

**Becker Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting
October 15, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Ag Center Building, 809 8th St. S.E., Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Those present were supervisors Roger Tychsen, Duane Grossman, Don Lefebvre, Dale Lubitz, Jerome Flottesmesch, Dist. Secretary Ginger Flynn, Dist. Technician Dean Hendrickson, and Dist. Administrator Brad Grant. Guests present were Carolyn Engebretson, and Gerald Schram. (Co. Commissioner Barry Nelson called and stated he would not be attending due to another meeting).

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lefebvre.

Chairman Lefebvre presented a thank you card that he received from East Central BWSR Board Conservationist Jason Weinerman, who had attended our September meeting.

The September 17th meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Motion by Tychsen, second by Grossman to approve the September 17th minutes as sent out and received by the supervisors. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottesmesch, Tychsen. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The financial reports and bills payable were presented.

Motion by Flottesmesch, second by Tychsen to approve the payment of bills and financial statements as presented. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Tychsen, Flottesmesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Reports:

WesMin RC&D – Chairman Lefebvre reported the following from the Oct. 8th WesMin RC&D meeting:

- Transferred Smokey Timbers to the Foundation.
- Still seeking 503C Non-Profit status for the camp.
- Seeking a Weidaman Grant for expanding the Smokey Timbers Camp.
- Worked on 14 projects this year.
- Director Dean Schmidt reviewed the new RC&D Council Handbook.

8:20 – Supervisor Tychsen left at this time due to illness.

The supervisors noted a letter for the Red River Watershed Management Board along with a contribution to the District for our assistance with the CREP II and WRP/RIM programs.

District Conservationist Information – Dist. Conservationist Ed Musielewicz was unable to attend. Brad noted the following items on his behalf:

- Another EQIP sign-up may be held in late December.
- Would like the Supervisors to set a date for the EQIP Workgroup Meeting. The supervisor indicated the week of Nov. 17th - 21st would work.

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- A contribution agreement opportunity presented itself shortly after last month's meeting. It was for conducting status reviews for the CRP program. Brad signed the agreement on behalf of the District.

Motion by Flottesch, second by Lubitz to approve the action of the Administrator in signing the contribution agreement with NRCS for the status reviews. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Technicians Report – Dist. Technician Dean Hendrickson reported on the following:

- Staked Terry Kohler sediment basins for construction. If weather holds this site will be completed this fall. Also would like to complete the Hanson and Jorgenson sediment basins this year.
- Assisted Ed Clem with several Wetland Conservation Act issues.
- Completed information for the BWSR Award Nomination for Becker County for the Lake Park/Audubon Elementary School Education Site.

Plat Book Update – The first 100 plat books have arrived. Brad presented the County Commissioners with a copy of the new book. The new books are available at the Auditor's Office, Recorder's Office, Lakes Sport Shop, and the D.L. Chamber.

Computer Service – We are now hooked up to the Becker County system with our computers. The new color printer is in. The transition went smooth.

Lake Monitoring Grant Request for Proposals – The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is now accepting applications for the next round of Surface Water Assessment Monitoring Grants. They have designated some watersheds as high priority for obtaining data. There are four water bodies in the Crow Wing River Watershed and 13 in the Buffalo Red Watershed identified. RMB Laboratories have indicated they are willing to work with us on a new application for these waters if we so desire. This is a two year grant.

Motion by Flottesch, second by Lubitz to apply for a Surface Water Assessment Monitoring Grant from MPCA in cooperation with RMB Laboratories for the priority water bodies indicated by MPCA. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

State Conference Resolutions – The supervisors submitted their resolution ballots and signed the master ballot for the state conference.

Wetland Conservation Act – Brad updated the supervisors on some old violations that are being addressed, along with a reported new one on Elbow Lake. Dean and Ed will be viewing a site for wetlands on some property the Crisis Center is looking at from the City.

Ag Inspectors Program – Marsha will be attending and presenting a program report on our invasive species program at the 1st Annual Minnesota Invasive Species Conference in Duluth, October 26-29th.

Cost-share Program – Brad reported that BWSR is requesting proposals for the next round of Native Buffer Cost-Share Grants. Brad noted we have a couple sites in mind for the program.

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Motion by Flottemesch, second by Lubitz to submit an application for the Native Buffer Cost-Share Grant. Affirmative: Lubitz, Flottemesch, Grossman. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The following cost-share contract for sediment control basins was presented for consideration: Contract #09-7 with Matt Bjerke. Estimated cost \$8,536.00.

Motion by Grossman, second by Lubitz to approve contract #09-7 for 75% of the cost not to exceed \$1,185.00 of state cost-share funds and \$948.50 from Buffalo-Red Watershed District funds. Affirmative: Lubitz, Flottemesch, Grossman. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Contract #09-8 with Larry Hanson to seal two abandoned wells.

Motion by Lubitz, second by Flottemesch to approve contract #09-8 for 50% of the cost, not to exceed \$240.00. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottemesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Contract AW#457 with Paul Hogenson was presented for payment authorization for an abandoned well sealing. Total cost of sealing \$275.00. Eligible payment from water plan funds \$137.50.

Motion by Flottemesch, second by Grossman to authorize payment of contract AW#457 in the amount of \$137.50. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottemesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

9:30 a.m.

Chairman Lefebvre closed the regular meeting and opened a public hearing on the Steve Stenerson Wetland Replacement Plan.

Brad presented information on the plan which calls for re-locating a township road that would move it back further from Bad Medicine Lake and remove a curve in the roadway. Total wetland impact is 3,020 sq. feet. and would be replaced through the purchase of wetland credits.

Chairman Lefebvre asked for comments in favor of the project. Brad noted the township has sent a letter in support of the project as long as the road is built to specs and the old road in removed to original topography.

Chairman Lefebvre asked for comments against the project. None were presented.

Chairman Lefebvre closed the hearing and re-opened the SWCD meeting.

Motion by Grossman, second by Flottemesch to approve the Wetland Replacement Plan for Steve Stenerson as presented. Affirmative: Lubitz, Grossman, Flottemesch. Opposed: None.

2008-09 Tree Order – The 2008-09 tree order prices were presented for review and consideration. Brad noted the cost of trees has increased slightly over last year and is reflected in the pricing.

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Motion by Flottesch, second by Grossman to approve the 2008-09 tree prices as presented.

Affirmative: Lubitz, Flottesch, Grossman. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Other:

- Area II meeting November 12th, in Breckenridge, leave office at 7:30.
- Registration for the State Conference is due Nov. 6th. Let Ginger know if you plan to attend.
- Brad noted that we have had \$127,573 in Ag BMP Loans approved this year.
- A joint JPB meeting of JPB's 1 & 4 will be held in November. This will start the combining process of the NPEA program.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lefebvre.

District Secretary

District Administrator