

WINONA COUNTY SWCD MINUTES
Ag Service Center, Lewiston, MN
May 11, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by Chairman Jim Riddle.

Present were supervisors óArlene Nelson, Jim Riddle, and George Welshons.

Also present were óMena Kaehler, County Commissioner; Karin Sonneman, County Attorney; Daryl Buck and Brein Maki, SWCD; Jerry Hildebrandt and Natalie Siderius, WWJPB; Naomi Corey, Rush-Pine Contractor; Sue Glende, NRCS; Brian Watson; and Mike Pehler, Interested Supervisor Candidate.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ó George made a motion to approve the May 11, 2011 agenda adding 2012 Farm Bill Assistance Grant Application, NB-11, #01 and NB-11, #12 final payments to Cost-Share and Feedlot Engineering Technician job posting and wage scale to the Personnel Committee Report as Discussion/Action items. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

CONSENT AGENDA ó Arlene made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT ó Commissioner Kaehler update the Board on current County happenings, including SSTS rules extension request, MAGIC Act (state mandates), and a Synthetic Drug Education Day is May 17 at 6:00 P.M. at the Winona Middle School.

WINONA COUNTY PLANNING REPORT ó No report.

D.C. REPORT ó Sue gave an NRCS program update, including updates on Hiawatha RC&D, MRBI, CRP, EQIP, and the state Forestry Committee.

WHITEWATER JPB REPORT ó Natalie Siderius was introduced to the Board as the new WWJPB Coordinator/Winona County Water Planner. Natalie updated the Board on her work. Jerry Hildebrandt updated the Board on his continued outreach work, including landowner and council meetings.

RUSH-PINE REPORT ó Naomi updated the Board on her work in Rush-Pine this past month.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

George updated the Board on the Partnerø Committee meeting.

Arlene attended the Earth Day Program and informed the Board of the Grazing Field Day to be held on May 21st in St. Charles at the Community Center from 9-3:00.

Jim attended the Earth Day Program, Partner Committee meeting, Personnel meeting with Maureen Holte, and did an interview for the Winona Post.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Arlene made a motion to accept the Letter of Resignation from Rudie Spitzer from the Board of Supervisors. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
2. Arlene made a motion to accept the Letter of Resignation from John Bronk from the Board of Supervisors. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
3. Supervisor Officers and Assignments
 - a. George made a motion by coconscious to appoint Arlene as Vice-Chairperson of the Board. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
 - b. Arlene made a motion by coconscious to appoint George as Treasurer of the Board. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
 - c. Chairman Riddle appointed George to the Personnel Committee.
 - d. Chairman Riddle appointed himself to the Budget Committee.
 - e. George made a motion to assign Arlene to the Whitewater JPB. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
 - f. Arlene made a motion to assign George to the S.E. SRF. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
4. Mike Pehler expressed his interest in the Area II Supervisor opening. As a contractor in the County, he asked the Board and Karin to look into any conflict of interests that may be present. The Board Vacancies will be announced in the local papers again and interested people are invited to attend the June 15th Board meeting. George made motion to table Board Vacancies until the June meeting. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
5. The Board discussed ideas for changing the Nominating Districts for the SWCD. In order to make any changes, the Board would have to adopt a resolution and notify BWSR by March 2012. No action was taken. The Board will review at the June meeting as resolution action item.
6. Arlene made a motion to adopt the resolution "Required Conservation Plan for FSA Program Eligibility" as updated with the current dates and contacts. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes. The Area 7 Resolution meeting will be held June 14 at the Rochester Eagles Club beginning at 9:00 A.M.
7. Arlene made a motion to change the June regular meeting to June 15, 2011. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
8. Arlene made a motion to approve the 2011 Agreement for Contribution between the Whitewater JPB and the Winona SWCD for office space and costs. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Jim and George updated the Board on the Partner's Committee meeting held May 9, 2011. The next step is for the District to draft an agreement/services that would be collaborated on. The Board asked Brein and Daryl to put together the services we currently have/need from the County and services we provide/could provide to the County. The next Partner's Committee meeting will be scheduled once the District is ready with a draft plan.
2. Jim reported on his work with Maureen Holte on job descriptions and wage scales.
 - a. George made a motion to adopt the Feedlot Engineering Technician position as amended. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
 - b. Arlene made a motion to adopt the wage grid for the Feedlot Engineering Technician position. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
 - c. Arlene made a motion to post the Feedlot Engineering Technician posting and for Brian to coordinate with the County Personnel Department to advertise for the position in the length of 21 days and do the initial applicant screening. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

- d. George made a motion to move forward with the posting the District Manager position as presented and for Brian to coordinate with the County Personnel Department to advertise for the position in the length of 30 days. Arlene seconded and carried by affirmative votes.
- e. George made a motion to adopt the wage grid for the District Manager position as it is currently. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
3. George made a motion to terminate the contract with Corey Environmental Services, LLC. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
4. The staff updated the Board on their work with Rich Bisque and the Nature Conservancy Contract.
5. Arlene made a motion to approve the 2011 Annual Plan as amended. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

COST SHARE

1. Arlene made a motion to approve the final financial report for the 2010 Flood E Engineering grant and request final BWSR Close-Out. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
2. Arlene made a motion to approve the final financial report for 2008 Flood A Cost-Share grant and request final BWSR Close-Out. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
3. Arlene made a motion to approve the final financial report for 2009 Regular Cost-Share grant and request final BWSR Close-Out. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
4. Arlene made a motion to approve the final financial report for 2008 Regular Cost-Share grant and request final BWSR Close-Out. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
5. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #07 ó Marcella Ellringer for her Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$500. Payment requested is \$375. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
6. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #16 ó Michael Larsen & Linda Nelson for their Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$1,750. Payment requested is \$1,312.50. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
7. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #03 ó Robert Curtis for his Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$1,800. Payment requested is \$1,350. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
8. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #08 ó Mary Lou Faber for her Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$200. Payment requested is \$150. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
9. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #13 ó Warren Hoppe for his Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$425. Payment requested is \$318.75. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
10. George made a motion to approve the Flood C Cost-Share application for Ross & Brent Greden for diversion repair. This project is eligible for 100% Cost-Share. The total estimate and requested Cost-Share is \$2,925. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
11. Arlene made a motion to approve the request for Phase X Farm Bill Assistance Grant (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) to be funded at a 25% full-time employee. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
12. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #01 ó Mark Bascovsky for his Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$3,560. Payment requested is \$2,670. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
13. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request for NB-11, #12 ó Micah Hanson for his Native Buffer Cost-Share contract. The total cost of the project is \$585. Payment requested is \$438.75. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

MISCELLANEOUS DISTRICT NEWS AND INFORMATION

1. Rural Preserve Update

PUBLIC COMMENTS ó None.

ADJOURNMENT ó George made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 1:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Arlene Nelson
Secretary of the Board