



Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

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JANUARY 12, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The January Board meeting of the Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District was convened at the North Branch Ag Service Center, North Branch, MN on January 12, 2010. Chair Jim Birkholz called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Jim Birkholz, Roland Cleveland, Craig Mold and Justin Wilson
Staff present: Craig Mell, Susan Humble, and Deb Hermel (NRCS)

AGENDA

Motion by Mold and seconded by Cleveland to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

ANNUAL BUSSINESS MEETING ITEMS

District Administrator Craig Mell assumed control of the meeting and asked for nominations for District Chair.

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to cast a white ballot to continue all 2009 Officer Assignments through 2010 as follows:

Chair – Jim Birkholz

Vice Chair – Roland Cleveland

Treasurer – Craig Mold

Secretary – Justin Wilson

Motion carried.

Chair Jim Birkholz assumed control of the meeting.

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Wilson to appoint David Tollberg, South Sunrise Township, to fill the vacant supervisor position in District III through 2010. Motion carried.

2009 Committee assignments were reviewed.

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Wilson to set 2010 committee assignments as follows:

Personnel/Policy – Birkholz & Wilson

Finance/Budget – Cleveland & Mold

Planning/Marketing – Birkholz & Wilson

Water Plan Policy Team – Mold

Non Point Engineering Assistance (NPEA) – Cleveland

Onanogozie RC&D – Cleveland

MN SWCD Forestry – Wilson

Motion carried.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Mold to approve the following policy items for 2010:

- To set meeting dates and times for the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the USDA Ag Service Center in North Branch.
- To set Supervisor meeting allowances at \$50.00 for one meeting attended with a maximum allowance of \$75.00 per day if two or meetings are attended on the same day.
- To set mileage reimbursement rate to follow the current IRS Rates, current rate effective 1/1/2010 is .50 cents/mile.
- To designate the Post Review and the Chisago County Press as the official newspapers for the District.
- To designate the Associated Bank and Stearns Bank, both located in North Branch, as the Districts official depositories.
- To pre-approve payment of the following items: salaries, insurance, gas and maintenance on District owned equipment.
- To approve the 2010 Chisago SWCD District Board Operating Rules as presented (see attached*).
- To authorize the District Administrator the authority to sign all Board approved contracts on behalf of the Chisago SWCD.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed recently received correspondence.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Mold to approve paying registration and expenses for Supervisors and/or Staff to attend the 2010 MASWCD Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol on February 17-18, 2010, in St. Paul, MN. Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cleveland to accept and submit the bid of \$5,000.00 from Wetland Creations, Inc. for design and construction inspection of the Gloria Borck lined waterway and outlet project to the Metro Conservation District (MCD) for Non-Point Engineering assisting (see attached*). Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

NRCS & SWCD Staff gave a Power Point presentation on the Districts 2009 activities.

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Wilson to add discussion to our regular April Board Meeting on possible resolutions to bring forward to the MASWCD. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to approve the Rural Preserves Property Tax Program (RPPTP) Conservation Management Plan (CMP) Development, Review, & Approval Recommendations as presented to the Board as an interim guideline for the program until final details are worked out (see attached*). Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Cleveland and seconded by Mold to accept and sign the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) Acknowledgement of Section 1619 Compliance (see attached*), and to incorporate this document into the 2010 SWCD Board Operating Rules. Motion carried.

Motion by Mold and seconded by Wilson to recommend that NRCS list the following areas as priority areas for the 2010 EQIP sign up: the Sunrise River Watershed, the St. Croix Escarpment, and the Rush Creek and Goose Creek Watersheds, with a focus on infiltration and reducing soil erosion. Motion carried.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Mold to accept the personnel committees recommendations as follows:

- To acknowledge the favorable annual review for all District employees.
- To postpone any action on awarding employee step increases or cost of living adjustments at this time due to the current difficult economic times prevailing across Chisago County.
- To set the 2010 employee benefit package at \$607.55 per employee. An employee may use their benefit package for insurance premiums or invested into the state deferred compensation program or request a pro rated amount (92.8%) as cash.

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brief committee reports were given.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. at the North Branch Ag Service Building.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cleveland to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Secretary

Date

*Attachments available at SWCD office.