



Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



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Minutes of the May 8, 2019 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 4:01pm by Chair Vogel.

PRESENT

1. Jack Vogel – Chair
2. Gary Rathman – Vice Chair
3. Clem Windschitl – Secretary
4. Jeff Nielsen – Treasurer
5. Greg Roiger – PRI
6. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
7. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to approve the agenda with the addition of FY18 Capacity Grant Reconciliation Report to the new business section of the agenda.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
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 April 15, 2019 Board Meeting minutes, the April 2019 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated April 5, 2019 to May 2, 2019, the SCTSA FY19 Grants Cash Match Invoice for \$3,319.00, and the Staff Reports dated April 5, 2019 to May 2, 2019.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ No new items to report on.

PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed the written report submitted by Ethan Boertje.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ No report this month. Krueger will follow up with the new acting DC for Brown County to discuss reports for future meetings.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Simonsen gave an update on the Wood Lake and CD28 drainage issues discussions and future meeting plans, the final ROB for CD5 is scheduled for the end of May, the new Administrator is starting on May 20th, discussed the AgBMP loan program changes approved, and discussed the ROB buffer seeding contract and timeline.

COST SHARE

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share projects status report.
- ◆ District Manager advised that three landowners requested cancellation of their buffer cost share contracts because they now plan to establish the buffer on their own without cost share program assistance:
 - ◇ FY18-BCS-02, Dean Roiger, North Star 6, 1 acre, native mix, \$300.00
 - ◇ FY18-BCS-19, Alan Plotz, North Star 6, 1.5 acres, non-native mix, \$300.00
 - ◇ FY18-BCS-08, Heidi Fink, North Star 3, 4 acres, native mix, \$1,200.00
 - ◇ A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Windschitl to accept the landowner cancellation requests presented on three buffer cost share contracts.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ◆ None

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Second Vehicle Purchase Update:** District Manager gave an update on purchasing of the second vehicle that was approved at last month's meeting.
- ◆ **Wage and Benefit Survey Update:** Discussion on how to move forward with evaluating wage and benefit survey responses. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Rathman to have the Personnel Committee review the wage and benefit survey and bring recommendations back to the Board.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Area VI Meeting Hosting:** Krueger presented information on venues for the area meeting in July. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to host at Turner Hall with the breakfast/rolls options in the morning and burger bar option for lunch on Tuesday, July 16, 2019.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **FY20 Farm Bill/CREP Grant Request:** Krueger explained the RFP process for FY20 to fund the PF Biologist position at 50% with the usual SWCD local match of \$3,250. In addition, potentially increasing the SWCD portion of the grant to cover more SWCD staff time and then requested authorization to submit the RFP to BWSR. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Rathman to authorize Melanie to fill out the RFP for the CREP grant for the PF Biologist position and increase SWCD portion if necessary.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **MN Soil Health Coalition Support:** District Manager presented information on the soil health coalition and requested authorization for the SWCD to become a member. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Windschitl to pay the \$25 fee and become a member of the MN Soil Health Coalition.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

- ◆ **AIS Monitoring Plan Update:** District Manager gave an update about the AIS Monitoring Plan report being developed with Wenck.
- ◆ **FY18 Buffer Law Grant Final Report:** Reviewed the final grant report. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Windschitl to have chairman sign the final report on the FY18 Buffer Law grant and submit in eLINK.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Simonsen exited at 5:41pm

- ◆ **RCRCA JPA Renewal:** RCRCA requested review of the JPA for the term of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021 and delegate signature authority. All agreement terms remain the same. A motion was made by Rathman and seconded by Roiger to sign the JPA renewal with RCRCA and approve SWCD board delegates, Nielsen or Roiger to sign.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Resolution to Adopt Brown County Water Plan:** Reviewed the resolution presented. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Rathman to adopt the Resolution Adopting the Brown County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan as the SWCD Comprehensive Plan.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **FY18 Capacity Grant Reconciliation Report:** Krueger reviewed the results of the grant reconciliation completed by BWSR. A motion was made by Windschitl and seconded by Rathman to authorize chair to sign the FY18 Capacity Grant reconciliation report.
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Meeting Reports:**
 - ◇ Roiger, Rathman and Nielsen gave a report on the MASWCD Area 6 meeting attended on April 22 in New Ulm where water storage was the key topic.
 - ◇ Nielsen gave an update on the RCRCA meeting from May 2 in Marshall and confirmed the next meeting is in Tyler.
 - ◇ Krueger shared a report about session 2 of MASWCD Public Administration Training attended April 30 to May 2 in St Cloud.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Nielsen to approve/attend the following upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Friday, May 10 – GBERBA Policy Meeting, Mankato (Windschitl, Rathman-alternate)
 - ◇ Wednesday, May 15 – 2W2P Policy Committee Meeting, St James (Windschitl, Rathman- alternate)
 - ◇ Thursday, May 16 – MN River Congress, St Peter (Roiger)
 - ◇ Thursday, June 6 – RCRCA Board Meeting, Tyler (Nielsen, Roiger- alternate)
 - ◇ Wednesday, June 12 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:00pm (All)
 - ◇ Personnel Committee Meeting, date and time to be determined (Windschitl, Nielsen)
Affirmative: Vogel, Rathman, Windschitl, Nielsen, Roiger
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 6:24pm

Secretary:  Date: 6-12-19