

WINONA COUNTY SWCD

(SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT)

Winona County SWCD
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Weekdays 7:00 – 4:30

The Winona County Soil and Water Conservation District is a locally elected unit of government promoting soil and water conservation and environmental protection through landowner assistance, education and planning activities, coordination of public and private efforts and by serving as a forum on natural resource issues.
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WINONA COUNTY SWCD MINUTES

Ag Service Center, Lewiston, MN

November 9, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman Jim Riddle. Introductions were done.

Present were supervisors –Arlene Nelson, Jim Riddle, Lonny Dietz, George Welshons, and Eric Nelson.

Also present were –Mena Kaehler, County Commissioner; Karin Sonneman, County Attorney; Justin Lindner, NRCS; Daryl Buck, Brein Maki, and Amanda Gentry, SWCD; Natalie Siderius, WWJPB; Toby Dogwiler, Winona State University; Doug Nopar, Land Stewardship Project; and Keith Beach, citizen.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Lonny made a motion to approve the October 12, 2011 Agenda adding Feedlot FY-09, #01 – Gary Buehler final payment, 2009 Feedlot Close-out, Feedlot FY-10, #04 – Larry Schroeder amendment, Feedlot FY-10, #04 – Larry Schroeder final payment, Feedlot FY-11, #06 – Paul Glende final payment, Feedlot FY-11, #14 - Franzen final payment, and Feedlot FY-11, #18 – Franzen new contract request to Cost-Share. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

CONSENT AGENDA – Arlene made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA SOIL WATER MONITORING NETWORK – Toby Dogwiler presented the work being done to monitor nitrogen in the soil. Currently, there are 50 monitors at 17 different sites. This project is collecting information for education and demonstration purposes.

Lonny made a motion to authorize the District to explore ways to provide cooperation and support of the Southeastern Minnesota Soil Water Monitoring Network project. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT – Commissioner Kaehler updated the District on current county happenings; including frac sand mining, the county levy public hearing, The Nature Conservancy contract that Winona County entered into for council work in the Rush-Pine Creek Watershed, and briefed on the County Board's meeting with the agenda item of District held November 8, 2011.

COUNTY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT – No report given.

NRCS D.C. REPORT – Sue's report was sent out in the board packet. Justin gave a brief NRCS program update; including updates on CSP and EQIP. He also reported that they hired Dave Dockter as the new technician.

WHITEWATER JPB REPORT – Natalie updated the Board on current Whitewater JPB work; including continuing outreach efforts, Citizen Advisory Council, bacteria reductions grant, landowner surveys, and septic in shoreland work. She followed up on the Richard Doerr site, which is managed by the Wildlife Management Department.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

George addressed the Board on his ability to continue as a Board Supervisor. He presented the Board a letter of resignation effective December 31, 2011.

Eric updated the board on ideas for rain garden projects in the City of Winona.

Arlene updated the board on the Whitewater JPB. She shared her concerns on bee declines.
 Lonny updated the board on the Hiawatha RC&D and the Driftless Area Initiative.
 Jim updated the board on the County Board meeting held November 8th and the Planning Commission meeting on frac sand mining.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Daryl reported on BWSR Academy and handed out his monthly report that was not included in the mailed packets.

