



**Farm the Best...  
Buffer the Rest.  
Brown County CREP**

**BROWN SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**Minutes of the February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Regular Brown SWCD Board Meeting,  
Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN**

**Meeting was called to order at 8:34 AM 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. Deb Fischer – NRCS Ultima Services Contractor
9. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison (exited at 10:37am)

**ABSENT**

None

**AGENDA**

- ◆ Motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Windschitl to adopt the agenda with the addition of Disaster Recovery Assistance Fund under New Business item Buffer Programs & Local Ordinance Discussion and the addition of Prairie Plan under Meeting Reports.  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented which included the January 21, 2015 Board Meeting minutes, the January 23, 2015 Annual Planning Meeting minutes, the January 2015 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated January 15, 2015 to February 11, 2015, the GBERBA 2015 membership dues payment of \$1,348.00, the AREA VI 2015 membership dues payment of \$400.00 and the district staff's Monthly Narrative report dated January 15, 2015 to February 11, 2015.  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

*“Leave a Legacy”*

## WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Goodrich reported that since the last meeting he received reports on 1 domestic well drilled, 1 well sealed, 7 monitoring wells installed in city of New Ulm and 3 WCA applications reviews for water resource issues.

## STATE COST SHARE

- ◆ A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Roiger to approve RCRCA Cost Share Contract with Don Wellner for 6 Alternative Tile Intakes in Stately Township, Sections 20, 29 and 30. Cost estimate is \$2400.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or \$1800.00.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None; Motion Carried

## NRCS REPORT

- ◆ The NRCS board report was reviewed with Fischer and is on file.

## MEETING REPORTS

- ◆ Vogel and Goodrich reported details on the Area VI Chair and Managers Meeting they attended in New Ulm on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- ◆ Goodrich reported on the third session of the MASWCD Leadership course he attended in Alexandria on January 27-28.
- ◆ Roiger informed the group that the RCRCA Board meeting scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to insufficient agenda items.
- ◆ Rathman reported to the group on the MN River Valley Prairie Plan meeting attended on February 17<sup>th</sup> where discussion was held to re-align the corridors.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **RIM Wetlands Program Update:** Goodrich informed the group that he sent in a total of 3 applications to BWSR for the RIM Wetlands sign-up. The deadline for submitting applications was February 13 and there is no official notice yet from BWSR on whether any of the applications have been accepted.
- ◆ **Area VI Spring Meeting Hosting:** Krueger advised the group on status of planning details for hosting the Area VI spring meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> at Carl's Corner in Essig. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to spend up to \$30.00 to purchase a door prize for the event.  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Redwood Shared Services Discussion:** Goodrich, Windschitl, and Roiger met with Redwood SWCD on February 11 to discuss the options of hiring a shared services Technician between the two districts. Redwood SWCD has decided they do not want to proceed with hiring a shared employee. They are planning to hire a Technician employee yet and would be willing to discuss a Contract for Services option for this employee to our District on a part time basis. The group held discussion on further ideas and options for shared services. Staff was instructed to pursue all avenues of sharing services with other districts and report back to the board at next month's meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Simonsen informed the group they have been looking into moving forward with more ditch redeterminations but that it is not definite and in the very early stages of discussion and research at this point and he also informed the group that the Commissioners did approve the installation of new flooring into the conference room area of this building.
- ◆ **Buffer Programs & Local Ordinance Discussion & Disaster Recovery Assistance Fund:** Goodrich informed the group of discussions held with county personnel on buffer ordinances and ditch buffer strip requirements and the group held open discussion on this topic. Goodrich also advised the group that he was just notified that the Legislature has authorized the disaster funding to be distributed through BWSR to the Districts for Disaster Recovery repairs. Funds are to be spent to repair existing projects that were damaged by this past summer's flooding. Brown SWCD is slotted to receive \$100,000.00. Goodrich will be working with NRCS to determine distribution for implementation using these funds.
- ◆ **Farm Show:** Discussion was held by the group on the upcoming Farm Show on March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and a staffing schedule for the booth was set.
- ◆ **Master Gardener's Buckthorn Tool:** Staff informed the group that we have been asked by the Master Gardener's group to manage the use and storage of a buckthorn removal tool they are planning to purchase and offer to area residents for use with a refundable deposit. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to authorize staff to make arrangements to house the Buckthorn Tool with the Master Gardener's group.
  - Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
  - Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **CWP Grant Application Resolution:** Goodrich advised the group that the MPCA CWP grant application round is open and a resolution from the district is needed for each proposed grant to apply for funds and operate an agreement. A motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Rathman to sign the CWP Grant Application Resolutions presented.
  - Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
  - Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Simonsen exited at 10:37am

- ◆ **2015 Annual Work Plan Approval:** The requested changes to the work plan from the Annual Planning Meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> were made and a draft copy was sent to the group for review last week. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to approve the 2015 Annual Work Plan as presented.
  - Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
  - Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Stadick and seconded by Windschitl to approve the following meetings/events:
  - ◇ Wednesday, February 18 – Red Rock Prairie Plan, Windom (Rathman)
  - ◇ Friday, February 20 – Bridging Brown County event (Windschitl)
  - ◇ Wednesday, February 25 – GBERBA Technical Meeting (Goodrich)

- ◇ Friday, March 6 – RCRC Board Meeting, Marshall (Vogel)
- ◇ Friday, March 6 – Saturday, March 7 – Farm show, New Ulm (Staff, Vogel, Rathman, Stadick, Windschitl if schedule allows)
- ◇ Tuesday, March 10 – Wednesday, March 11 – MASWCD Leadership, St. Paul (Goodrich)
- ◇ Friday, March 13 – GBERBA Policy Meeting (Windschitl)
- ◇ Wednesday, March 18 – Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, 8:30 AM  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**Meeting adjourned – 10:46 AM**

**Secretary:**  **Date:** 3/18-15