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Brown County CREP**

**BROWN SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**Minutes of the September 17th, 2014
Regular Brown SWCD Board Meeting,
Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM 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. Doug Goodrich – District Manager
7. Melanie Krueger – Administrative Assistant
8. Gary Watson – NRCS Assistant for State Field Operations

Absent:

None

AGENDA

- ❖ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the agenda with the addition to discuss Conservation Easements Topic within the Commissioner Comments portion of the agenda and the addition of two Cost-Share items of RCRCA- Lenis Roiger and Brown SWCD- Ron Remus.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

MINUTES

- ❖ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve the August 20th Board Meeting Minutes as presented.
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 August Treasurer's Report as presented.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

“Leave a Legacy”

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

BILLS

- ❖ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve payment of the bills as provided in addition to Minnesota Conservation Volunteer contribution of \$20.00.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None Motion Carried.

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ❖ There have been 3 domestic wells drilled, 2 wells sealed, 1 irrigation permit approval, several wells being sealed in New Ulm by Fermenich, and 1 work permit approved for a drain tile repair on the Cottonwood River since the last meeting. There are no WCA reports for this month.

STATE COST SHARE

- ❖ A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to approve the following RCRCA Cost Share Contracts:

- Dean Sellner Contract for Terraces in Stark 17. Cost estimate of \$56,000.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or \$12,480.00
- Lenis Roiger Contract for Stream Bank Restoration in Stately 29 (3 stream banks to be repaired). Cost Estimate of \$15,000.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or \$11,250.00

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None Motion Carried

- ❖ A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve the following Brown SWCD Cost Share Contracts:

- FY14-04 Steve Gode for a Water and Sediment Control Basin in Stately 32. Cost estimate is \$4,300.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or \$3,225.00. T&A allowed is \$806.25. NRCS is the technical authority for the project.
- FY15-01 Ron Remus for Terraces in North Home 17. Cost estimate is \$6,000.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or \$4,500.00. T&A allowed is \$1,125.00. NRCS is the technical authority for the project.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None Motion Carried

MONTHLY NARRATIVE (Goodrich)

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

NRCS REPORT

- ❖ Copies of the NRCS report were reviewed and are on file.
- ❖ A Soil Health Tour is being held September 19th and details were distributed to the group if they are interested in attending.
- ❖ Gary Watson gave the group an update on current NRCS activities.

MEETING REPORTS

- ❖ Goodrich and Stadick reported on the outcome from the Brown County Budget Meeting that was held on August 21st.

- ❖ Rathman reported on the DNR Wood Lake meeting that was held in Comfrey on August 21st and also shared information with the group from a Rural Advantage Pollinator meeting he attended on September 16th.
- ❖ Goodrich and Krueger reported on the GBERBA Tech meeting and BWSR Administrative training attended on August 27th.
- ❖ Vogel reported on the RCRCA Board meeting that was held on September 5th in Marshall.
- ❖ Windschitl reported on the GBERBA Policy Meeting and Rathman reported on the GBERBA Tour that were both held on September 12th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ❖ **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Rathman to adopt the Consent Agenda meeting format starting with next month's board meeting and all subsequent meetings thereafter. The meeting minutes, bills report, treasurer's report, monthly narrative, non-action items, and informational items may be included within the consent agenda portion of the meeting.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ **Commissioner Comments:** The group held discussion regarding the Conservation Easements topic discussed during last month's meeting with Commissioner Potter.
- ❖ **BWSR FY14 Conservation Delivery Grant – Final Financial Report:** A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Stadick to approve the Financial Report for the Conservation Delivery 2014 grant.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ **BWSR Academy:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to authorize Goodrich and Krueger to attend the 2014 BWSR Academy.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried.
- ❖ **Farm Bill Biologist Position:** Goodrich reviewed with the group an email received that advised there are still funds lacking to backfill this position but they are hoping to partner with other agencies for 2015 and make it a top priority to get this Farm Bill Biologist position filled again.
- ❖ **Lake Hanska Survey Report:** The group reviewed the Lake Hanska Survey Report Goodrich prepared which summarizes responses to the survey.
- ❖ **Tree Program – pricing and red cedar trees:** Discussion was held on the overall pricing for planting services and tree prices and whether to offer Red Cedar trees for sale in the tree program and the group agreed to keep planting service charges the same, to let District Manager set tree prices for this year (there has been no increase in prices since 2010) and to still offer Red Cedar trees but give customers an informational handout on management of them.
- ❖ **Environmental Fair:** Staff informed the board that the Environmental Fair committee was looking for volunteers to help out on September 23rd, 24th, or 25th. Goodrich is already out of the office those days attending the Leadership conference so if Krueger volunteers to help out then the office would need to be

closed for a partial or full day. It was agreed that if the committee still needed help that Krueger should volunteer to help on the 23rd or 25th so the office would only be closed for a partial day.

- ❖ **Annual Newsletter:** Staff and Board members held discussion on the Annual Newsletter and staff was instructed to proceed with publication again this year and to begin work on the articles and letters for advertisement sponsors.
- ❖ **AIS Update:** Goodrich gave the group an update on his progress for developing a work plan for the AIS program.
- ❖ **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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

- September 23rd-25th – MASWCD Leadership in Morton (Goodrich)
- Tuesday, September 30th – MN River Valley Prairie Plan Team (Goodrich and Rathman)
- Thursday, October 2nd – RCRCA Board Meeting, Redwood (Vogel)
- Wednesday, October 15th – Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned – 8:49 PM

Secretary:  Date: 10-15-14