COST SHARE

1. Arlene made a motion to approve the 2012 BWSR Grant agreement and allocations (\$40,132) effective August 1, 2011 through expiration of June 30, 2013. Lonny seconded it and carried by affirmative votes
2. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request from FY-11, #02 – John Jilk for well sealing. The total cost of the project is \$1,575. This project is eligible for up to \$1,000 or 75% Cost-Share. Total payment requested is \$1,000. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
3. Lonny made a motion to approve the final payment request from Feedlot FY-09, #01 – Gary Buehler. Total cost of the project is \$25,050. This project is eligible for up to \$18,788 or 75% Cost-Share, whichever is less. Final payment requested is \$18,788. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
4. George made a motion to approve the Final Financial Report for Feedlot 2009 and request a BWSR Close-out of this grant agreement. Lonny seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
5. George made a motion to approve the amendment request from Feedlot FY-10, #04 – Larry Schroeder to increase his Cost-Share by \$1,479.52. The increase is needed due to extra concrete needed for the wall to match up with the berm. This was approved by Mary Kells and is using slippage from CWA Feedlot 2010 Cost-Share. Lonny seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
6. Arlene made a motion to approve the final payment request from Feedlot FY-10, #04 – Larry Schroeder. Total cost of the project is \$14,816. This project is eligible for up to \$10,961.34 or 75% Cost-Share, whichever is less. Total payment requested is \$10,961.34. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
7. George made a motion to approve the final payment request from Feedlot FY-11, #06 – Paul Glende. Total cost of the project is \$30,548.61. This project is eligible for up to \$22,376.99 or 75% Cost-share, whichever is less. Total payment requested is \$22,376.99. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
8. George made a motion to approve the final payment request from Feedlot FY-11, #14 – Kevin Franzen. Total cost of the project is \$30,400. This project is eligible for up to 75% Cost-Share. Total payment requested is \$22,800. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
9. Arlene made a motion to approve the new 2011 CWA Feedlot contract for Kevin Franzen (Feedlot FY-11, #18) for milkhouse waste water treatment system using the remaining Cost-Share funds from contract Feedlot FY-11, #14 in the amount of \$11,142.74. George seconded it and carried by affirmative votes. This request was approved by Matt Drewitz, BWSR.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Lonny made a motion to approve the following Rush-Pine Cover Crop payment requests as presented. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

Landowner	Acres Planted	Payment Requested
a. Linda Hundorf	15.3 Acres	\$306.00
b. Lois Lange	40 Acres	\$800.00
c. Don Ritter	40 Acres	\$800.00
d. Richard Roth	40 Acres	\$800.00
e. David Tveten	13.3 Acres	\$266.00
f. Victor Vail	40 Acres	\$800.00
2. The Board discussed any last minute questions regarding the 2011 MASWCD Convention.
3. Eric made a motion to adopt the Supervisor and Staff Reimbursement Policy Option B (effective immediately) as presented. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Partner's Committee – Jim, Daryl, and Brein updated the Board on the decisions/discussions with the County Board on November 8, 2011. The next step is for the District to draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and County to present to the Partner's Committee. Karin is willing to provide assistance on this draft. The District hopes to have a draft prepared by the end of January.
George made a motion to appoint Eric to the Partner's Committee to replace is place. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
2. Resource Specialist Position – Staff updated the Board on the Resource Specialist position. Closing date for applying for the position is November 10, 2011.
 - a. Lonny made a motion for Arlene to replace George on the Interview Panel. George seconded it and approved by affirmative votes.
 - b. Lonny made a motion for Arlene to replace George on the Personnel Committee. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

George dismissed himself from the meeting at this time.

3. Eric made a motion to support a one year moratorium on frac sand mining in Winona County to allow time to review and research the environmental impacts this may have to the valuable nature resources within our county. Arlene seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
4. Jim updated his work on the Frozen River Film Festival.
5. Doug Nopar, Land Stewardship Project (LSP), presented a proposal drafted by the LSP on nutrient management planning and testing. Arlene made a motion to support the LSP's continued work on a resolution for independent soil testing on farms seeking new conditional use permits in Winona County. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.

MISCELLANEOUS DISTRICT NEWS AND INFORMATION

1. None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Keith Beach addressed the Board on enforcement concerns (lack of) he has with Winona County Planning.
2. SE Minnesota Water Resource Board meeting on November 11, 2011. (Frac Sand Mining forum will be discussed.)

ADJOURNMENT – Lonny made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric seconded it and carried by affirmative votes.
Meeting adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:



Arlene Nelson
Secretary of the Board