

**Becker Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, August 17, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, at 8:00 a.m., in the Conference Room of the Ag Center Building, 809 8<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Those present were supervisors Jerome Flottesmesch, Tony Beck, Don Lefebvre, County Commissioner Barry Nelson, Dist. Secretary Ginger Flynn, Dist. Conservationist Ed Musielewicz, BWSR Board Conservationist Chad Severts, and Dist. Administrator Brad Grant.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Beck.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Lefebvre) to approve the minutes of the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting as sent out and received by the supervisors. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The July financial statements and bills were presented for consideration.

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

**Reports:**

**District Conservationist** – Ed Musielewicz reported on the following:

- Ed Clem and Nikki are completing the CRP plans from the last sign-up. Fifty-nine were approved, with plans having to be completed by September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Have 30 Continuous CRP sign-ups with 2/3rds being approved. Jeff Norby is working on those plans.
- Submitted a contribution agreement request for the Campbell Creek Projects, and the Villard and Andreson sediment basins jobs.

**Dist. Technicians** – Brad noted Ed Clem is currently preparing CRP plans and Dean is working on sediment basin stake out and construction inspection.

**Red River Valley Conservation Service Area (RRVCSA) JPB Meeting** – Jerome reported on the special meeting of the RRVCSA Joint Powers Board held on August 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mahanomen. Some actions of the meeting were:

- Host Districts will meet with JPB engineer and technician monthly to review project request and make sure the ones requiring engineering are not delayed.
- A copy of all engineering request for assistance will be provided to the host district. These will be forwarded by the engineer and the technician as they are received.
- BWSR will assist in reviewing and updating operating procedures for the RRVCSA staff.
- Board Conservationist Chad Severts noted that the RRVCSA will receive an additional \$20,000 this year for equipment.

**8:30 a.m. Chairman Grossman arrived. The chair was turned over to chairman Grossman.**

**Nitrate Testing** – Brad noted that only 11 well water samples were brought in for nitrate testing during our nitrate testing day at the Becker County Fair. If we continue to offer this program we may want to consider doing so every other year.

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**Wes-Min RC&D** – The Wes-Min RC&D minutes were discussed. Indications are in the minutes that they are looking to shut down Wes-Min since the federal staff assistance is no longer available.

**Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Board Conservationist Chad Severts** – updated the Board on BWSR activities. Still getting caught up since the state shutdown.

- Chad updated the budget action from the special session and different programs that were affected.
- Discussed the upcoming Clean Water Legacy grant period and the different categories that are available. Grant applications are due September 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Presented and reviewed a map showing where Clean Water Fund grants have been used to put projects on the land etc.
- Reviewed some of the changes to the grant process, administration, etc.

**2012 Budget** – Brad reviewed the final 2012 budget and information that was sent to the County Administrator and Auditor Treasurer.

**NRCS Wetland Agreement** – Brad presented the final agreement information for the SWCD doing the wetland determinations for NRCS. The information will be forwarded to NRCS in St. Paul and they will prepare the final agreement for signing. As the Board has approved this at an earlier meeting no action is needed for this portion. Brad requested authorization to sign the final agreement on behalf of the District when it arrives to avoid further delays in starting to process wetland determinations.

Motion (Flottemesch, Lefebvre) to authorize Dist. Administrator Brad Gant to sign the the wetland contribution agreement with NRCS when it is completed. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Lake Planning Contract** – A contract with RMB Laboratories to complete 20 Lake Protection Plans was presented for consideration. These plans are part of a Clean Water Legacy Grant in cooperation with Becker COLA.

Motion (Flottemesch, Beck) to approve the contract with RMB Laboratories to complete the Lake Plans. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

**Clean Water Legacy Grants** – Brad reported on possible Clean Water Legacy Grants that we may want to apply for. Some areas would be additional projects in the Hay Creek Watershed area for 2 additional sediment and erosion control projects, South Branch of the Wild Rice River for following up on the inventory that was done, and one feedlot project.

Motion (Beck, Flottemesch) to authorize application for Clean Water Legacy Funds during the application period now going on. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Wetland Conservation Act** – Brad reported on the following wetland activities:

- Two restoration orders have been served by DNR Conservation Officers with September 30<sup>th</sup> deadlines.
- Met with Silver Leaf Township on high water issue.

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- Met with John Fund, Tulaby Lake on stream bank issue.
- Had digital map prepared for the Becker County wetland bank site for the Auditor/Treasurers for appraisal purposes.
- Will be meeting with Planning and Zoning on concerns on Bad Medicine Lake.

**Ag Inspector Program –**

- Marsha and Brad attended the Minn, Assn. of County Ag Inspectors conference July 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>.
- The Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council and Minnesota Chapter of the Soil Water Conservation Society will be conducting an invasive species traveling workshop and tour in Becker County, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Marsha has been assisting in organizing the tour route and will be a presenter.
- Received notice from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation that our pre-proposal has been approved and we will now submit a full application for the grant. If approved, we will be able to continue our invasive species program.

**Cost-share Program** – the following cost-share contracts were presented for payment authorization.

Cont. #11-8 with John Willette, abandoned well sealing. Total cost of sealing \$250.00. Eligible cost-share \$125.00.

Motion (Flottesch, Lefebvre) to approve payment of contract #11-8 in the amount of \$125.00. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Cont. # 11-18 with Barry Nelson, water & sediment control basins was presented for consideration. Estimated cost \$20,253.00. Eligible cost-share after AWEP payment is \$6,252.00.

Motion (Lefebvre, Beck) to approve contract #11-18 for 75% cost-share not to exceed \$6,252.00, with \$3,126.00 from state cost-share funds and \$3,126.00 in Buffalo-Red River Watershed District funds. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Clean Water Legacy contract #CWL-11-7 with Elvin Anderson was presented for consideration. Project cost estimate \$4,628.00.

Motion (Lefebvre, Beck) to approve contract #CWL-11-7 with Elvin Anderson. Eligible CWL funds not to exceed \$3,471.00. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Other** – Budget meeting. Brad will let Duane and Tony know when the budget meeting with the county commissioners is scheduled.

Being no further business motion (Flottesch, Beck) to adjourn. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

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District Secretary

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District Administrator