



KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Carda, Tom Demarais, Kevin Belkholm,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Hoppe, Betty Wilkens

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

Chairman Demarais called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

M/S/C Carda, Belkholm to accept the minutes of the January 10 board meeting with changes to EQIP & CSP signup deadlines in the DC report.

Discussed the financial report and a few adjustments to the 2012 budget figures. **M/S/C** Carda, Belkholm to raise the rental rate on the district farm to \$35/acre (from \$30/acre). A notification will be sent to Dean Heikes who currently rents 18.5 acres on the farm. **M/S/C** Belkholm, Carda to approve the financial report for January.

2012 Annual Work Plan – copies had been emailed to board members for review, with a few changes having been made from the 2011 plan. **M/S/C** Belkholm, Carda to approve the 2012 Annual Work Plan.

A discussion was then held about the Ann Lake TMDL study and plan. The consultant will be completing the draft report for review and comment.

The letter from Jason Weinerman, BWSR to Paul Hoppe was discussed further.

The board reviewed Grants & Contracts update that Kelly had prepared. **M/S/C** Belkholm, Carda to send a final payment of \$2,511.00 to TSA III from Cooperative Weed Management grant for technical assistance.

M/S/C Carda, Belkholm to use FY 2012 cost-share for technical assistance and remove Greg Skramstad & Tom Roeschlein from potential project list; which have been on hold for some time waiting response from the landowners.

Reviewed Memorandum of Agreement between Kanabec SWCD and Aitkin, Carlton & Pine SWCDs for cooperation in the Kettle River Watershed for increased coordination in conservation implementation to reduce phosphorous loading. **M/S/C** Belkholm, Carda to approve & sign the MOA.

We received a request from Mora High School natural resources instructor Leann Pietrzak for a student to “job shadow” for two hours a day. He would be going out in the field and observing & assisting on projects. Jan will check with MCIT on the liability issues. Shannon stated that he will be able to ride in the government vehicles after the proper forms are signed & submitted by the district to NRCS.

Area III is the host for the 2012 state convention; MASWCD would like one representative from each district to participate in the planning process; it was agreed to ask Betty Wilkens if she would be willing to be our representative.

Training Requests: **M/S/C** Carda, Belkholm to approve expense for Kelly to attend a Forestry meeting in Cloquet on February 21. **M/S/C** Belkholm, Carda to approve expenses for Jan to attend the spring administration session in Walker on March 29 & 30.

D.C. Report: Shannon reported that there have been four applicants for EQIP; eleven applicants for CSP; payments have been made to two landowners for a nutrient management practice and a brush management practice for Buckthorn. There will be a field office review on March 6, 7 & 8. Trimble GPS units have been installed in all the NRCS vehicles as part of a pilot project.

D.M. Report: Kelly had no other business that had not been covered previously.

Supervisor Reports: Gene reported that he attended the state RC&D meeting in St. Cloud, they held election of officers. TSA: Tom attended the January meeting in Duluth; election of officers was done and a good presentation of projects was put on by the engineers. Gene also discussed another potential site visit this spring at the Knife River erosion site with the new DNR Area Hydrologist.

Tom also mentioned that he wants to get the pay & benefits packages taken care of before September this year; a copy of the state SWCD pay & benefit survey was handed out and he encouraged the board members to review it.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 13 at 3:30 p.m. Tom will not be here so Kevin will be chairing the meeting.

M/S/C Carda, Belkholm to adjourn at 5:38 pm.

_____ approved _____ date