



Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



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An Equal Opportunity Employer

Minutes of the March 13, 2019 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by Chair Vogel.

PRESENT

1. Jack Vogel – Chair
2. Clem Windschitl – Secretary
3. Jeff Nielsen – Treasurer
4. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
5. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison

ABSENT

1. Gary Rathman – Vice Chair
2. Greg Roiger – PRI

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Nielsen to approve the agenda with the addition of two items, Personnel Committee Question and Second Vehicle.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Consent Agenda items were reviewed. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Windschitl to accept the consent agenda items presented which included the February 13, 2019 Board Meeting minutes, the January 2019 Treasurer's Report, the February 2019 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated February 8, 2019 to March 9, 2019, and the Staff Reports dated February 8, 2019 to March 9, 2019.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE QUESTION

- ◆ Nielsen asked for an update on the status of surveying neighbors on their pay scale information. Krueger gave an update and advised she hopes to provide a draft report to the board in April. Nielsen asked to include Redwood SWCD on the survey also.

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ District Manager advised there are no items to report on this month.

PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed the written report submitted by Ethan Boertje.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed the written report submitted by Ray Hummel.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Simonsen gave an update advising they are in the process of hiring a new Administrator and also advised the ROB process is moving forward yet on ditch systems and some JD systems are planned to start this year with Redwood County.

COST SHARE

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share projects status report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ None

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Second Vehicle:** District Manager explained options for a second vehicle purchase through Enterprise Fleet Management and through Chuck Spaeth Ford. Discussion was held and it was agreed that continuing to work with the local dealer would be the best option. The Board advised manager to continue working with Chuck Spaeth Ford to obtain quotes for their consideration at the April board meeting to purchase either a pickup or SUV and also consider 2019 models or older models with low mileage.
- ◆ **NUASF Membership:** District Manager advised to join the NUASF it would cost \$20 and that would give the district access to use the boats when needed for the AIS monitoring routes to begin this year. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Nielsen to approve membership payment of \$20 to become NUSAF member.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **AIS Program Outreach Opportunity – Cabin Cast:** District Manager explained the Cabin Cast sponsorship opportunity presented to the district by Wildlife Forever and suggested a \$1,000 contribution through the AIS funds. She then also advised an email was just received for another AIS sponsorship opportunity through Angling Buzz and an \$850 contribution was suggested for that. Discussion was held on both. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Windschitl to authorize a \$1,000 contribution to Cabin Cast opportunity and an \$850 contribution to Angling Buzz Sponsorship.
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **2018 Financial Statements Report:** Reviewed the 2018 Financial Statements Report.
- ◆ **FY19 Capacity & Buffer Grant Amendment:** An amendment for additional grant funds was received from BWSR for an extra \$15,000 for the 2019 Capacity grant and \$30,000 for the 2019 Buffer grant. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Windschitl to sign the capacity and buffer grant amendment. .
Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Meeting Reports:**
 - ◇ Nielsen attended the MASWCD Area VI Chairs meeting on February 15 in New Ulm and shared a report. Brown SWCD is due to host the June meeting this year.
 - ◇ Windschitl and Krueger gave an update on the 2W2P meetings on March 1 and 6.
 - ◇ Nielsen did not attend the RCRCA meeting on March 7 in Marshall.
 - ◇ Windschitl attended the GBERBA Policy/Technical meeting on March 8 and gave a report.

- ◇ Nielsen, Windschitl and Krueger gave a report on the Farm Show and advised that Saturday was cancelled due to the weather.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Nielsen to approve/attend the following upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Wednesday, March 20 – 2W2P Policy Committee Meeting, St James (Windschitl)
 - ◇ Thursday, April 4 – RCRC Board Meeting, Redwood Falls (Nielsen)
 - ◇ Wednesday, April 10 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:00pm (All)
 - ◇ Tuesday, March 19 – SCTSA Board Meeting, Mankato (Nielsen)
 - Affirmative: Vogel, Windschitl, Nielsen
 - Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 6:36pm

Secretary:  Date: 4-15-19