



**MINNESOTA
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

**SIBLEY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, MARCH 10, 2009

Vice Chair Wiemann called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M.

Members present:

Paul Wiemann, Vice Chair
Tom Pfarr, Treasurer
Bob Nielson, Secretary
Gary Schafer, Reporter

Members Absent:

Dave Trebelhorn

Others Present:

Loren Evenson, District Manager
Ron Otto, Water Management Coordinator
Jon Dotolo, NRCS District Conservationist
Brooke Patterson, Rush River Watershed Project Coordinator
Joel Wurscher, High Island Creek Watershed Project Coordinator

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Pfarr to approve the February 2009 secretary's report.
Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Evenson gave the treasurer's report and stating that a written report will be provided next month. \$5,792.44 in checks that have not cleared the bank, there is a balance of \$2,200.44 in the checking account and \$173,877.42 in the MMDA account. Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Schafer to approve the February 2009 treasurer's report. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

NRCS Report

Dotolo stated that all programs depend on funding and at this time that funding has not been approved. If funding is not approved by March 11, 2009 congress will need to pass another continuing resolution.

CP-38 (SAFE) acres have been used up. It is anticipated that more funding will be allocated in the coming months.

Sharing and safeguarding office data was again discussed at this meeting. Dotolo would like to have Evenson, Pioske and Otto sign Attachment "C" of the agreement. After discussion by the supervisors it was decided to have Evenson, Pioske and Otto sign the agreement.

Water Management

Otto spent a lot of time getting the website published this past month. A few items need to be added to the site by March 15, 2009. After those items are finished only monthly maintenance will be needed. Meetings that Otto attended were: High Island Creek Watershed District, Friends of High Island Lake, two TMDL meetings, Minnesota River Valley and the Day at the Capital.

Patterson gave an updated report of the Rush River Watershed Project budget. \$330,000.00 in loan funds for septic systems has been secured. The second installment of grant funds should be received shortly because the continuation work plan was approved in the past month.

Wurscher gave an updated financial report for the High Island Creek Watershed Project. This past month Wurscher developed a manure management brochure that was sent to 94 producers that have 50 or more animal units and reside in the watershed.

District Report

Evenson reported that two tree plans were completed and 100 plus orders for trees were received. Schad, Linstrand and Company has finished the financial closeout of 2008. Evenson talked to the bank about FDIC insurance. He was told that it is \$250,000.00 per account thru 2009 and the person believed that it would continue at that rate into the foreseeable future. The District is waiting to work on two terrace projects pending funding from EQIP.

Old Business

Trebelhorn and Evenson wrote a report about the audit, performed by the state, for the supervisors to look at. After discussion there was a motion by Nielson seconded by Pfarr to use the sample letter sent from the state for the response to the audit. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

The supervisors are unhappy with the cost of the audit that the State of Minnesota performed but do not know what to do about it. After discussing the matter a motion was made by Pfarr and seconded by Nielson to pay the Claim for Audit to the State of Minnesota for \$8,747.79 after Schafer looks into the matter this week. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

New Business

No state cost share to report this month.

The Area VI meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2009 at Lafayette Community Center from 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. This meeting is being hosted by Faribault SWCD.

Discussion concerning the 2009 Annual Plan was next on the agenda. There was a motion by Schafer seconded by Nielson to approve the 2009 Annual Plan. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

The 2008 Financial Report was presented by Evenson. After discussion a motion to approve the 2008 Financial Report was made by Pfarr seconded by Schafer. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Three Rivers RC&D has decided to have a tour in July. Sibley County Commissioner Charlie Woehler volunteered Sibley County to host the event. It is planned to be in July on either the 6th or 13th. Charlie Woehler, Dave Trebelhorn, Joel Wurscher, Brooke Patterson and Ron Otto will be the planning committee for this event. Woehler thinks we should use a PowerPoint presentation rather than bussing the group around the county. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

Correspondence

Schafer sent letters to the legislators thanking them for the time spent with representatives from Sibley SWCD.

There being no other business there was a motion by Pfarr seconded by Schafer to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 P. M. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. The next meeting will be April 14, 2009 at 4:00 P. M.

Secretary's Signature _____