



## KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2008 Mahogany St., Ste. 3  
Mora, MN55051  
(320)679-3982  
FAX (320)679-4692

### MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kevin Belkholm, Gene Carda, Paul Hoppe, Mike Johnson,  
Betty Wilkens

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kelly Osterdyk, Shannon Rasinski, Jan Anderson, Donna Walters-Nelson

Paul Hoppe called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

**M/S/C** Carda, Johnson to approve minutes of March 12, 2013 board meeting.

**M/S/C** Carda, Wilken to approve payment of vouchers and also purchase of a new printing calculator. Paul reported that supervisors from Itasca & Carlton SWCDs did some lobbying at the state capitol and requested reimbursement of their expenses; each district's share is \$72.00; **M/S/C** Wilkens, Johnson to reimburse them for the expenses incurred. **M/S/C** Johnson, Carda to approve the Financial report for March.

**D.C. Report:** Shannon reported that there is new staff coming to the Mora Field Office; Joey LeBlanc, Civil Engineering Technician from Grand Rapids NRCS starting April 22, and also an Administrative Assistant has been hired to work in the Mora & Hinckley offices; Joyce Sawatzky, starting May 1. EQIP – 21 contracts obligated for 2013, so far, may have another ranking period in May, and maybe a CSP signup yet this year. She also reported on trainings & meeting she attended. NRCS is putting out bi-monthly news releases and would like to include them on the district's website. NRCS is on a continuing resolution through September; 2014 budget projected another 8% cut. Computer usage – currently NRCS is paying for 169 SWCD seats at \$3,451.81; agreement to be coming out to earn the seat to reach consistency across the state. NRCS in Minnesota is going to 5 areas; the affected areas are Duluth & Brooklyn Center, a team will be developed to decide where the new office will be and how to rearrange staff. Also predicted to have 2 less field offices. Donna reported on the school forest meeting that was held at the high school recently. Community members were invited for input on managing the two sites.

Kelly scheduled May 8, 10:00 to present our annual report to the county board. He will send out information prior to that.

Knife River erosion issue: Betty lead the discussion on the issue; the first step of the process is to determine a problem; define the problem; what the area would look like if we don't do anything; and determine solutions with the stakeholders. After much discussion it was determined to invite members of the Knife Lake Improvement District board to a board meeting to discuss the issue.

M/S/C Wilkens, Johnson to invite members of the KLID to the May board meeting and discuss our mutual interest on the erosion issue.

Betty also discussed the riparian buffer information she had sent out via email. A report was prepared by BWSR through legislation. The report summarized statewide activities relating to buffers.

Jan requested board approval for an AgBMP loan application for a no-till planter for \$40,000 for Robert Zimmer; M/S/CCarda, Belholm to approve the planter as an eligible project for AgBMP funds.

Rum River Watershed meeting – WRAP (Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan) A kickoff meeting was held on March 28 for all stakeholders.

M/S/C Johnson, Carda to make the first MASWCD dues payment for 2013.

Kanabec SWCD Comprehensive Plan Update – M/S/C Johnson, Wilkensto approve the Resolution as amended adopting the Kanabec County Water Plan as the SWCD's comprehensive plan.

Parts of the City of Mora Wellhead Protection Plan were handed out for the board's information; for drinking water supply wells; discussion tabled until next month. Kelly reported that we have a Bemidji state college student interested in doing some summer interning; Trisha Fonda will be doing 4 hours of service. She will be helping with stream monitoring.

Cost-Share update: Aaron Habeck CWF and CWP funds – Feedlot runoff control & treatment, heavy use protection and fence exclusion near Hay Creek – waiting for him to get bids. Ford Township, CWP funds, road and ditch runoff/erosion – cost estimate for one chemical application for ¼ mile - \$2,650; 75% = \$1,987.50. M/S/CBelholm, Carda to approve cost-share for one application of the binding material for this year. Tom Felger, Feedlot runoff control & treatment, pit closure & gully repair – site plans are completed & designed; project bids will be submitted for early summer construction for CWP funds.

M/S/CWilkens, Carda to increase Jan Anderson's annual salary & benefits to \$42,581.78, effective immediately to bring her salary within 82% of Kelly's in order to comply with state pay equity requirements and report we are required to report to the Minnesota Office of Management and Budget every three years.

The May 14 meeting has been moved to noon, sandwiches will be ordered in, each person will buy their own. Next PICKM meeting is on April 29, 6-8:30 p.m. in Cambridge. Kelly reported that BWSR will be doing grant certification audit May 21. He attended the Sharp Tail Grouse Workshop in Hinckley on April 6; got 3 potential Forest Stewardship plan leads.

St. Croix River meeting: Paul & Kelly attended the annual St. Croix River Conference at UW River Falls on April 8. It was a good opportunity to meet with people and network on common goals.

Civic Engagement meetings were sponsored by Kanabec SWCD on March 25 through a pilot grant with MPCA. The two meetings were well attended.

Paul attended the state Forestry committee meeting in McGregor; the group is working on mission & goals statement.

Mike reported that TSA 3 is hiring another technician to work on projects related to the flood damage around the Duluth area

Kelly reported that the SRWMB applied for a CWP grant. The grant was not approved due to a piece of information that was not included with the resolution attached to the application.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ approved \_\_\_\_\_ date