



KANABEC SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Belkholm

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Osterdyk, Shannon Rasinski, Jan Anderson, Donna Walters-Nelson, Dave Copeland, NRCS, KLID reps: Dan Crowell, Dave Keller, Dave Thingelstad, Joe Lessar; Paul Rocheford, Knife Lake Sportsman's Club; Kanabec County Commissioners Kathi Ellis & Kim Smith; Teresa Wickeham, Kanabec County Environmental Services

Paul Hoppe called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Dan Crowell and other members of KLID were present to discuss their concern about the issue of the extreme erosion/undercutting of the banks of the Knife River below the Jade Street bridge and before it flows into Knife Lake. The KLID requested the SWCD to send a letter to Craig Wills, DNR Area Hydrologist asking him to revisit the site. After much discussion, Betty Wilkens suggested using a step process: 1) river bank erosion due to change in course of the river; 2) send letter to the landowner requesting permission to repair/stabilize banks; 3) define a technical team, which would consist of Kelly, SWCD, TSA 3 staff, Craig Wills, DNR, Roger Hugill, DNR Fisheries, MPCA rep.; Tom Miller, Knife Lake resident & hydrologist. The technical team will look at the problem and the SWCD will make recommendations to KLID. If the landowner doesn't grant permission for access, the county would have to be contacted for a legal opinion on county's authority to move forward on granting access permission. Kelly will email Dan Crowell of the names of the team members and progress being made. Kelly will be team leader, will also include Dan or Gene Carda on the team for history & background information. Kelly thinks will have the report completed by the end of July. He said project funds may be available through CWP for "protection"; once the team makes recommendations and cost estimates are completed.

The board then adjourned for lunch, to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

M/S/C Johnson, Wilkens to approve minutes from April 9, 2013 board meeting. **M/S/C Wilkens, Johnson** to pay the vouchers. **M/S/C Carda, Johnson** to approve financial report for April.

Dave Copeland was present to discuss Don Baloun, State NRCS Conservationist's plans for reorganization. A team is being put together to come up with two options for combining administrative areas. NRCS's Soil Health Initiative is moving along. NRCS is partnering with the American Bird Conservancy with a grant from US Fish & Wildlife to improve the habitat for the Golden Winged Warbler in northern Minnesota.

Old Business: Civic Engagement – Kelly handed out and explained the civic engagement policy document that he has been working on along with MPCA and partners.

Well Head Protection Plan – City of Mora: M/S/C Johnson, Wilkens suggested a letter of support be sent to the city and include monitoring results of storm water and lake monitoring. Report to County Board – met on May 8, Paul presented report on activities and Betty spoke to board about buffers.

Board talked about communication with the public; we will set aside time at a meeting to come up with ideas about how to inform the public about our services. Kelly will get a date to get on the Pokegama Lake Association's meeting schedule a time to present our annual report.

Call for Resolutions: Betty will contact Leann Buck at MASWCD about our Watershed Resolution and ask her to review it and make any changes she thinks are needed. Paul reported that the state Forestry Committee is working on a resolution to be presented for approval at the area meeting. Also working on mission & goal statement.

M/S/C Carda, Wilkens to approve staff & supervisors who want to attend the Area III Resolution meeting on June 4 in Carlton. M/S/C Carda, Johnson for Paul to attend May 21 Prioritization meeting for the Snake River Watershed Protection Plan.

Cost-Share: Aaron Haybeck – we have a \$30,000 CWP-BWSR & CWP-MPCA grant to provide technical assistance & cost share on Araon's feedlot runoff control, treatment, heavy use protection & fence exclusion project. Aaron will be doing the fencing himself and is getting bids for materials. M/S/C Wilkens, Carda to approve approximately 4,017 feet at \$6.00 per foot (according to standards) and up to \$455 for fabric for crossing. Paul then left the meeting and Mike took over as Chair.

Tom Felger – Feedlot runoff treatment, manure pit closure and gully repair. BWSR-CWF grant funds can be used for his project. M/S/C Wilkens, Carda to approve \$17,792.75 which is 75% of the bid.

Kelly reported that the 319 Groundhouse River grant can be used for conservation tillage; new methods may come to the board for cost-share assistance. Mike asked for pictures.

D.C. Report: Shannon reported that 22 contracts have been obligated for EQIP so far in 2013. CSP may still have a sign up in 2013. She also reported on meetings & trainings they have been attending. Civil Rights Policy – doing annual review.

D.M. Report: Kelly reported that Al Bernhardt the TSA 3 technician has resigned; TSA is advertising for a replacement technician. May 30 there will be a meeting at the courthouse on the Snake River TMDL for the stake holders. June 5 will meet with Pokegama & Cross Lake Associations to review the Snake River TMDL.

Gene reported that the RC&D Coordinator has resigned and taken a job with NRCS in Buffalo.

Next meeting scheduled for June 11 at 12:00 P.M.; will order in sandwiches again. It was also decided to invite Chad Gramentz, the county engineer & Teresa Wickeham to our next meeting to discuss our budget, which comes through the county Environmental Services budget.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 pm. _____ approved _____ date