

**PINE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
March 23, 2010**

The Pine County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2010. Supervisors present were Skip Thomson, Kelly Osterdyk, Doug Odegard and JJ Waldhalm. Office staff present were: Jill Carlier, District Manager; Tim Olson, Office Assistant; Robin Poppe, Resource Conservationist/Wetland Specialist; Sam Martin, Water Management/GIS Specialist; Mike Yrjo, Soil Conservation Technician; and Clayton Schmitz, NRCS District Conservationist.

CALL TO ORDER: Osterdyk called the board meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

David Koland stated personal items should not be discussed during the regular meeting. They should be dealt with in closed session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Waldhalm to approve the March agenda with additions.

Motion carried

STAFF/SUPERVISOR REPORTS:

Wetlands:

Poppe stated a there was a TEP meeting on Tuesday March 23rd. A field TEP is scheduled for March 27th to check two road delineations.

Water Management:

Martin stated he received a design from TSA III for Robinson Park in Sandstone. The design was submitted to the City of Sandstone to review.

Martin stated he will start stream sampling for the Snake River TMDL in April.

Martin stated he would like to attend Protecting the St. Croix Conference in River Falls Wisconsin on April 8th. The cost is \$50.00.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve Martin attending Protecting the St. Croix Conference in River Falls Wisconsin on April 8th, at the cost of \$50.00.

Motion carried

Forestry:

No meeting this month.

TSA III:

Thomson stated a meeting will be held on March 24th.

RC&D Onanaegozie:

Nothing at this time.

Snake River Citizen Advisory Committee:

Odegard stated a meeting was held on March 22nd.

Legislative:

Nothing at this time.

Personnel:

No meeting this month.

Policy:

No meeting this month.

Trees:

Olson stated as of today there are 220 tree orders. Last year at this time there were 201 orders. There are 5 varieties out of stock.

Envirothon:

Carlier stated there are 13 teams registered for the event on May 3rd. A site visit meeting will be at Camp Miller on April 1st.

Newsletter:

Nothing at this time.

Martin and Poppe left the meeting.

FEBRUARY MINUTES:

Motion by Odegard, seconded by Thomson to approve the February minutes as amended.

Motion carried

MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Carlier stated there will be a large funds transfer. The district is returning funds for a feedlot grant. (the landowner decided not to do the project.) Also, the final Soil Survey payment is included this month.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve the March payments of bills, including a \$100,600 funds transfer.

Motion carried

GREEN ACRES/RURAL PRESERVES – PLAN WRITERS

Carlier stated in the board packs is a list of BWSR/MSWCD Forest Stewardship Plan Writers who are able to write Conservation Management Plans. Poppe spoke with BWSR and was told to hold off writing any plans until further legislation at the Capitol is made, as things could change.

Thomson asked the board if a fee needs to be charged to have plan writers on the list. Osterdyk stated he would like to see the district staff write the plans as a first choice.

Carlier stated that is the goal, however, one stipulation from BWSR is that the district provides a list of plan writers. Odegard stated he would like to see plan writers submit resumes and cost schedules.

Motion by Odegard, seconded by Thomson to approve the Rural Preserves committee having a meeting to discuss a list of qualified plan writers as well as staff.

Motion carried.

AREA III ANNUAL MEETING:

Carlier stated she reserved a room at Tobies for the Area III Annual Meeting on September 23rd.

The Audubon Center will give a tour of their site in the afternoon. Carlier stated she spoke with Kurt Beckstrom, Area III Director about having a one day meeting instead of a two day meeting.

Beckstrom thought this was a great idea, and a good way to save money. Other districts agree with the one day meeting. Carlier stated we are looking into bus prices.

FEE SCHEDULE:

Carlier stated an existing schedule was sent in the board packs. Board consensus is to keep the fee schedule the same this year and review the schedule again next year.

PINE COUNTY PLATBOOK:

Carlier stated she received bids from three companies. A summary of those bids was provided to the board. Carlier stated there are 500 platbooks left in our inventory.

Waldhalm stated we need to sell our remaining inventory before purchasing new platbooks.

Thomson suggested selling the platbooks at \$10.00, and giving free books to the businesses reselling the books to make up the difference to them.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Waldhalm to sell the remaining inventory of platbooks at \$10.00, and match businesses that already have existing platbooks with free platbooks.

Motion carried

2010 ANNUAL PLAN:

Carlier stated the 2010 Annual Plan was approved last fall. However, she received a call from BWSR stating there is a statutory requirement to show how we prioritize our cost share projects and mentioning what type of projects we may have. The plan was amended to meet the requirement.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve the amended 2010 Annual Plan.

Motion carried

STATE COST SHARE:

Carlier stated there is a cost share form to be signed to return funds to BWSR on a feedlot grant of 27,500 that was received in 2008. The land owner decided not to do the cost-share project.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve signing the form and sending the funds back to BWSR, in the amount of \$27,500.

Motion carried

2009 YEAR END FINANCIALS:

Carlier stated the financials were sent out in the board packs. The district ended up with a loss of \$29,910. The district had a drastic reduction in expenses, but the incoming revenue was much lower than expected, which caused the overall loss.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve the 2009 Year End Financials.

Motion carried

CONSERVATION ST. CROIX – LCCMR PROPOSAL:

Carlier stated Chisago and Washington districts are putting together a proposal to submit to LCCMR as part of the Conservation St. Croix Group. This part of the grant deals mainly with Chisago, Washington, Pine and Carlton counties. There is no match required for these grants.

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to approve potential involvement with the Conservation St Croix – LCCMR Proposal.

Motion carried

REVIEW MEMOS OF UNDERSTANDING:

Carlier stated that we have memos of understanding with NRCS and the USDA Forestry. We have had no problems/issues/concerns with any of these in the past year.

Motion by Odegard, seconded by Thomson to approve all existing Memos of Understanding.

Motion carried

DON SLAMA:

Slama stated the public hearing for the water plan was March 16th. Slama stated he didn't have a problem with the water plan as written, but thought it fell short. Slama wanted to add information on how to access the MPCA web site. Carlier stated she agreed with Slama that the information should be in the water plan. Carlier stated there is information in the water plan to access the web site, but that she will add his information to it as well.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT:

Clayton Schmitz introduced himself and stated he is the new District Conservationist for Pine County. He gave a brief history of his background with NRCS. Schmitz stated there have been 16 EQIP applications, and 4 WHIP applications this year.

MISC ITEMS:

Nothing at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME:

Motion by Thomson, seconded by Odegard to hold the next meeting on Tuesday April 20th
At 4:30 p.m.

Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. by Thomson, seconded by Odegard

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Skip Thomson, Secretary