



Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



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Minutes of the June 16, 2016 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Chair Vogel.

PRESENT

1. Jack Vogel – Chair
2. Clem Windschitl – Secretary
3. Ralph Stadick – Treasurer
4. Greg Roiger – PRI
5. Doug Goodrich – District Manager
6. Melanie Krueger – Administrative Assistant
7. Heather Hansen – District Technician
8. Jeremy Groskreutz – Conservation Corps Apprentice
9. Dustin Van Thuyne – PF/Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist
10. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison (exited at 12:05pm)

ABSENT

1. Gary Rathman – Vice Chair

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the agenda with the addition of MN River Congress under Unfinished Business.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the Consent Agenda items presented which included the May 18, 2016 Board Meeting minutes, the May 2016 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated May 12, 2016 to June 8, 2016, and the Monthly Staff Narrative report dated May 12, 2016 to June 8, 2016.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Goodrich reported that since the last meeting he has not received any new well reports from the MDH and that he had received a request for comments from DNR about a permit application for a pivot irrigator in Stark 30. Discussion was held about the overall process of irrigation and the Board instructed the District Manager to look into the

regulations and process for irrigation more and then plan for future public meetings and if necessary use of capacity funds.

COST SHARE

- ◆ Goodrich presented Amendment #1 to FY14-05 cost share contract and explained that it is an amendment for time to change the end date of contract from 12/31/15 to 9/30/16 as the construction did begin last fall but was held up due to non-functioning seepage tile and unsuccessful seeding. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to approve Amendment#1 to FY14-05 cost share with Steve Gode for a change in end date to September 30, 2016.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve payment of cost share contract FY14-04 with Steve Gode for a WASCOB in Stately 35 as the project has been completed. NRCS had technical approval authority. Original cost estimate was \$4,300.00 with cost share not to exceed 75% or 3,225.00. Final cost of the project came in at \$3,724.37. Brown SWCD will provide cost share payment of \$2,793.27 from FY14 Cost Share Program funds.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Hahn was not at the meeting so Van Thuyne 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.

MEETING REPORTS

- ◆ Goodrich and Groskreutz attended the GBERBA Technical Meeting on May 25 and Goodrich shared information from the meeting with the group.
- ◆ Rathman attended the Legislative Town Hall Meeting on May 25 but was not at the meeting to give a report. He did advise staff that items reported in Dahms' newsletter are what were discussed.
- ◆ SWCD Staff, NRCS Staff, PF/Farm Bill Tech and Windschitl all attended the Local Work Group meeting on June 7. Goodrich and Windschitl gave a report.
- ◆ Vogel attended the RCRCA Board meeting in Redwood on June 9 (was rescheduled from June 2) and gave report to the group.
- ◆ All SWCD Staff, Roiger, Stadick and Windschitl attended the MASWCD Area VI meeting in Winthrop on June 15. Goodrich gave a report to the group and Roiger and Windschitl also shared comments from the meeting.
- ◆ Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Simonsen gave an update to the group on current happenings at Brown County. The Appeals/Equalization meeting was this past Monday to consider changes to property valuations per owner request. The parking lot at the License Bureau building is being tarred and the neighbor is also tarring their portion at the same time for better runoff/erosion control. Two have filed for commissioner in District 1, three have filed in District 2 (primary will be held in August), and incumbent Windschitl has filed for District 3 Commissioner. Ditch redetermination and buffer law items are ongoing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ **MN River Congress:** Roiger wanted to revisit the decision made by the board last month to have him fill a seat on the Action Board of the MN River Congress to make sure all were still in agreement with that decision. Discussion was held and all agreed to let last month's motion stand as approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **DNR Well Reading Agreement:** Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to authorize signing the agreement with the DNR for well readings for FY2017 for the same wells and number of readings as in the past for \$720.00.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **FY16 MAWQCP Program Grant Final Report:** Goodrich reviewed the final report and breakdown for the FY16 MAWQCP grant. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Roiger to approve the final Financial Report for the FY16 MAWQCP Grant as presented.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Policy for Flood Relief Phase 3A Grant:** Goodrich reviewed the policy and explained it is for Phase 3A Flood Relief grant funds only. It is almost exact to the policy for phase 2 funds except that it allows 100% cost share for three specific types of project situations. Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to approve the policy as presented for the Phase 3A Grant funds.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Alternative Tile Intakes:** Goodrich explained that staff did research on whether cost share funds could be used for alternative tile intakes and what the specifications would be. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to start accepting cost share applications for alternative tile intakes using Cost Share funds, up to a maximum of \$10,000, at a standard cost estimate of \$400 per intake with \$300 (75%) cost share rate.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Capacity Grant Purchases:** Goodrich explained he is looking into purchases with Capacity Funds as budgeted in the work plan for GPS & Survey type equipment needs. Discussion was held on the equipment needs and it was noted to make sure to consider future use of equipment when purchasing. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Roiger to approve District Manager to move forward with capacity grant purchases as outlined in the work plan budget for the Capacity Funds grant.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Buffer Update:** Discussion was held and Goodrich gave an overview of any new Buffer Law information to date and the board was also given information on the status of the buffer mapping project by the DNR.

Simonsen exited at 12:05pm

- ◆ **FY17 Farm Bill Assistance Grant Results:** Goodrich advised that Brown SWCD was approved for a FY17 Farm Bill grant which would have a \$3,250 match from SWCD and discussed the overall details of the grant with the group. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to authorize District Manager Goodrich to sign the FY17 Farm Bill Assistance Grant Agreement upon receipt from BWSR.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

- ◆ **County Budget Request:** Goodrich reviewed the county budget request packet for 2017. Roiger thought it would be a good idea to add an addendum page explaining the new match option for FY17 Capacity Funds which was explained to us at yesterday's Area VI meeting. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Stadick to approve the 2017 County Budget Request as presented with the addition to add the addendum page explaining the FY17 Capacity Funds grant match options.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Outstanding Conservationist:** Discussion was held as to ideas for whom to nominate for this year's outstanding conservationist award. Staff was instructed to email information to the board members on each of the possible candidates mentioned and then a decision will be made at next month's meeting.
- ◆ **Farmfest Booth:** Goodrich requested permission to fill a shift at Area V's Farmfest booth. Discussion was held and it was agreed that if necessary, it would be OK for him to fill one booth shift.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Stadick to attend and approve the following upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Tuesday, June 28 – Soil Health Team Meeting, SWCD building, 10am (Vogel, Windschitl, Staff)
 - ◇ Wednesday, June 29 – GBERBA Technical Meeting, Mankato (Goodrich, Hansen)
 - ◇ Monday, July 4 – Independence Day Holiday (Office Closed)
 - ◇ Thursday, July 7 – RCRCA Board Meeting, Marshall (Vogel)
 - ◇ Friday, July 8 – GBERBA Policy/Tech Meeting, location to be determined yet by GBERBA, (Windschitl, Goodrich/Hansen)
 - ◇ Wednesday, July 20 – Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting, 9:00am
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Stadick, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 12:35pm

Secretary:  Date: 7-20-16