



**MINNESOTA  
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

**SIBLEY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

P O Box 161  
111 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Gaylord, Minnesota 55334  
Phone (507) 237 5435

**MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, DECEMBER 10, 2009**

Members present:

Dave Trebelhorn, Chairman  
Robert Nielsen, Secretary  
Tom Pfarr, Treasurer

Others present:

Loren Evenson, District Manager  
Kevin Pioske, District Technician  
Ron Otto, Water Management Coordinator  
Roderick Dukes, Acting District Conservationist  
Joel Wurscher, High Island Coordinator  
Kasey Taylor, Area VI Conservationist

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Trebelhorn at 4:03 P.M.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve the November meeting minutes.  
Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen; to approve the November financial report, subject to audit. Yeas: all, nays: none. Motion carried.

**NRCS Report**

All Conservation Stewardship Program application documents have been forwarded to the State Office. Seven applications were completed for the program.

A local work group meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2010, at 2:00 P.M. to set priorities for the next EQIP sign-up.

William Hunt will be retiring as State Conservationist, effective December 31, 2009.

April Sullivan has been hired as the new District Conservationist of the Gaylord Field Office. Ms. Sullivan will begin her duties on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

(over)

## **Water Management Report**

The 2010 Natural resources block grant has been approved by the County Board of Commissioners. Water Management will receive \$20,012 from the State, matched by a County Levy of \$4,745. The Wetland Conservation Act will receive \$15,325 from the State, matched by the same amount by the County.

The application for loan dollars to address septic system upgrades in the Bevens Creek Watershed has been approved. Otto will have sixty days in which to submit a work plan for the program.

Wurscher gave an update on watershed implementation projects recently completed. Finalized septic systems will result in a lot of coordination with the County Auditor to process the loan funds.

Wurscher informed the supervisors that the drawdown of High Island Lake is continuing. The current water level is nearly equal to that measured the same time last year.

Photo contest calendars were distributed to the supervisors.

## **District Report**

Three erosion control projects were completed in November and have been surveyed for the as-built.

A fourth project has been started and will hopefully be substantially completed before freeze-up.

One well sealing was completed and invoices submitted for payment.

Staff met with NRCS engineering personnel to lay out a terrace system in Washington Lake Township. The project will be constructed using EQIP funds.

NRCS performed a 5% spot-check on erosion control projects installed during the last several years. There were no inconsistencies with the designs and finished projects.

Notices were issued for two wetland related projects; Lateral 2 of County Ditch #29, and on County Ditch #47. Both projects were given no-loss determinations.

## **Old Business**

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to contribute \$150.00 to the Area VI Employess Association, to be used for educational activities. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. The educational activities will replace the Envirothon, which has been held in the past.

(over)

## **New Business**

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve payment of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter supervisor per diems and expenses. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of Ron Mellies, of Grafton Township. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. Final payment of \$302.26 will be issued for contract #FY08-16, for the sealing of an unused well. The District will retain \$75.56 for technical and administrative services related to the project.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Pfarr, to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of John Wold, of Alfsborg Township. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. Final payment of \$3525.75 will be issued for contract #FY08-8, for the construction of a water and sediment control basin. The District will retain \$880.50 for technical and administrative services related to the project. Pioske has technical approval authority for the design of the project.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Pfarr, to amend a State Cost-Share contract of James Evenson, #FY08-11, for a one-year extension. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. The extremely wet conditions and difficulty securing a contractor were the reasons given for not completing the work.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve payment for the 2010 nursery license. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Trebelhorn and Evenson gave a re-cap of the proceedings at the MASWCD Convention. Eleven resolutions were read and discussed.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve the rental agreement with Dean Messner, owner of the building. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. The District will now contract directly with the owner and not with USDA.

## **Correspondence**

Information was received regarding the RIM Reserve Riparian Buffer Program. This new program will place permanent conservation easements on filter and buffer strips.

Three Rivers RC&D is soliciting funds to construct a new soil tunnel. The current one is somewhat cumbersome to load and unload. The new version will address this problem.

## **Other Business**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to adjourn the meeting. All, nays: none. Motion carried. The meeting was concluded at 5:26 P.M. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 4:00 P.M., at the Agricultural Service Center.

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

