



916 East St. Paul Street • Litchfield, MN 55355

320.693.7287

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 8 a.m.
USDA Service Center
916 East St. Paul Street
Litchfield, MN 55355

Present: Bob Schiefelbein, Fred Behnke, John Haffley and Greg Jans. Staff Present: Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, Cory Salzl and Deb Holtz, SWCD; Jacob Stich, NRCS; and Josh Pommier, Pheasants Forever.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schiefelbein at 8:13 a.m.

Agenda: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to approve the agenda with the addition of the following items: 1W1P Meeting Report, Paul Martin Buffer Cost Share, and office space; and the deletion of the Mark Fritsch cost share item. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Minutes: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2018, meeting with one correction noted by Holtz. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit, including bills paid and bills payable in the amount of \$41,341.74. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Holtz reported that our level of revenue for 2017 has triggered the need for a financial audit. She will contact Michael Peterson.

Norman presented the Biennial Budget Request for review.

Correspondence: Holtz presented communication regarding the MASWCD Call for Resolutions, the MASWCD Legislative Report and submitted a Letter to the Editor regarding Earth Day for signature. Greg Jans requested receiving Legislative Updates by email. Chairman Schiefelbein signed the Letter to the Editor.

Field Office Report: Jacob Stich, Joe Norman, Cory Salzl and Matt Anderson reported on their recent activities. [Salzl left the meeting after his report.]

Farm Bill Report: Josh Pommier presented his report.

Training/Meeting Reports: Behnke, Haffley and Anderson reported on the Area 2 Meeting. Deb Holtz read an email received from Mike Jorgenson asking for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee and as Area 2 officers.

Deb Holtz read a report from Cory Salzl on the FEMA Training and MACFO Conference he attended. Anderson and Norman reported on a buffer meeting with Meeker County. Norman reported on a 1W1P Meeting.

Training/Meeting Requests: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to approve attendance of Cory Salzl at the April 18 CAI District Meeting in Redwood Falls and all expenses incurred. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to approve the attendance of Cory Salzl at the April 10-11 CFO Training in Hutchinson and all expenses incurred. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

2019 County Allocation Request: Holtz presented and discussed the first draft of a 2019 budget and allocation request and supporting materials.

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Motion by Jans and seconded by Haffley to recess until after the Local Work Group meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

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At 10:15 a.m. Chairman Schiefelbein reconvened the meeting with Dan Barka and Cory Salzl joining the group.

County Buffer Meeting Request: Bob Schiefelbein and Dan Barka will meet with officials of Meeker County to discuss buffer enforcement and funding. Holtz will work with the County to establish the date and time of the meeting.

Noxious Weed Publication Notice: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to have Salzl publish the annual noxious weed notice in *The Independent Review*. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Sauk 1W1P: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to opt out of participating in the planning process of Sauk One Watershed One Plan and only receive information through Joe Norman. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Cost Share: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to encumber \$8,000 from 2016 and 2017 State Cost Share funds for a water and sediment control basin project for Edwin Kuechle, FY16-05. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to encumber \$3,421.49 from 2017 and 2018 State Cost Share funds for a water and sediment control basin project for Patricia Munson, FY17-02. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to encumber \$593.25 from 2018 State Cost Share funds for a wetland restoration project for Galen Larson, FY18-01. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to confirm encumbrance of \$432 from Buffer Cost Share funds for 1.8 acres of buffer implementation for Paul Martin, BCS18-09. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Office Space: Holtz had mailed information on the new USDA Service Center to which FSA and NRCS will move in the fall, a response from the Assistant State Conservationist for Management/Strategies to questions posed and other office rental options in Litchfield to supervisors before the meeting. She distributed and provided additional information that had been accumulated after that mailing and before the meeting. The group discussed advantages and concerns of a variety of scenarios.

A request for an extension to the deadline given us for responding to whether we wish to continue to co-locate with the local USDA agencies and a reduction to the rental rate was sent to the lessor of the new USDA Service Center. Holtz will contact NRCS again to glean more information on our Operating Agreement with NRCS moving forward.

Chairman Schiefelbein called for a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, April 6, at the USDA Service Center in Litchfield for the sole purpose of determining office space for the SWCD going forward. Notice was thereby personally delivered to all five Supervisors present at the meeting. Holtz will properly notice this meeting to the public.

Next Meetings: Special Meeting Friday, April 6, 9:30 a.m. Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Behnke and seconded by Haffley, Chairman Schiefelbein adjourned the meeting at 12 noon.

Secretary

Date