



KANABEC SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Demarais, Paul Hoppe, Kevin Belkholm, Wayne Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Longerbone

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

Chairman Hoppe called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

M/S/C Belkholm, Anderson, to approve the Minutes for the January 12, 2010 board meeting.

M/S/C Anderson, Demarais to approve Financial Report for January and pay the vouchers.

Shannon discussed the Local Work Group meeting and thanked the board members for participating. She presented the resource concerns the group came up with which were: water quality, soil quality, pasture conditions, wildlife habitat & forest management. These priorities will complement the goals of the SWCD priorities for the Groundhouse & Ann River Watersheds. EQIP signup deadline is February 28. Shannon stated that the Gene Carda design has been approved by the NRCS area engineer.

Old Business: Rural Preserve Property Tax Program: Kelly has met with the county assessor about the program and has had landowners coming in inquiring about it. He presented an outline of how the process works for the conservation management plans. Kelly will write the plans; they will be reviewed by Jason Weinerman at BWSR for comment; and our Chairman will sign off on them. Landowners have until May 1, 2010 to sign up for the program. **M/S/C** Anderson, Belkholm to charge a fee of \$150 + \$1.00/acre per plan; and \$50 per plan to review and approve plans written by qualified/approved plan writers. Tom inquired if the fee was enough to cover the time Kelly would spend on each plan. It was mentioned that on smaller plans Kelly could "pass on" and refer to another plan writer.

M/S/C Demarais, Anderson to sign the Freedom of Information Act agreement.

Legislative Day at the Capital is February 17 & 18; Paul & Kelly are attending the MASWCD's session the evening before, and Kevin & Wayne will go on the 18th to attend the meetings with our legislators.

SWCD Conservation Farm – discussed management of the district farm. Nick Solomon recommended burning the grass fields to get better regeneration. The Pheasants Forever group will help with the burn. In the past, they have charged \$25 to the landowners to burn. Paul will speak to the County Sheriff for assistance from Sentence to Serve people to trim the hybrid poplar trees that are re-sprouting.

Bid sheets will be given to Craig Schultz for his wetland ditch project so he can get bids from contractors to do the project.

Onanegozie RC&D member at large appointee – Paul reported that Bobby Gajewski decided not to participate; Jan will ask Herman Jackson if he would be interested.

New Business: Financial & other year end reporting are due to BWSR by March 15. BWSR has given an extension to April 15 for completion of the financial reports. Jan is getting bids from accountants for assistance in completing those reports. **M/S/C** Anderson, Demarais for approval for Jan is getting the assistance from the lowest bidder.

Kelly gave a handout for an update on the following grants and contracts: 1) Groundhouse River TMDL; 2) Ann River TMDL; 3) Weed Management Program; 4) Clean Water Partnership; 5) Clean Water Fund; 6) Snake River TMDL.

Ann River TMDL – Kelly will ask TSA III staff engineers if they are interested in doing the modeling and report work. **M/S/C** Demarais, Anderson to have TSA staff do the engineer work.

2010 Annual Plan: Kelly emailed 2009 copy to board members for comment & review. **M/S/C** Anderson, Belkholm to approve the annual work plan.

Kevin mentioned he would like to see county ditch clean outs added as a project. It was decided that the county engineer Greg Nikodym will be invited to a meeting to discuss the status of the county ditches and what our role would be.

Cost-Share: 2010 funds - \$8,639 can be used for technical assistance if we have less than 18 months of operating capital on hand. Kelly mentioned that NRCS could use help on three projects. Will wait for a response from Jason Weirnerman.

M/S/C Demarais, Anderson to attend Forest Stewardship continuing ed in Cloquet on Feb. 23; the registration fee is \$135. **M/S/C** Demarais, Anderson for Kelly to attend septic system continuing end in St. Cloud on April 14, registration fee is \$150.

Paul had received a Well Head Protection Plan from the City of Mora.

Committee Reports: TSA III meeting - Tom didn't attend. RC&D - Wayne was not able to attend. SRWMB & CAC – Paul & Kelly attended; MPCA update was given for Clean Water Partnership and Snake River TMDL study.

Paul attended the January 20th county board meeting to discuss the Rural Preserve Property Tax Program with them and our role and possible plan fee.

M/S/C Anderson, Belkholm to approve the annual work plan.

Next board meeting will be March 16 instead of March 9. Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

_____Approved Date_____