



KANABEC SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Demarais, Paul Hoppe, Karen Longerbone, Wayne Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Belkholm

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Osterdyk, Jan Anderson

Chairman Hoppe called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

M/S/C Anderson, Longerbone to approve the Minutes for the May 11, 2010 board meeting as amended.

Reviewed financial report for May and tree sale report. All present stepped outside briefly to look at the district's tree planter. One person had rented it this year, and the hitch broke, but it had been welded several times before. Jan asked board what they wanted to do about it. Tom contacted a teacher at the high school and he agreed to weld/repair the hitch again. **M/S/C** Anderson, Demarais to approve the financial report for May. Jan handed out copies of the 2009 year end closeout report for discussion. Also discussed preparing the 2011 draft budget to be presented to county board. Jan & Kelly will draw up budget for board's review. Our state funds from BWSR will be approximately \$4,000 less than last year; we don't know how much we will receive from the county.

Plat Book Update: Jan presented copies of bids from three publishers: Marcelline Mapping, Farm & Home Publishers and Red Barn submitted bids for plat books. **M/S/C** Demarais, Longerbone to go with Option 4 from Red Barn Plat Books. We would sell the books and retain \$5 -10 for each book; we would not have to put any money out towards the books. Hope to have the books available by hunting season time.

SWCD election for District 4; two people filed: Gene Carda & Todd Libra.

Don Baloun, NRCS State Conservationist recently visited the Mora Field Office, along with Kevin Daw, AC from Duluth and met with NRCS, RC&D, TSA, SWCD staff and Paul Hoppe & Wayne Anderson. He discussed our partnership, assistance and also offered to meet with our county board. SWCD & TSA staff prepared a Workload Analysis report and gave it to Shannon Rasinski to be forwarded to NRCS. Mr. Baloun sent the district a letter after his visit to Mora, thanking everyone for taking the time to meet with him. He invited the SWCD to participate in Minnesota State Technical Committee meetings and to visit him whenever in St. Paul.

Board reviewed and approved the Forest Stewardship Plan Resolution submitted to Area III and MASWCD.

Rural Preserve Tax Program – New information on program was reviewed. Kelly reported that 6 landowners have signed up to have a conservation assessment plan done for a commitment of 8 years

Summer Volunteer Assistance – Alan Ambrose from Ogilvie High School referred a student as a volunteer to assist the district. One project he could get experience on could be assisting with the TMDL water sampling. Jan checked on Workman’s Comp coverage from MCIT; an unpaid volunteer would not be covered by W.C.

M/S/C Demarais, Longerbone to approve Kelly & Wayne attending the Water Management Summit in St. Cloud on July 12; registration fee is \$30 each. Wayne mentioned that as the SRWMB technician he would be helping to find projects for the Snake River Watershed cost-share funds.

Cost-Share: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Demarais, approved to make payment of \$252.77 to Curtis Norgaard for his completed forest conifer planting, contract #09-05; total cost of project \$367.03. Board reviewed list of projects and status. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Demarais, approved to extend Mike Fetsik’s livestock fence exclusion project to November 30, 2010; contract #08-06. Motion by Demarais, seconded by Longerbone, approved request from Tom Roeschlein to cancel his contract; #07-05 for \$4,000 due to financial reasons. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Demarais, approved to encumber \$784.73 left over from 2009 c.s. funds for Brunswick Township erosion control project on Groundhouse River. This is in addition to the \$7,000 we have already encumbered for this project, contract #09-06. This would amend the contract for a total of \$7,784.73 in cost-share.

M/S/C Anderson, Longerbone to approve FY 2011 Observation Well contract with DNR Waters.

Wayne mentioned he attended the “Breakfast on the Farm” event at the Thoney Farm which was well attended.

Committee Reports: Wayne attended recent Onanegozie RC&D meeting. It is not yet decided if the RC&D’s will be fully funded under NRCS’s budget; but RC&D Councils will need to become more self-sufficient in the future. RC&D always working on finding projects to reach new customers; they are the fiscal agent for various grants; they also find grants & assist with funding.

Tom reported on the TSA III. No meeting in May; next meeting is June 30; the TSA will receive \$50,000 less funding for FY 2012 NPEA Grant.

D.C. Report: Shannon was on vacation and left a report. She reported on Don Baloun’s visit. Conservation Stewardship Program deadlines have been extended; this second ranking period offers enhancement bundles. If a producer signs up for a predetermined bundle they will receive a higher payment rate. Five producers and one potential have signed up. WHIP program – one landowner was approved to establish native grasses & forbs. Kelly will submit an application to SRWMB for additional cost-share. Eight producers have been certified for prescribed grazing systems; upland wildlife habitat management; residue management for a total of \$17,101.

D.M. Report: Kelly reported that we were granted a “hardship dues exemption” from MASWCD, the dues will be \$500 for the year and can be made in two payments. **M/S/C** Demarais, Longerbone to pay the first half of \$250. Ann River TMDL – Wenck Assoc. who was awarded the contract is working on a work plan; have also proposed additional tasks totaling \$26,891. **M/S/C** Anderson, Longerbone to approve additional tasks as long as MPCA agrees to pay for it.

Next meeting scheduled for July 13, 1:00 pm. **M/S/C** Anderson, Belkholm to adjourn at 4:00 p.m.

Approved Date_____