

**Becker Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, October 19, 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 Duane Grossman, Jerome Flottesch, Tony Beck, Don Lefebvre, County Commissioner Barry Nelson, Dist. Conservationist Ed Musielewicz, Dist. Secretary Ginger Flynn and Dist. Administrator Brad Grant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Grossman.

Motion (Beck, Lefebvre) to approve the minutes of the September meeting as sent out and received by the supervisors. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The September financial statements and bills were presented.

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

Brad reviewed the final grant allocations we will be receiving from the State. Our cost-share, general service grant, and RIM is \$53,430. This is what we budgeted for. There was a change in our Natural Resources Block Grant concerning the county levy portion. The county required share increased by \$402. Therefore Brad lowered our request from Becker County by \$402 as it will be re-captured in the county water plan levy. Brad provided these changes to County Treasurer Ryan Tangen.

Motion (Flottesch, Beck) to approve the budget changes and sign the grant agreement. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

The NPEA grant agreement was presented for signature. This is the grant for the Red River Valley Conservation Service Area JPB that we serve as the host district and provide administration and financial services for.

Motion (Lefebvre, Beck) to authorize the chairman to sign the NPEA grant and host district agreement. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Reports:**

**Dist. Conservationist** Ed Musielewicz reported on the following:

- This is NRCS last week in Area II, Becker and Clay counties will now be administered out of Thief River Falls Area I office.
- Have closed on 3 easements in the Rice Lake Project area. Due to changes in the structure and elevations 6 additional easements will have to be obtained with landowners.
- Have received a few complaints on tiling activities in the county.
- Have received emails concerning CSP payments as to whether they would be made. We have not heard that they wouldn't.
- What may be the last sediment and erosion job for the season has been staked out and should be completed next week.
- Completing spot checks and have a few Hay Creek Projects to review for payments.

## **Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

Page | 2

**Dist. Technicians** Dean and Ed have been supervising construction of several sediment basin sites. Ed attended a two day wetland training as part of our contribution agreement to assist NRCS with wetland determinations.

**Red River Valley Conservation Service Area Joint Powers Board (RRVCSA)** – Jerome reported on the RRVCSA Executive Committee meeting held September 28<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed included.

- Could SWCD employees of member Districts vote when their appointed member is absent.
- Charges for services for JPB engineering.
- Board Conservationist Chad Severts reported to the committee on staff issues.
- JPB will be receiving an additional \$20,000 in FY2012 for equipment.

**Buffalo-Red River Watershed (BRRWD) District Tour** – Duane, Tony, Jerome and Brad reported on the BRRWD tour they attended on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>.

**9:00 a.m.** Chairman Grossman recessed the regular meeting and called to order a public hearing to receive comments on a wetland replacement plan application for Carl Hendrickson. Brad summarized the application, which is for the construction of a driveway that would impact 1,100 sq. ft. of wetland. The applicant is unable to get an easement from a neighbor and the proposed driveway is the most reasonable option. Replacement will be through the State Wetland Bank. Brad noted that no comments have been received for or against the project. Minn. DNR sent an email stating no permit is required from DNR.

Chairman Grossman called for any comments for or against the project. None were offered. Chairman Grossman closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular SWCD meeting.

The supervisors discussed the wetland replacement plan for Carl Hendrickson.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Lefebvre) to approve the wetland replacement plan for Carl Hendrickson as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Junior Envirothon** – Ginger reported on the Junior Envirothon that was held October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Praire Wetlands Center in Fergus Falls. Thirty-three teams from eight schools took part. Holy Rosary School won first place. Becker County schools were Holy Rosary and Lake Park-Audubon with 3 teams each.

**NRCS Wetland Partnership Initiative** – Ed Clem attended a two day training on wetlands and is now ready to begin working on requests for determinations. The agreement with NRCS is for 18 months or until the funding is used up.

**Central Sands Private Well Program** – Brad reported on the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Sands Private Well Nitrate monitoring program. This is a 14 county monitoring effort of private wells. A long term monitoring program consisting of 600-800 wells will be included. After preliminary monitoring, it is estimated that 70-80 wells in Becker County will be part of the long range study.

## **Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

**Page | 3**

**Pheasants Forever Partnership Program** – Brad reviewed information with the Board on the Pheasants Forever (PF) Technical Assistance Program. PF has entered into an agreement with NRCS to place technical staff in SWCD offices to assist with programs such as WRP, EQIP, CTA, CRP etc. The SWCD would contribute \$10,000 annually, as well as provide office space, vehicle, phone, internet and related office supplies. The person would be an employee of PF. The supervisors questioned whether a position could be shared with another county as they felt our pheasant habitat is primarily in the western portion of Becker County. Brad noted that Clay SWCD is considering this program at this time. Brad will inquire if a position could be shared.

