



# Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



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## Minutes of the February 24, 2016 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 8:33 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 (entered at 9:00am)
9. Jennifer Hahn – NRCS District Conservationist
10. Dustin Van Thuyne – PF/Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist
11. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison (exited at 10:27am)
12. Dustin Anderson – GBERBA Watonwan Watershed Technician

### ABSENT

None

### AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the agenda as presented.  
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 presented which included the January 13, 2016 Board Meeting minutes, the January 27, 2016 Annual Planning Meeting minutes, the January 2016 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated January 7, 2016 to February 17, 2016, and the district staff's Monthly Narrative report dated January 7, 2016 to February 17, 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 well reports from Minnesota Department of Health on 1 monitoring well installed, 7 domestic wells drilled and 12 wells sealed. He has received notice of 2 livestock watering well permits from DNR and there may be some upcoming WCA activity.

## COST SHARE

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

## NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Hahn reviewed her NRCS board report with the group and the report is on file.

## PF/FARM BILL TECH REPORT

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

Cody Dale entered at 9:00am

## MEETING REPORTS

- ◆ Rathman reported information on the Area VI Chair & Managers Meeting attended on January 22. This year's meeting host districts are Le Sueur, Sibley and Faribault.
- ◆ Vogel reported on the RCRCA board meeting attended February 4 in Redwood.
- ◆ Goodrich reported information from the Terrain Analysis Workshop training attended in Marshall on February 12.
- ◆ Goodrich and Dale reported details from the GBERBA Technical meeting attended yesterday, February 23.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **2016 Board Meeting Date/Time Schedule:** Discussion was held on resetting the 2016 board meeting dates and time as there are conflicts with regular attendees for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month as originally set last month. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to set the 2016 regular board meeting date and time to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9:00am.  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **2016 Annual Plan Approval:** Edits to the Annual Plan were made as discussed at the January 27 Annual Planning Meeting and a draft copy of the revised 2016 Annual Plan was distributed to Supervisors for review last week. The meeting date and time will be changed as reset per above motion on pages 6 and 7 of the document. A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Windschitl to approve the 2016 Annual Plan with the edits to the board meeting date and time as reset at today's meeting.  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioner Simonsen gave an overview of current happenings at Brown County. 1) Commissioners approved allowing burned debris from Madelia to be brought in to the landfill. Testing will be done first of the materials. 2) The Park Ordinance of not allowing ATVs in county parks was voted to be continued by the Commissioners. 3) The ditch redeterminations process is ongoing and is going fairly smooth. Viewers are doing very well with landowners. The seeding mix is being reviewed.
- ◆ **GBERBA Update – Guest, Dustin Anderson:** Dustin Anderson, GBERBA Watonwan Watershed Technician gave an overview of current grants and opportunities for projects with GBERBA. 1) GBERBA received funding for 2 of the 3 CWF grant applications submitted. One is for hydro conditioning of culverts in Blue Earth/Le Sueur counties and the other is for hydro conditioning of culverts in the Watonwan watershed. They will need some assistance from Brown SWCD staff when working on the portion of Watonwan watershed within Brown County. 2) GBERBA has 2 grants available for projects on ditch systems. Dusty plans to meet with drainage authorities/commissioners in each county to discuss the grants and how they can be used for improvements to ditch systems. 3) He has been interviewing landowners in the Hanska and LaSalle areas for the PMZ and WRAPS civic engagement projects for the Watonwan watershed and is receiving good feedback from them about concerns and projects in the Lake Hanska area.

Dean Simonsen exited at 10:27am

- ◆ **MASWCD Legislative Days:** Discussion was held on the MASWCD Legislative Days event in March and whether anyone is available to attend. It was determined that nobody would be attending this year. We will continue to have contact with our legislators at local meetings and events as in the past.
- ◆ **Farm Show Event:** Discussion was held and the staffing schedule for the booth was set for the upcoming Farm Show event in March. Topics of focus for the display board were agreed upon and staff will prepare information sheets on each topic for the Supervisors who will be working in the booth. It was agreed to continue with a potted evergreen tree giveaway this year as well.
- ◆ **AIS Coordinator/District Technician Position:** Cody Dale, AIS Coordinator/District Technician, had submitted his resignation to the district and his last day of employment will be February 26, 2016. Discussion was held on plans for the position and rehire process. It was agreed upon to delegate the Personnel Committee to meet to discuss and plan for the replacement and rehire process, rewrite the job description as deemed fit, and get the position opening posted as soon as possible for rehire. A Personnel Committee meeting will be held Friday at 11am to start the process.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to attend and approve the following upcoming meetings/events:
  - ◇ Tuesday, March 1 – MASWCD Area VI Spring Meeting, Le Center (Ralph, Dusty)
  - ◇ Thursday, March 3 – RCRCA Board Meeting, Marshall (Jack)
  - ◇ Thursday, March 10 – MN River Congress, New Ulm (Ralph)
  - ◇ Friday, March 11 – GBERBA Policy Meeting (Clem)

- ◇ Friday-Saturday, March 11-12 – Farm-City Hub Club Farm Show, New Ulm (Jack, Clem, Gary, Ralph, Doug, Melanie)
- ◇ Monday-Tuesday, March 21-22 – MASWCD Legislative Days (no one attending)
- ◇ Wednesday, March 16 – Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, 9:00am
- ◇ MN Prairie Plan Meeting, Redwood (Gary) \*meeting to be held in March
- ◇ Friday, February 26 – Personnel Committee, 11:00am  
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**Meeting Adjourned – 11:12 AM**

Secretary: Clem Windschitl Date: 3 / 16 / 16