



916 East St. Paul Street - Litchfield, MN 55355

320.693.7287

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 8 a.m.
USDA Service Center
916 East St. Paul Street
Litchfield, MN 55355

Present: Bob Schiefelbein, Fred Behnke, John Haffley, Dan Barka and Greg Jans. Staff Present: Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, and Deb Holtz, SWCD; Jacob Stich, Daniel Rommelfanger and Melissa Rothwell, NRCS; and Josh Pommier, Pheasants Forever.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schiefelbein at 8:09 a.m.

Agenda: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to approve the agenda with the addition of the following items: correspondence, cost share payment allocation and monitoring plan for buffer compliance tracking. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Minutes: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the minutes from the September 4, 2018, meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Barka and seconded by Haffley to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit, including bills paid and bills payable in the amount of \$37,799.03, and allocating \$903.33 of the payment on LC16-05 to County Operations funding. Affirmative: Barka, Haffley, Schiefelbein and Jans. Opposed: None. Abstaining: Behnke.

Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to accept the audit report of Michael Peterson and sign the representation letter. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Chairman Schiefelbein signed the letter.

Chairman Schiefelbein signed the Final Financial Reports on the 2016 State Cost Share and 2016 Local Capacity Grants.

Correspondence: Holtz distributed the MASWCD resolution packets and circulated the MCIT Annual Report. No action was required.

Field Office Report: Jacob Stich, Joe Norman, and Matt Anderson reported on their recent activities. The 2018 Drill and Tree Programs were discussed. A Supervisor (to be determined) will inspect the drill and perform any necessary upkeep on it after the fall season has been completed.

Farm Bill Report: Josh Pommier presented his report.

Training/Meeting Reports: Fred Behnke and Joe Norman reported on the Area 2 Meeting. Deb Holtz, Joe Norman and Greg Jans commented on a risk management session conducted by MCIT and discussed follow up items. Joe Norman was instructed to determine Actual Cash Values for items on the Inland Marine Schedule. Joe Norman reported on a CROW 1W1P meeting he attended.

Building Update: Deb Holtz reported on communication with a representative of the new building owner.

Monitoring Plan for Buffer Compliance Tracking: Motion by Jans and seconded by Haffley to approve the Meeker SWCD Monitoring Plan for Buffer Compliance Tracking as presented by Matt Anderson and attached to the minutes of this meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

North Fork Crow River One Watershed One Plan: The following resolution was moved by Barka, seconded by Behnke and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Meeker Soil and Water Conservation District has been notified by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources that the North Fork Crow River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan has been approved according to Minnesota Statutes 103B.101, Subdivision 14 and Board Resolution #16-17;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Meeker Soil and Water Conservation District hereby adopts and will begin implementation of the approved Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for the area of the county identified within the Plan.

2019 MN DOA Noxious Weed Grant: Matt Anderson was instructed to apply for the 2019 Noxious Weed Grant in the amount of \$20,000 through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Pickup Replacement: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to authorize Joe Norman to purchase either a Ford or Chevrolet pickup for the SWCD in accordance with the specs he presented at this meeting at a cost to the District (after trade in of the 2014 Chevrolet pickup) not to exceed \$10,000 plus tax and license fees. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Cost Share: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to approve payment on the following Noxious Weed grants:

Christine Pudas, NW18-02 - \$190.00
Norb Kramer, NW18-01 - \$389.92
Ronald Brown, NW18-06 - \$233.68
Robert Ahlgren, NW18-07 - \$500.00
Christine Ullom, NW18-05 - \$500.00

Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to confirm encumbrment of \$1,400 from the 2018 State Cost Share grant on a 40 acre cover crop project for Ervin Hennen (FY18-07). Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Haffley to approve payment on the Zion Church rain garden cost share contract (LC18-01) in the amount of \$2,000. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve payment on the Galen Larson wetland restoration cost share contract (FY18-01) in the amount of \$601.25. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve payment on the Mark Fritsh wetland restoration cost share contract (LC17-07) in the amount of \$257.25. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve payment on the Andy Slinden cover crop cost share contract (FY18-06) in the amount of \$1,144.50. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to approve payment on the Ryberg Farms cover crop cost share contract (FY17-05) in the amount of \$2,200.00. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Assistant Feedlot Officer/Ag Weed Inspector Position: The Board reviewed the four applications for the position received from the second posting, assigning points to each applicant. Deb Holtz was instructed to set up interview appointments with each of the three candidates who received 60 or more points for Tuesday morning, October 9. Kristin Cote will be invited to attend the interviews. All questions asked of the candidates from the first posting will be asked of the new candidates during these interviews.

Next Meetings: Tuesday, October 9, 2018, 8:15 a.m. - Interviews
Tuesday, November 6, 8:00 a.m. – Regular Meeting

Adjournment: Upon motion made by Barka and seconded by Jans, Chairman Schiefelbein adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Secretary

Date