



KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF DECEMBER 9, 2014 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Osterdyk, Jan Anderson, Shannon Rasinski, Jason Weinerman

Paul Hoppe and Kelly Osterdyk had just returned from the MASWCD State Convention and reported on the meetings and sessions they had attended while there.

Chairman Hoppe called meeting together at 2:20 p.m.

M/S/C Carda, Johnson to approve minutes from November 18, 2014 board meeting; financial report for November and payment of the vouchers. **M/S/C** Wilkens, Johnson to renew our annual membership in the St. Croix River Association for \$25.00.

Rent increase request: The landlord agreed to our offer to pay \$12/square foot for 230 sq. ft., but since we have not had a lease for two years he felt that we should pay the difference in rental rates for the two years. **M/S/C** Johnson, Wilkens to pay one year of the rental rate difference. The new lease should state that this rate would continue unless a new lease is developed.

Civic Governance Pilot Grant – Outcomes and Recommendations for Consideration.

Kelly reviewed recommendations. Betty asked for more specific information on how to apply this to goals that we are working toward. Other discussion took place about working and communication with landowners on projects and other potential sources of technical assistance to check into.

On December 18, Paul & Kelly will meet with BWSR reps and Pine SWCD to discuss the possibility of shared services. Also reviewed Pine SWCD's letter to MASWCD on stable funding.

Grant Update: Kelly reported that the following grants have been completed: 319 Groundhouse River Implementation Grant and Civic Governance Pilot Grant. The Cooperative Weed Management Grant for buckthorn control will end December 2014.

M/S/C Johnson, Carda to extend the deadline for Kitty Losinger's request for cost-share from CWP funds for her well closing contract to June 30, 2015.

D.C. Report:

Shannon reported on the CSP, EQIP programs, technical assistance and other activities. NRCS personnel must now provide a "receipt of services" to persons visiting the office for assistance; this

would not apply to any landowners currently under contract. She also mentioned that the NRCS State Conservationist, Don Baloun, will be retiring on January 2, 2015.

D.M. Report: Discussion on a wetland ditch activity - ditch was dug 1.3 feet deeper than original depth near existing culvert inlet. TEP panel met with landowner and other agencies and to discuss the ditch work that was done. Kelly later met with landowner on site to discuss ditch work and wetland restoration needs. M/S/C Johnson, Wilkens (on advice of Jason Weinerman, BWSR) to refer wetland restoration order to another agency due to possible conflict of interest.

Kelly handed out his employee evaluation form and asked the board to complete the form at the next meeting.

Jason talked about the Strategic Planning process and asked the board to review the report for discussion at the March board meeting when we would have a full board present.

M/S/C Johnson, Carda to ask Jason Weinerman to send our Strategic Directions Exercise to Ryan Hughes, BWSR, Jill Carlier & Skip Thompson at Pine SWCD.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30.

_____ approved _____ date