

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, JANUARY 13, 2009

Chairman Trebelhorn called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

Members present:

Dave Trebelhorn, Chairman
Paul Wiemann, Vice-Chairman
Tom Pfarr, Treasurer
Robert Nielsen, Secretary
Gary Schafer, Reporter

Others present:

Kevin Pioske, District Technician
John Dotolo, NRCS District Conservationist
Ron Otto, Water Management Coordinator
Joel Wurscher, High Island Creek Project
Brooke Patterson, Rush River Project
Tom Fischer, Minnesota BWSR

Newly elected supervisors took their oaths of office at the County Courthouse.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Schafer, to approve the following officer appointments: David Trebelhorn, Chairman; Paul Wiemann, Vice-Chairman; Tom Pfarr, Treasurer; Robert Nielsen, Secretary; and, Gary Schafer, Reporter. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Nielsen, to approve the December secretary's report. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Schafer, to approve the December treasurer's report. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

NRCS Report

Two Continuous CRP applications were received this month.

(over)

NRCS Report (continued)

There was no EQIP activity in December.

Closing documents were finalized for Gary Kruggel's RIM-WRP contract.

Freedom of Information Act policies were reviewed with the staff and supervisors.

Water Management Report

The new computer systems are currently being installed.

Ten septic system upgrades are being processed for loans.

An appointment of one of the supervisors to the Sibley County Water Resources Advisory Committee will be necessary. Chairman Trebelhorn has reached his term limitations as a member.

Motion by Wiemann; seconded by Schafer, to appoint Tom Pfarr as the District's representative to the Water Resources Advisory Committee.

Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Patterson presented a summary of all practices that were implemented for 2009 using Rush River Project monies.

Patterson would like to develop a mini job sheet for producers who plant cover crops after canning crops. This may help to alleviate the problems caused by those who destroyed their cover crops before the winter season.

Edits are being added to the new Rush River workplan.

Wurscher explained the functions of the watershed projects to the new supervisors.

Patterson and Wurscher have been sending out CRP program quotes to educate landowners on the availability of incentive payments for buffer plantings.

District Report

December had a light workload. Staff were using up their annual leave time.

An joint notice application for the clean-out of a private ditch system in Green Isle Township was denied. The engineering firm that submitted the application would like to meet with the Technical Evaluation Panel to discuss the options available to them.

(over)

Old Business

Trebelhorn requested that copies of the audit report be sent to the supervisors. The audit will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

New Business

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Wiemann, to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of Donovan Duenow, Washington Lake Township for the sealing of an unused well on his property. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried. Payment of \$200.00 will be issued for the completion of Contract #FY08-1. Technical and administrative funds in the amount of \$50.00 will be retained by the District.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Pfarr, to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of Ronald Krueger, New Auburn Township for the sealing of an unused well on his property. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried. Payment of \$400.00 will be issued for the completion of Contract #FY09-4. Technical and administrative funds in the amount of \$100.00 will be retained by the District.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Pfarr, to authorize a Tree Program for 2009, along with all related expenses. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Nielsen, to pay the 2009 dues as follows: \$775.00 to the National Association of Conservation Districts; \$1,934 to the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts; and, \$300.00 to the Area VI Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Other Business

Tom Fischer reminded supervisors and staff about required reporting deadlines.

New supervisor orientation will be held on February 26th at the BWSR regional office at New Ulm.

Motion by Pfarr; seconded by Wiemann, to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 P.M. The next meeting will be held on February 10, 2009, at 4:00 P.M., at the Agricultural Service Center.

Secretary's Signature _____