



Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

38814 Third Avenue, North Branch, MN 55056
Phone (651)674-2333 www.chisagoswcd.org

February 14, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The February Board meeting of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District was convened at the USDA Ag. Service Center in North Branch on February 14, 2017. Chair Birkholz called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Jim Birkholz, Roland Cleveland, Craig Mold, Dave Tollberg, and Justin Wilson
Staff present: Craig Mell, Sue Humble, and Casey Thiel

AGENDA

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Wilson to approve the agenda as printed after moving item 7) Old Business to after item 8) New Business. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Cleveland and seconded Tollberg to approve Consent Agenda as printed. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Recent correspondence was reviewed.

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Mold to approve paying registration and expenses for Supervisors and Staff to attend the MASWCD Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol on March 20-21, 2017, in St. Paul, MN. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

SWCD District Administrator Craig Mell reviewed the past months SWCD activities.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cleveland to approve the project certification and cost share payment for:

- Applicant: John Lelwica
- Contract #: TW AG 15-9
- Conservation Practice: WASCOB, Grass Waterway, and Diversion
- Total Project Cost: \$24,901
- Approved Cost Share Amount: \$23,656 (95% of total project cost)
 - \$17,742 – FY15 Targeted Watershed Demonstration Grant
 - \$5,914 – Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Grant

Technical Representative: Debra Hermel, USDA NRCS District Conservationist
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 SWCD Drill Rental Policy

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following policies regarding the SWCD owned Truax OTG 7512 drill:

- Establish a rental rate of \$15/acre
- Establish a setup charge of \$200/planting (this includes delivery to and from site)

Motion carried.

2016 Annual Report/2017 Annual Plan of Work

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Mold to approve the 2016 Annual Report/2017 Annual Plan of Work as presented (*see attached). Motion carried.

2016 Final Financial Report

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to approve the FY16 Final Financial Report as presented (*see attached). Motion carried.

2017 Partner Agreements – Urban BMP Maintenance Program

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to authorize District Administrator Mell to finalize partner agreements with the Chisago Lakes School District, the City of Lindstrom, and the City of Chisago City to provide general maintenance of urban BMPs throughout the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed and on property owned by the Chisago Lakes School District. Motion carried.

2017 Seasonal Employees

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to authorize District Administrator Mell to hire seasonal employees to complete BMP maintenance requirements of our local partner agreements with the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District, the Chisago Lakes School District, the City of Lindstrom, and the City of Chisago City. Motion carried.

BWSR Easement Delivery Program Master Joint Powers Agreement

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cleveland to approve the Master Joint Powers Agreement (MJPA) with the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for the delivery of easement services in Chisago County and to authorize District Administrator Mell to be the Districts authorized representative, which includes signing all documents related to this MJPA. Motion carried.

SWCD Staff Technical Approval Authority Review Request

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Mold to request USDA-NRCS to review the Technical Approval Authority for Ecological and Engineering Practices for SWCD employees Craig Mell, Casey Thiel, Mary Jo Youngbauer and Shane Hultman. Motion carried.

Sue Humble left the meeting and Casey Thiel entered the meeting at 9:15.

OLD BUSINESS

State Buffer Program

District Administrator Mell provided an update to the Board on the past months activities related to the State Buffer Program. No Board action was taken.

Local Water Resource Riparian Protection Map

District Administrator Mell reviewed with the Board the requirements of the MN State Buffer Law (Minnesota Statutes §103F.48, Subd. 4) that require our office on or before July 1, 2017, must develop, adopt, and submit to the local water management authority within Chisago County a summary of watercourses for inclusion in the local water management authority's plan. Staff presented and discussed with the Board several draft maps derived from existing data sets such as the MN DNR Hydrography, the

MPCA Statewide Altered Watercourse, the USDA Hydrography, and the MN State Buffer Map. The Board discussed several positive and negative aspects of each map. No Board action was taken at this time, it was determined that the Board will revisit this topic at their March Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No action taken.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017, at 8:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mold and seconded by Tollberg to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m.



Secretary

*Attachments available at SWCD office.

3-14-17

Date

