

LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT . . .



Helping Bring YOU Clean Water

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LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Regular Meeting, USDA Building, Ivanhoe, MN, July 20, 2016.

Meeting called to order by the Chairman, Daniel Christianson, at 7:02 a.m.

Members Present:

Daniel Christianson, Chair  
Joe Weber, Secretary  
John Boulton, PR&I  
Glen Sorensen, Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Conrad Schardin, Treasurer

District Staff Present:

Pauline VanOverbeke, District Manager  
Jeff Berens, District Tech #1  
Dale Sterzinger, Cons Tech/WCA Admin

Others Present:

Don Evers, County Commissioner, left at 9:48 a.m.  
Dennis Johnson, DC, NRCS, at 9:04 a.m.  
Dick Holmberg, Auditor at 7:46 – 8:10 a.m.

AGENDA: An updated agenda was distributed. Motion by Boulton, seconded by Weber to approve the agenda as presented. Passed: 4-0.

MINUTES: The minutes from the June 15, 2016, meeting stand approved as mailed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Weber to approve the Treasurer's Report for May and June, 2016. Passed: 4-0.

BILLS: Motion by Boulton, seconded by Sorensen to approve the payment of the bills for July of \$48,643.32 (attachment). Passed: 4-0.

WATER PLAN BILLS: Motion by Weber, seconded by Boulton to pay the water plan bills in the amount of \$325 (in with bills). Passed: 4-0.

ACTUAL AND BUDGETED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT: Actual and budgeted income and expenditure statement for May and June, 2016 (June Minutes).

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: VanOverbeke and Schardin will serve on the Convention Committee.

EMPLOYEE POLICY: The Employee Policy concerning compensatory-time over 40 hours was discussed. Motion by Weber, seconded by Boulton to amend the compensatory-time as follows: Over 40 hours per month or carried over in a month unless it is at the managers discretion for special circumstances occur. Passed: 4-0. Pre-holidays was discussed. Motion by Weber, seconded by Boulton to follow the Federal Policy on pre-holiday time off (hours given to staff the day before holidays). Passed: 4-0. Health Insurance wait period, there is not wait period anymore.

BUFFER/LOCAL CAPACITY MEETING: It was decided to have a local Buffer Law/Local Capacity meeting and to invite BWSR Board Conservationist, two county commissioners, environmental office, two SWCD supervisors, the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District, LqP River Watershed District, RCRCA/Area II, a representative from the Missouri watershed and the district staff to discuss the Buffer Law roles and responsibilities and Local Capacity funding ideas. Staff will send pick a date and send out notice.

*The mission of the Lincoln SWCD is to protect and improve the quality of our water, soil, and natural resources by providing programs and services to the citizens and owners of Lincoln County to implement conservation practices.*

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Holmberg present at this time.

2015 AUDIT: Dick Holmberg, Auditor, reviewed the 2015 audit with the Board and the changes with the GASB68. Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Weber to approve the 2015 audit as presented. Passed: 4-0.

FY16 LOCAL CAPACITY PROGRAM AMENDMENT: Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Boulton to approve and have the chairman sign the FY16 Local Capacity Program Amendment increase of \$25,337. The board will approve the work plan items at the August board meeting after discussion of the group listed above.

COUNTY BUDGET REQUEST: County budget was discussed. The district will be requesting the additional \$18,000 in county funds. The district will look at funding pictometry will district funding possibly some funding this year and next year and discussion for future years.

MASWCD AWARDS PROGRAM: Motion by Boulton, seconded by Sorensen to select Jack Weber as the Outstanding Conservationist for 2016. Passed: 4.0.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROUND TABLE BUFFER MEETINGS: The Local Government Round Table Buffer meetings set for August 29<sup>th</sup> in Marshall from 1-4 p.m. was discussed. If interested call VanOverbeke.

FY17-STATE COST-SHARE PROGRAM: The FY17 State C-S Program was discussed. Ideas for the funds included using the C-S for structural practices and to follow the regular c-s policy along with utilizing the c-s for trees, well sealing etc. More discussion at the August meeting.

#### REPORTS:

COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Don Evers, County Commissioner, reported on the following:

- Have had more hearings on drainage ditches, clean-out, reevaluate, etc.
- Working up the budget for 2017; looking @ different budgets; no union contracts this year; Air conditioner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the courthouse this year.
- County overlay projects mostly done; County Road 9 left to do.
- Lake Meetings; Lake Benton lake meeting was held; upcoming; Shaokatan to form a Lake Association Taxing Authority.
- Two wind projects coming into Lincoln County; will help with the tax base. Currently get \$500,000.
- New people running for County Commissioners seats.

Johnson present at this time.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: Pauline VanOverbeke, District Manager/WP Coordinator, reported on the following:

- Employees want to work together and not hire Sand Creek to come in.
- YM1W1P; will meet with Kerry/Area II on July 21 to make changes to the plan; July 25, planning committee meets to review comments received from the agencies; July 27, Policy Committee meets to review comments/responses from the planning committee.
- The YM1W1P partners will be submitting a grant proposal for BMPs for the Upper Branch Yellow Medicine River and JD24YM&L; and also for a well sealing grant of \$20,000.
- Will need to work on the Water Plan Amendment
- Fair Booth and Farm Fest will cover the Buffer Law.
- Upcoming meetings: Will sign up for the MCIT "Managing the Human Resource Oct 12-13, St. Cloud; Employee Policy Handbook meeting-August 19.
- Ed Lenz took over Jeff Nielsen's position.

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CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN/WCA ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Dale Sterzinger, Conservation Technician/WCA Administrator, reported on the following:

- Tree Program: Acct Rec-\$27,180; working up estimates for farmstead shelterbelts; working on EQIP c-s in which the plans must be complete before signing up projects.
- WCA; working on an exemption in Section 14, Shaokatan Twp; needs continuing education classes; will have to go to the cities/metro area.
- YM1W1P; made comments on the Implementation Plan.

Evers left the meeting at this time.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN #1'S REPORT: Jeff Berens, District Technician #1, reported on the following:

- Buffers: DNR maps are out; will start to track compliance as soon as the tool is out.
- Suggestion to purchase a GPS unit or an IPAD for mapping.
- MAWQCP; have a couple of farms close to getting certified.
- Upcoming Training; Waterway training and Pland ID Course.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT: Dennis Johnson, District Conservationist, reported on the following:

- CSP; 55 applications with approximately 50% funded; ranking has changed; renewals going on now as well, payment is typically less.
- EQIP; deadline is August 19<sup>th</sup>; trees, grazing systems, WSCBs, etc.

NRCS OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT: Motion by Boulton, seconded by Sorensen to approve and sign the NRCS Operational Agreement. Passed: 4-0.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for August 17, 2016 at 7:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

SIGNATURE