

**Becker Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 18th, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Ag Center Building, 809 8th St. S.E. in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Those present were supervisors Duane Grossman, Jerome Flottesmesch, Tony Beck, Don Lefebvre, Dist. Conservationist Ed Musielewicz, Dist. Secretary Ginger Flynn, and Dist. Administrator Brad Grant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Grossman.

Motion (Lefebvre, Flottesmesch) to approve the minutes of the April 20th Meeting as sent out and received by the supervisors. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The April financial statements and bills were presented. Brad noted the bill for the repair of the John Deere no-till drill. The decision of the committee was to repair it as its re-sale value would increase over what it cost to repair. Two landowners have rented it since we got it back. The decision to keep it or sell it can be made later.

Motion (Beck, Flottesmesch) to approve the financial statements and payment of bills as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Reports:

Dist. Conservationist Ed Musielewicz updated the supervisors on the following:

- Ed noted that the need to update the District cell phone program as approved last month, to provide VRS survey capabilities is on hold, as we are using the equipment from the Mahnomen office and will house it here. May change in the future.
- Working on CSP contracts. Funds must be obligated by May 27th.
- With the non-funding of the RC&D program, the NRCS staff assigned to RC&D is helping out in other program areas across the state.
- Met with Lake Park Twp. Supervisors on using a township road as an embankment for a wetland restoration.
- Met with Tera Guetter on Rice Lake. Will be doing some field verification.
- NRCS trainee will begin work here on June 20th.
- NRCS has funds to contract with SWCD's to do the wetland determinations for the farm bill. Clay and West Ottertail were offered. West Ottertail has declined. Ed asked if the Becker SWCD is interested. Brad and Ed M. will discuss with the NRCS Area Office and bring more information to the June 15th meeting.

Dist. Technicians Report – Dean and Ed are staking a tree site this morning. Brad noted that Ed is assisting with the 4th Grade Water Festival. Have been busy with tree plantings and checking the hand planted cost-share tree contracts. Dean staked the Matter/Bergren job for construction.

Tree Program – Brad noted that the last tree planting job will be completed today. Overall the tree season went well. Still have about 1,000 trees to sell.

Area I (south) Envirothon was held on May 9 at the Prairie Wetlands Center in Fergus Falls. 18 teams from 5 area schools took part. DGF place 1st and 2nd with Underwood taking 3rd. The Junior Envirothon will be held Oct. 5th, in Fergus Falls.

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Buffalo-Red River Watershed District – will be holding a Phase II TMDL kickoff meeting this afternoon.

Wetland Conservation Act – Inquires on wetland permits have been increasing as spring and summer arrive. Reviewed the following items:

- Savannah township landowner requesting assistance to cross a wetland to access upland. A replacement plan will be needed.
- A wetland replacement plan for the City of Detroit Lakes will be presented at the June meeting for a public hearing. It is for the hiking trail along Tower Road.
- Reviewed the violation site at Swanies Resort with Conservation Officer Traci Hanson and BWSR Wetland Specialist Steve Hofstad. A report was prepared and forwarded to the Becker County Attorney's Office.

Ag Inspector Program –

- Marsha is completing the gravel pit certification inspections.
- We are looking into another PTI Grant from the Fish and Wildlife Foundation.
- The Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Committee (MISAC) is planning an annual invasive species tour and is looking at NW Minnesota with Detroit Lakes as the starting point. Marsha has been asked to assist in the planning.
- Received some donated chemicals from DowAgriscience for our weed control program.

Cost-share Program – Brad noted that the allotted cost-share funds for abandoned well sealing program have been encumbered. Do the supervisors want to set aside additional funds for abandoned well sealing? Also, discussed the BWSR Technical Assistance Option for FY'11 State Cost Share Base Grant. This option allows for cost-share funds to be moved to technical assistance with District Board action and Board Conservationist approval.

Motion (Flottesch, Beck) to designate \$2,438.00 in state cost-share for abandoned well sealing, and \$7,000 for conservation practices. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Motion (Flottesch, Beck) to request from BWSR authorization to use an additional \$5,000.00 in base grant funds for technical assistance. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The following cost share contracts were presented for consideration:

Cont. #11-13 with Charles Wendt, abandoned well sealing.

Motion (Beck, Lefebvre) to approve Contract #11-13 for 50% of the cost not to exceed \$240.00. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The following cost share contracts were presented for payment authorization:

Cont. #NB-09-01 with Adam Teiken. Total cost \$9,799.00. Eligible cost-share \$5,921.00.
Cont. #11-6 with Neil Meyer well sealing. Total cost \$350.00. Eligible cost-share \$175.00.
Cont. #10-23 with Ron Dow windbreak. Total cost \$1,715.75. Eligible cost-share \$1,286.00.

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Cont. #10-20 with Janalee Wyckoff windbreak. Total cost \$1,673.50. Eligible cost-share \$1,189.00.
Cont. #10-18 with Shirley Rader windbreak. Total cost \$296.25. Eligible cost-share \$222.00.
Cont. #10-17 with Don Grieser windbreak. Total cost \$2,135.50. Eligible cost-share \$1,601.00.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Beck) to authorize payment of the above listed cost-share contracts for the amounts presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The following cost-share contracts were presented for payment authorization upon completion of technician practice certification:

Cont. #10-26 with Brad Bachmann windbreak. Total cost \$1,045.25. Eligible cost-share \$783.00.
Cont. #10-21 with Jim Savig windbreak. Total cost \$3,016.50. Eligible cost-share \$2,262.00.
Cont. #10-22 with Jason Askelson windbreak. Total cost \$1,803.25. Eligible cost-share \$1,352.00.
Cont. #10-24 with Casey Schlauderaff windbreak. Total cost \$473.50. Eligible cost-share \$355.00.
Cont. #10-25 with Lowell Seaberg windbreak. Total cost \$531.75. Eligible cost-share \$315.00.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Lefebvre) to authorize payment of the above listed cost-share contracts for the amounts presented upon technical certification being completed. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

MASWCD Resolution Process – the supervisor had no resolutions at this time.

CWMA 2008 – The final closeout report for the FY2008 State Cost-Share Grant for Cooperative Weed Management Areas was presented for Board approval and signature. It will then be sent to BWSR.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Lefebvre) to approve the FY2008 CWMA final report and forward to BWSR. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Upcoming – Crow Wing River Watershed committee meeting – May 25th
Area I MASWCD Meeting – June 23th in Ada
RRVCSA Joint Powers Board Mtg. – June 23th Ada

Being no further business, motion (Flottesmesch, Lefebvre) to adjourn. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Approved: Jerome Flottesmesch

Date: 6/15/2011