

MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 3, 2016 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the Itasca County Soil & Water Conservation District was held in the ICSWCD Conference Room, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, November 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Isaacs at 9: 00 a.m.

Members Present: Chair- Chuck Isaacs
Secretary- Darrell Lauber
Vice Chair- Ted Lovdahl
Reporter- Calvin Saari

Absent: Donald Simons- Treasurer

Others Present: District Manager – Andy Arens
Office Administrator- Kathleen Cone
Resource Technician- Matthew Johnson
NRCS Soil Tech- Kyle Asplund
Water Resource Specialist- Kim Yankowiak

The Pledge of Allegiance took place.

Agenda: Motion by Lovdahl, second by Saari to approve the agenda. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve minutes from the October 4, 2016 regular Board meeting. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion by Lauber, second by Lovdahl to approve bills paid. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

WETLANDS

Great Northern Transmission Line: There was discussion on the route and exemptions of the Great Northern Transmission Line. The Itasca SWCD Board would like oversight on the exemption application. Johnson will keep the Board informed.

Corrow WRP: There was discussion on a wetland replacement plan for Corrow located on a lot on Pokegama Lake. A number of options were reviewed. A motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve a wetland replacement plan for 840 sq. ft. with the conditions that the wetland crossing be designed with continuous cross flow as reviewed and approved by SWCD staff, based on exhibit A. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Sinkola Wetland Bank: The Sinkola Wetland Bank site of 40 acres submitted the scoping document. The TEP review approved it and the next step is a stage II document with full application. It will then come before the SWCD Board.

Cohasset Industrial Park Phase II: There is an application for a 383-acre park expansion in the Cohasset Industrial Park with .9053 acres of wetland impact and replacement through the wetland Bank. A motion by Lauber, second by Lovdahl to approve the Cohasset Industrial Park wetland replacement plan. Affirmative, All. Motion Carried.

COST SHARE/SPECIAL PROJECTS

Olson Close-out: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve the Olson Cost-Share Close-out payment of \$5545. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

WATER PLAN

Zonation Survey: There will be three Upper Mississippi Grand Rapids meetings coming up. The meetings will be set up for citizens and then the policy maker/elected officials meetings in late November. Notices will be sent out.

FORESTRY/SHORELAND

Approval to Move Forward with RIM Wild Rice Easement & Doug Louis: The RIM Wild Rice project in Squaw Lake was reviewed. It had a ranking of 73 out of 100 by the SWCD Staff. A Forest Stewardship Plan will be completed on this estimated project of 115 acres with a payment of \$128,585. A motion by Lauber, second by Lovdahl to approve the RIM Wild Rice Easement application for Doug Louis. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Buffer Law Update: The Dayton Buffer Law is requiring an update by January 1, 2017 and a draft of the Buff Cat tool by the end of November.

AIS

AIS Update: A draft AIS report was submitted and approved at the October 2016 SWCD Board Meeting. At the November 2016 meeting a motion was made by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve the AIS 2016 report. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Duties Assumption Update: Kim Yankowiak will be the interim WCA representative for the office until the vacant position is filled. A local ad and one for Stevens Point will be placed along with some free advertising by November 25th.

Break 10:12 a.m. to 10:19 a.m.

IWLP Assumption: A cooperative agreement between Itasca SWCD and Itasca County was reviewed with a six-month contract from January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017 for the AIS Program. The Itasca SWCD will be replacing the Itasca Water Legacy Partnership's agreement with the County. A motion by Saari, second by Lovdahl to approve the IWLP Assumption Cooperative Agreement with the County. Yea: Isaacs, Saari, Lovdahl. Abstain: Lauber. Motion Carried.

EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION

MASWCD State Convention Dec 4-6: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve Supervisor's Saari, Isaacs, Simons, Lovdahl, Staff, Cone, and Arens to attend the state convention. Affirmative, All. Motion Carried.

Johnson Resignation: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to approve the acceptance of Johnson's resignation. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Johnson Annual Leave Nov 4,7,8,9,10: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Saari to approve Johnson requested leave. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Monthly Board Meeting Date: The 2017 Board Meeting dates were reviewed and discussed taking into consideration the meetings will be late enough in the month to get the financial information for reports. The December Board meeting will be held on December 9, at 9:00 a.m.

Explorer Sale/New Vehicle Update: The 2003 Ford Explorer will go up for sale at the next county auction excepting the best price. The District will be looking for a new vehicle with looking at options and prices at the December meeting.

NRCS Rent & More Update: The NRCS is running office space ad's again and the District will run office space ad along with them. The NRCS rent starting for November 2016 will be adjusted to \$964 a month.

MACDE Membership & Raffle Update: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Saari to approve the MACDE dues payment for staff at \$20 each for 2017. Affirmative, All. Motion carried. The MACDE raffle tickets are for sale for \$1 each and will be turned in at the State Convention in December.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS: EEO Civil Rights Presentation: Tabled

Asplund reported the EQIP deadline is approaching along with CSP payments. The NRCS Administrative Assistant position was cancelled due to contract issues. It will be another 60-90 days before a new contract will be in place.

Executive Session: A motion by Lovdahl, second by Lauber to enter Executive Session at 10:47 a.m. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

The next meeting date will be December 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

A motion by Saari, second by Lovdahl to adjourn from regular board session at 11:15 a.m. Affirmative, All. Motion carried.

Secretary