**Clean Water Legacy Grants (CWL)** – Brad presented information on the CWL grants that were applied for statewide. Two hundred forty eight grants were submitted requesting over \$47 million dollars. Only \$16.5 million dollars are available. SWCD's had 126 requests totaling \$21.3 million dollars. Approved grants should be notified in December or January.

**Wetland Conservation Act** – The two violations that were under restoration orders have been restored.

**No-till Drill Program** – The supervisors discussed the continuation of the no-till drill rental program. Rental of the drill is down with only 5 users this year seeding less than 200 acres. Brad contacted RDO in Hawley and they would be willing to sell it on consignment. They thought we would be able to get \$23,000 after fees.

Motion (Flottesch, Lefebvre), to authorize the administrator to enter into a consignment agreement with RDO Implement of Hawley to sell the no-till drill. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

### **Ag Inspector Program** –

- Marsha and Brad attended the District 1 Ag Inspectors meeting in Mahanomen on Oct. 12.
- Marsha completed and submitted the final proposal for a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant for expanding the invasive species program. The grant request was for \$75,000. Should hear in December or January if it is approved.
- Submitted a request for a BWSR – CWMA grant also for \$20,000.

### **Cost-share Program** –

Clean Water Legacy Contract #CWL-11-2 with Gary Myers was presented for payment authorization. Total cost of project \$47,391.47. Eligible CWL payment is \$31,827.80.

Motion (Flottesch, Beck) to pay contract #CWL-11-2 in the amount of \$31,827.80. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Contract #CWL-11-7 with Curt Nelson for sediment and erosion control basins in the Hay Creek Watershed was presented for consideration. Estimated cost \$31,708.00. CWL funds requested \$6,038.00.

## **Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

Page | 4

Motion (Beck, Flottemesch) to approve CWL contract #CWL-11-7 for up \$6,038.00.

Affirmative: Unanimous: Carried.

The following state cost-share contracts were presented for payment authorization:

Cont. # 11-16 with Kevin Olson, abandoned well sealing. Total cost of sealing \$265.00. Eligible cost-share payment \$132.50.

Cont. #10-27 with Richard Jasken, abandoned well sealing. Total cost of sealing \$465.00.

Eligible cost-share \$232.50.

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

The following state cost-share contracts were presented for consideration:

Cont. #11-21 with Lloyd Jirava for abandoned well sealing in Sec. 11 of Spring Creek Twp.

Cont. #11-22 with Lloyd Jirava for abandoned well sealing in Sec. 14 of Spring Creek Twp.

Cont. #11-23 with Brad Hoffert for abandoned well sealing in Sec. 6 of Detroit Twp.

Cont. #11-24 with Roger Foltz for abandoned well sealing in Sec. 31 of Callaway Twp.

Motion (Beck, Lefebvre) to approve the above listed well sealing contracts for 50% of the cost not to exceed \$240.00 per contract.

Brad noted that we have received the incentive payment from the Wild Rice River Watershed District for the Nick Zurn project. The incentive payment was \$1,375 per sediment basin. Six basins were installed so the payment of \$8,250.00 can now be made to Mr. Zurn.

Motion (Flottemesch, Beck) to authorize the incentive payment to Nick Zurn for \$8,250 as per the Wild Rice River Watershed District grant. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**2012 Tree Program** – Brad presented the 2012 tree order form and pricing for consideration. Our cost of stock did increase for some species. Brad will write a press release for the tree program.

After reviewing the tree order form, motion (Flottemesch, Beck) to approve the 2012 tree order form and prices. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Resolution Ballots** – The supervisors submitted their completed ballots for voting on the resolutions for the 2011 MASWCD Conference. Ginger will contact supervisor Stenger to get his ballot.

**MASWCD Conference** – Ginger presented information on registration for the MASWCD Conference to be held Dec. 4-6 in Bloomington.. Don, Duane, Jerome, and Tony indicated they would attend.

**Copy Machine** – Ginger reported that the NRCS will be getting a new color copier for the office. This will affect the copier that the District owns as far as purchasing toner etc. Staff would like to just have one copier in the office if possible. One drawback is that the District

**Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

**Page | 5**

computers will not be able to be hooked up to the copier. The supervisors felt this is an administrative decision as to what will work best for the staff.

**Other:**

- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> BWSR Training Academy
- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – MASWCD Area I Meeting in Ada
- Dec. 4-6 – MASWCD State Conference – Bloomington

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

**Approved: Jerome Flottemesch, Secretary**

**Date: November 16, 2011**