



McLeod Soil & Water Conservation District

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McLeod SWCD Board Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2018

(Rescheduled from March 5, 2018 due to snow storm)

McLeod County, North Complex, Small Meeting Room, 10:00 A.M.

Meeting called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Jeremy Bolland.

Members present: Jeremy Bolland, John Adamek, Charles Mathews, Roger Schultz, and Mark Schnobrich

Others present: SWCD Program Director, Ryan Freitag
SWCD District Technician, Coleton Draeger
SWCD District Technician, Mark Yrjo
Pheasants Forever, Kayla Blocker
SWCD Secretary, Sandra Posusta

1. MINUTES

Mark Schnobrich made a motion to approve of the February 5, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. John Adamek seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. FINANCIALS

Ryan Freitag shared copies of the monthly financial report with the Board. The Board reviewed. Mark Schnobrich asked about property insurance. Ryan Freitag said it includes all equipment, building, etc.

A short discussion ensued regarding the embezzlement case at Cottonwood County.

Charles Mathews made a motion to approve the financial report as delivered. Mark Schnobrich seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. BILLS

The Board reviewed the bills which are listed on the last page of each account number in the financial statements packet.

Marc Schobrich questioned the electric bill. It is the shed.

Mark Schnobrich motioned to pay the bills. John Adamek seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. One Water One Plan (1W1P)

Ryan Freitag shared that the 90-day draft approval shall be done prior to April, 2018. There are 3 plans for McLeod County, the Northfork, South Fork and lower Minnesota. Northfork is the most current.

Marc Schnobrich made a motion to approve to release the 90-day Draft to BWSR. Charles Mathews seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There will be one public information meeting held in June at the Litchfield Courthouse. Each LGU needs to designate one Board member to represent McLeod SWCD at the meeting.

Marc Schnobrich accepted to be the representative and motioned to approve of this. John Adamek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. LEGISLATIVE DAY:

Ryan Freitag communicated the meeting taking place this week at Embassy Suites in St. Paul.

Marc Schnobrich said it's a do nothing year as it is a bonding year. AMC is now in a neutral position.

Ryan Freitag noted, as employees, we need a bigger presence at BWSR and AMC. Help out with workings of MACPZA. As Districts, we still receive our money and need to report it. We should get more active and be a bigger voice.

John Adamek noted that Governor Dayton unveiled a revised measure to reduce elevated nitrate levels and runoff in water supplies and ground water that includes restrictions on the application of farm fertilizers in the fall in order to protect water. The group discussed the option of providing water tests, such as one day per week a certain day of each month. Another option is to research purchasing our own testing machine versus renting. It could possibly be paid for out of Capacity Funds.

6. MASWCD DUES UPDATE:

The fee this year is \$3,765.00. This is a slight increase from last year.

John Adamek made a motion to pay the dues. Roger Schultz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. SOUTH CENTRAL TSA GRANT MATCH:

Jeremy Bolland said this topic discussed at the Chairman's meeting. Staffing issues are a continued concern. There are two new hires. There is a TSA meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 10:00 AM in Mankato. They ask for the amount in order to unlock money from BWSR.

John Adamek said Mark Yrjo and Coleton Draeger will attend the meeting with him. One question Adamek would like to ask is how their project workload is prioritized.

Mark Yrjo commented on the need to discuss problems, and, if we pay our dues, what can we expect in return. In Mankato, the program is efficient, but outside the Mankato area, it is not. Coleton Draeger said there are no results when asked for.

Due to the need for more information, Mark Schnobrich motioned to table the payment decision until our April 2, 2018 meeting as well will find out more information at the March 22 meeting. John Adamek seconded this motion. Motion carried.

8. WRIGHT COUNTY SWCD:

Ryan Freitag asked for approval to pay for the Area Meeting expenses for Jeremy Bolland.

Charles Mathews made a motion to pay for expenses incurred by Jeremy Bolland. Roger Schultz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. STATE COST-SHARE:

McLeod West Farms, LLC (Buckentin) and Joel Griebie of Griebie Farms LLC had a total of six (6) basins at a combined cost of \$47,395.70. \$5,900.00 out of pocket each. Ran through Fed's in which \$26,000 was paid on each. Brief discussion continued about the 2017 Capacity Funds set up for cost share.

Roger Schultz motioned to pay the cost share for McLeod West Farms, LLC and Griebie Farms LLC. Mark Schnobrich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously amongst the Board.

10: CONSERVATION REPORT:**Kayla Blocker:**

- a) One new CREP application with Coleton Draeger assisting to learn the process.
- b) 2 CRPs (Wendlandt / J Cohrs).
- c) Assisting Katundra Shears with Carver County CREP.

Mark Yrjo:

- a) Working on Wendlant RIM engineer restoration plan.
- b) Met with Township on road bank design project (Scott Exsted). Township hoping to maximize through State funds to avoid paying on their own.
- c) Steve Hoff would like a culvert removed on his property.
- d) 15-20 projects in the hopper.
- e) BWSR Clean Water Grant – map out.

Coleton Draeger:

- a) Working on tree orders.
- b) Finalizing Nature Field Day. Going well.
- c) Diane Sanders – CROW 319 grant application for BCWS. \$400,000 @ 40% match. Hopeful. 22 applications submitted.
- d) Summer grant preparation.
- e) Seminars in March and April. (Strip Till / Cover Crops) Coleton and Mark.

Ryan Freitag:

- a) County Board meeting on March 6, 2018 and Pheasants Forever, March 7, 2018.
- b) Buffer Law APO Penalty Order.
- c) Feedlot Committee meeting and Hutchinson Township yearly meeting.
- d) USDA FSA Loan Team.
- e) Annual Joint Ditch meeting, March 29 at North Complex.

11. UPDATES

- Woody's Graphics closed in Hutchinson.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the McLeod Soil & Water Conservation District will be held on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the McLeod County North Complex, Small Meeting Room, located at 2391 Hennepin Avenue North, Glencoe, MN 55336.

12. ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, John Adamek made a motion to adjourn until Monday, March 5, 2018. This motion was seconded by Mark Schnobrich. The motion carried unanimously.