



Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



300 2nd Ave. SW • Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 • Phone: 507-794-2553

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

Minutes of the January 13, 2016 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 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. Cody Dale – AIS Coordinator/District Technician
9. Dustin Van Thuyne – PF/Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist
10. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison (entered at 9:am)

ABSENT

None

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the agenda with the addition of Mark Schnobrich Request for Support of Forestry Grant under New Business.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Roiger to approve the Consent Agenda items presented which included the December 16, 2015 Board Meeting minutes, the December 2015 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated December 10, 2015 to January 6, 2016, the MASWCD 2016 Membership Dues payment of \$3,404.25, the GBERBA 2016 Membership Dues payment of \$1,348.00, and the district staff's Monthly Narrative report dated December 10, 2015 to January 6, 2016.

Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger

Opposed: None; Motion Carried

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Goodrich advised that since the last meeting he has received 1 livestock watering permit notice from the DNR and that he has no WCA or Well reports to advise on.

COST SHARE

- ◆ There were no Cost Share items to present at this meeting.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Hahn was unable to attend the meeting but did provide a written report to the group. Van Thuyne reviewed the report with the group. The report is on file.
- ◆ The group reviewed and discussed the NRCS agreements for approval.
- ◆ **NRCS & District MOU Agreement Approval:** Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to sign the NRCS and District MOU Agreement.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **NRCS Justice for All/USDA Civil Rights & Equal Opportunity Agreement Approval:** Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to sign the NRCS Justice for All/USDA Civil Rights Agreement.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

PF/FARM BILL TECH REPORT

- ◆ Van Thuyne reviewed his PF/Farm Bill Tech board report with the group and the report is on file.

MEETING REPORTS

- ◆ Stadick and Goodrich reported on the South Central TSA Board meeting attended on December 17. Plans for the capacity funds were advised.
- ◆ Vogel reported on the RCRC board meeting attended January 7 in Marshall.
- ◆ Goodrich gave a report on the meeting he attended on January 5 with drainage committee members at Brown County. It was mainly a meeting to discuss the meaning of the law as it pertains to ditch systems and whether to include information in the taxpayer newsletter the county publishes. Many questions have yet to be answered on this process. The buffer law will be mentioned in the newsletter.

Simonsen entered at 9:32am

- ◆ Windschitl reported on the GBERBA Policy/Technical meeting attended in Mankato on January 8. Elections were done at this meeting. GBERBA is applying for a DNR Forestry grant and they received two CWF grants. There was a speaker from the MDA who presented information on nitrates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **BWSR 2016 SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant Work Plan and Agreement Approval:** Goodrich reviewed the workplan submitted for the capacity services grant with the group and advised it has been approved by our BC. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Windschitl to approve the workplan as presented, to list District Manager as the Authorized Representative on the grant agreement, and to approve signature of the 2016 SWCD Local Capacity Services Grant agreement.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Simonsen commented on the Buffer meeting he also attended on January 5 with the Brown County drainage committee and how the buffer law is affecting the ditch redetermination process.
- ◆ **South Central TSA Match Payment Approval:** Goodrich reviewed the information from the South Central TSA's request for a match payment from all Area 6 districts in the amount of \$2,614 and paid by June 30, 2018. Discussion was held on this request. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to inform the TSA we will agree to pay the \$2,614.00 match and will pay it in two increments – half in 2016 and half in 2017.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **FY15 Conservation Delivery Grant Final Financial Report Approval:** Goodrich reviewed the grant log report and explained how the conservation delivery grant funds were spent out. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to authorize signature on the financial report for the FY15 Conservation Delivery Grant.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **MASWCD Leadership Institute for Problem Solving:** Copies of the information for the MASWCD Leadership institute recently announced by MASWCD were given to the group and Goodrich gave overview of the program. There are no cost estimates yet from MASWCD for the fees for the program. If anyone is interested, they need to inform staff. Additional information will get distributed to the board members upon receipt from MASWCD.
- ◆ **Mark Schnobrich Request for Support of Forestry Grant:** Goodrich explained that Mark Schnobrich had contacted him to request our support on a DNR Forestry Grant he is working with the City of New Ulm to write. They are submitting a grant for funds to remove buckthorn and invasive trees and if they are removed along a river bank would like support from the SWCD for the project and cost share funds for tree replants to prevent erosion and sedimentation flow into the river. Goodrich had advised Mark to verify state cost share funds could be used with a state grant before we could commit funds. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to authorize a letter of support for this grant application by the City of New Ulm.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to attend and approve the following upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Monday, January 18 – Martin Luther King Day Holiday – Office Closed
 - ◇ Friday, January 22 – Area VI Chair & Managers Meeting, Community Room at Brown SWCD Office building, 10am (Doug, Gary)
 - ◇ Wednesday, January 27 – Annual Strategic Planning Meeting, 9am, Board Room at Best Western, New Ulm (Supervisors, Doug, Melanie, Jennifer)
 - ◇ Thursday, February 4 – RCRC Board Meeting, Redwood Falls (Jack)
 - ◇ Monday, February 15 – Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed
 - ◇ Wednesday, February 17 – Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, 8:30am
 - Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
 - Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 10:35 AM

Secretary: Clem Winkler Date: 2-24-16