

**Minutes of the January 28th, 2013
Regular Brown SWCD Board Meeting,
Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chair Vogel.

Present:

1. Jack Vogel – Chair
2. Gary Rathman – Vice Chair
3. Clem Windschitl – Secretary
4. Ralph Stadick – Treasurer
5. Greg Roiger – PRI
6. Tom Maher – Program Manager
7. Vanessa Grausam – Administrative Assistant
8. Jennifer Hahn – NRCS

Absent:

1. Dennis Potter – Brown Co. Commissioner Liaison

AGENDA

- ❖ Motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Rathman to adopt the agenda with the additions of Roiger Meetings/Phone Calls, Rip Rap on Cottonwood River, and Prairie Enthusiasts Conference.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

MINUTES

- ❖ Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to approve the December Regular Board Meeting and January Annual Planning Meeting minutes with minor corrections.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- ❖ Motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Windschitl to approve the Treasurer's Report as provided.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

BILLS

- ❖ Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Rathman to approve payment of the bills as provided.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ Grausam presented a letter from National Parks Conservation Association, which was asking for emergency donations for lobbying to save National Parks. At this time the board decided not to make an emergency donation, since they already make an annual contribution.

WATER PERMITS

- ❖ Maher reported that there were 12 wells drilled and 9 wells sealed since the last board meeting.

STATE COST SHARE

- ❖ A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Stadick to approve final payment of FY13-02 Mervin Speckman terrace project which has been completed. Original cost estimate was \$19,680.54 with cost-share not to exceed 75% or \$6,151.00. Final cost of the project was \$12,953.88 and Brown SWCD will provide a payment of \$609.96 of State Cost Share Program funds. Other funds (state/federal) will also be provided. Combined funds provided do not exceed 75% of the total cost. State Cost Share T&A to be spent totals \$152.49.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Rathman to approve FY13-03 Glen Mathiowetz Sediment Basin. Cost estimate is \$8,673.50 with state cost-share not to exceed \$2,467.32. Other funds (state/federal) will also be provided. Combined funds provided will not exceed 75% of the total cost. T&A allowed is \$616.83. NRCS is the technical authority for the project.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Roiger to approve FY13-04 Alan Kral Sediment Basin/Gully Structure. Cost estimate is \$8,700.00 with state cost-share not to exceed \$2,241.00. Other funds (state/federal) will also be provided. Combined funds provided will not exceed 75% of the total cost. T&A allowed is \$560.25. NRCS is the technical authority for the project.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to approve FY13-05 Willis Lochner Sediment Basin. Cost estimate is \$6,500.00 with state cost-share not to exceed \$2,572.00. Other funds (state/federal) will also be provided. Combined funds provided will not exceed 75% of the total cost. T&A allowed is \$643.00. NRCS is the technical authority for the project.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE (Maher)

- ❖ Copies of the monthly narrative were reviewed and are on file.

NRCS REPORT (Hahn)

- ❖ Copies of the NRCS report were reviewed and are on file.

MEETING REPORTS

- ❖ Vogel reported on the RCRCA meeting he attended on January 3rd in Marshall.
- ❖ Vogel and Grausam reported on the MASWCD SC Area VI Chairman's meeting they attended on January 22nd in New Ulm.
- ❖ Rathman reported on the Bridging Brown County meeting he attended on January 25th.
- ❖ Roiger informed those present that he called BWSR Executive Director, John Jaschke, about a meeting he attended in Brown County in December. Roiger also discussed building issues with County Administrator Enter.
- ❖ Roiger reported on a Minnesota River Watershed Alliance meeting he attended on his personal time.
- ❖ Roiger reported on a Drainage Work Group meeting for potential Ditch Viewers which he attended on his personal time.

OLD BUSINESS

- ❖ A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Stadick to approve the Annual Plan and Budget for 2013 with changes made from the January 4th Planning Meeting.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Rathman to sign the contract with Pheasants Forever that would allow Farmbill Biologist Finke to work with the district on various programs and public outreach.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ GBERBA membership was discussed. Staff will research GBERBA membership further and ask Kay Clark to attend a future meeting to answer questions.
- ❖ Rain Gardens were discussed. Vogel's wife will be bringing up the subject at a Comfrey Garden Club Meeting.
- ❖ A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve the purchase of the F150 Rathman and Maher priced and spend up to \$34,600.00 out the door.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

- ❖ Grausam informed the board that the bank accounts are now all up to date with the new authorized signatures.
- ❖ A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Stadick to adopt the following as the mission statement for the Brown SWCD:

“The Brown Soil & Water Conservation District is organized for the purpose of dealing with a wide range of conservation problems, including soil and water conservation, watershed protection and flood prevention, farm forestry, wildlife improvement, recreational development, pollution control, and rural area development.

The District will provide an organization through which landowners, groups of landowners, and units of government may cooperate with each other and with local, State, and Federal agencies in solving their problems.

District assistance made available to landowners will encompass research, education, technical, and financial assistance. The principle objective of the District will be to encourage the use of land for which it is suited, and the treatment of all land in accordance with its needs for protection and improvement. This will result in a permanent and prosperous environment for all citizens of the District.”

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ An article on a proposed Blue Earth County mining tax was reviewed. Roiger will discuss the article and the possibility of a similar mining tax in Brown County with the Brown County Administrator, Chuck Enter.
- ❖ Current status of Watonwan SWCD was discussed. At this time, Grausam, will not be needed to assist with taxes/bookkeeping at Watonwan SWCD.
- ❖ It was decided that for future meetings where severe weather might be an issue, the option to reschedule for weather will be up to Chair Vogel and Staff.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Regular board meeting was rescheduled for Tuesday, February 19th, 2013, since there is a scheduling conflict with Legislative Days.

A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to approve the following meetings:

- February 7th—RCRCA Meeting (Vogel)
- February 19th—Regular Board Meeting
- February 25th-26th —Legislative Day at the Capitol (Rathman, Stadick)
- February 27th—RCRCA Strategic Planning Meeting (Vogel, Windschitl, Roiger, Maher, Grausam)

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried

- ❖ Stadick discussed a potential rip rap project on the Cottonwood River in New Ulm, which RCRCA might be cost-sharing on.
- ❖ Rathman shared information on the Prairie Enthusiasts annual meeting to be held March 16th in Mankato. It was decided that the board will have a table at the show for the cost of \$50. Roiger expressed interest in staffing the table and attending the banquet. Rathman will already be attending the meeting, as he is a member of a local Prairie Enthusiasts group.

Meeting adjourned – 10:30PM

Secretary: _____ **Date:** _____