fair.
- MARC&D – quarterly report completed and submitted for reimbursement.
- Noted expended grants that need final reporting.
- 2019 Plat Books – new service agreement finalized and signed and discussed what will be available for the new publishing. Supervisor Goodrich made a recommendation to provide extra 2016 Plat Books and county wall maps to our local fire departments. **Supervisor Sells made a motion that we donate the extra 2016 Plat Books and old county maps to the Hubbard County fire departments (Park Rapids, East Hubbard, Laporte, Lake George and Nevis). Supervisor Noyes seconded. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion carried.** We will announce the photo contest in our fall newsletter and an article in the Park Rapids Enterprise newspaper about the same time. Note for county map requests needs to be complete and to Theora Goodrich by this Friday, July 13, 2018. Townships not in attendance at the county meeting will be notified shortly after.
- Attended Admin Work Session – presentations included-BWSR Operations, BWSR-Accounting & Financial Tips, Roundtable Discussion, PERA Issues & Info, Computer Best Practices.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

Dan Pazdernik reported on the following:

- Program Update – Conservation Stewardship Program-7 applications preapproved. Waiting for state office to approve; Environmental Quality Incentives Program-no new information; FY2019 program timelines will be announced after the new State Conservationist starts July 22nd; EQIP and CSP will utilize one new evaluation tool in FY 2019-will be streamlined and more user friendly.
- Current Activities and other items – Alan Lepp was selected for next Assistant Conservationist for old areas 1 & 2 and will start August 5th, Bob Koltes is acting Assistant Conservationist until Mr. Lepp starts; Troy Daniell has been selected as our next state conservationist starting July 22nd, Kristi Oats is the interim acting State Conservationist until then; he attended the cover crop training in Erskine on June 20th with Alicia and Will; and the Locally Led Process Training in Fergus Falls on June 27th; Alicia Laturnus will be assisting Roseau County remotely with completing CRP Plans-they have over 300 contracts to go through; they will be working on CSP applications, field checks for current contracts, planning for EQIP, etc; he was on a statewide teleconference this morning and will be held the 2nd Wednesday of every month going forward.

