



KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2008 Mahogany St., Ste. 3
Mora, MN 55051
(320)679-3982
FAX (320)679-4692

MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Hoppe

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Osterdyk, Jan Anderson, Donna Walters-Nelson, Lynne Kolze,
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Vice Chairman Belkholm called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

M/S/C Wilkens, Belkholm to accept as presented the minutes of the May 15, 2012 board meeting.

M/S/C Belkholm, Wilkens to approve the financial report for May. A spreadsheet of 2012 revenue timelines was handed out.

Lynne Kolze, MPCA Statewide Administration; was present to discuss a pilot project for citizen involvement in Kanabec County in the St. Croix River Basin. A team of six community members, within the membership of the PICKM Alliance and other organizations within the St. Croix River Basin, would be selected. The work will be grounded in the need for sustainable citizen engagement in water quality management. M/S/C Wilkens, Carda that Kanabec SWCD support the St. Croix Basin Civic Governance Training & Civic Policy Pilot Project as set forth by MPCA; Kanabec SWCD would be fiscal host and Kelly the administrator.

D.C. Report: Donna presented the district conservationist's report. She passed out a copy of the 2003 Memo Understanding between NRCS & Kanabec SWCD. Board will review the MOU and be ready to agree to a new MOU. She also mentioned putting a civil rights policy statement on our website. There were 6 applicants accepted for Conservation Stewardship Program. One applicant for reenrollment in Conservation Reserve Program was not accepted. Environment Quality Incentives Program technical assistance was provided to 4 landowners. Seven 2012 EQIP applicants are waiting to get preapproved. Also had assistance from the area office; attended meetings/training. It was reported that 2013 Budget will be extremely tight; completed 4 wetland determinations; in contact with KLID about a new or revised easement for Knife Lake dam access; NRCS will not be taking the lead in pursuing an easement. A landowner cancelled his ag waste storage system, but will continue with nutrient management.

Area 3 Resolution meeting; there were 3 resolutions approved, Kanabec SWCD's was amended and approved. Area 3 is host area for the state convention this year; a planning meeting was held following the resolution meeting.

The group will be meeting on July 16 to discuss benefits/wages/budget; into Flex Benefit Plan further. The regular board meeting will be either July 17 or 18 depending on which day of the NRCS area meeting SWCDs are invited to.

Grants/Contracts Update: Cooperative Weed Management Grant/Clean Water Funds (319 Groundhouse River match) FY 2010 – extended to end of June 2012. M/S/C Wilkens, Carda to approve final expenditure of the grant of \$2,187.50 to Kanabec SWCD. Cooperative Weed Management Grant/Invasive Species Control Grant FY 2012 – M/S/C Carda, Wilkens to approve sending \$4,000 to TSA office in Duluth for Nick Solomon to start work on new weed management grant to control buckthorn.

Cost Share Project Update: Reviewed list of projects in planning & information stages for approved grants: Clean Water Partnership, 319 Groundhouse River, and funding from MN DOT, Ann Lake Alliance, & US Fish & Wildlife Service.

A draft budget was made available at the June 11 special board meeting.

D.M. Report: Kelly met with county water plan committee to begin update of the water plan. He also reported that new streams are being monitored in the county as well as storm water outlets within the city of Mora. He also wants to meet with the Mora City Council to review with them the projects the SWCD has completed & is working on in the city.

Kelly talked to the board about paying regular invoices for the new CWP grant, in order to make timely payments. He will bring all the BMP cost-share projects to the board for review and approval, based on grant application.

Kelly has been in contact with the Nature Conservancy; they want to do projects in the Snake River Watershed.

No supervisor's report – no meetings have been attended by those present.

M/S/C Wilkens, Belholm to adjourn at 7:03 pm.

_____ approved _____ date