



Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Wednesday September 18, 2019

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday September 18, 2019 in the Conference Room of the USDA Ag Center Building located at 809 8th Street SE, Detroit Lakes, MN.

Those present were Chairman Tony Beck, Jerome Flottesmesch, Kathleen Stenger, Travis Schauer and Eugene Pavelko. Staff members include District Administrator Peter Mead, NRCS District Conservationist Ed Musielewicz, Office Manager Deana Westberg, County Commissioner Barry Nelson and landowner Jean Ufkin.

Call to Order Chairman Beck called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

(August 21, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes and Employee Program Reports.)

Mead asked to add renewal of 2 CD's to Financial Reports.

Motion (Stenger, Pavelko) to approve adding the renewal of 2 CD's to the Financial Reports.

Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Schauer) to approve the September Agenda, August Meeting Minutes and Employee Reports. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Financial Reports

Treasurers Report and Bills for Approval were reviewed by Mead.

Supervisor's 3rd Quarter Expenses & Special Meetings

Motion (Pavelko, Flottesmesch) to approve the August's Treasurer's Report, the list of bills to pay for September and the Supervisor's 3rd Quarter Expenses and Special Meetings. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Westberg explained the different options of renewing the 2 CD's that are maturing now. After a short discussion it was unanimous to renew at the highest interest rate available right now.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Schauer) to approve the renewal of the 2 CD's maturing. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

District Reports

Administrator's Report was given by Peter Mead.

August 22nd - Red Eye 1W1P Advisory Meeting where the main topics were setting up measurable goals, risk meter watershed conditions, emerging issues and implementation program discussion.

Watland and Riedel were invited to be a guest on the Hodge Podge program discussing shoreland restoration and weed control issues.

August 26th Mead attended the NRM meeting with discussion on the Frazee Eagle Lake county public access park and Dunton Locks improvements.

August 28th Mead attended the Buffalo Red Advisory Committee meeting to help plan implementation programs and discuss soil health.

August 29th Anne W. from BWSR was here to do a story, photograph and get video for the Top-Down and Upper Buffalo Grant programs. Mead lined up the day's events which included interviews, tours, testimonials from land owners, photos and video.

The Engineering staff all met to discuss the remaining season's game plan and establish a plan for next year.

September 4th Mead attended the Wild Rice 1W1P Advisory committee meeting addressing priority issues.

September 5th Soil Health emerged as a priority discussion. A team of managers around the state teleconferenced regarding Time Tracking Software.

September 6th Koenig attended the Ottertail Wraps meeting. Prospects of a 1W1P in the Otter Tail next year.

September 9th high school intern Friendshuh started. He will come in everyday for a couple hours in the morning for this semester. Due to the season, he got a crash course in helping with CRP contracts.

Mead submitted applications for the new 2020 CWL grants. The most interesting to note is the Farming for the Future grant.

September 12th Mead met with Marie Johnson from the DL Newspaper and the Andreson family to do a feature story on their nomination for Becker SWCD Outstanding Conservationist award. Mead wrote: From armoring the soil to incorporating livestock, the Andresen family has fully embraced the five principles of soil health to grow their family farm internally without acquiring more land. A shining example of shifting to regenerative AG, Becker SWCD commends the Andresen Family for their stewardship.

September 16th Mead participated in the BRWD 1W1P Planning Team web ex meeting.

September 17th Doll attended the Wild Rice Steering Committee meeting. Discussion on goals, criteria and responsible parties.

Upcoming events are on September 19th the Detroit Lakes 9th grade career fair and September 19 – 20th Cormorant Conservation Days.

Open Forum

Ufkin from Lake Melissa attended to discuss the beautiful Shoreland Project from last year that unfortunately this year is submerged under lake water due to high rainfall and raised lake levels. After careful review of the parcel and conditions, a certified contractor will be used to stabilize this shoreline with rock riprap.

Watland, County Ag Inspector and Becker SWCD employee was featured on the front page of the Detroit Lakes newspaper this week. Watland was honored in July at the annual MACAI conference as the 2019 Outstanding Agricultural Inspector of the Year. The board proudly recognizes Watland for this distinguished award.

Human Resources

The Table of Contents and Article XXIV-Seat Belt & Wireless Communication Policy (MN Statues went

into effect August 1st, 2019) was added to the Employment Policy Handbook. Discussion to remove all State Statutes and replace with the wording “in compliance with all State and Federal laws”

Motion (Stenger, Pavelko) to approve the completed Revised Employment Policy Handbook with State Statutes removed. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Fees for Service

Engineering Assistance and Shoreland Mitigation fees for service were again discussed. Mead presented the proposed rates in cases where landowners currently not in compliance with local, state or federal rules and/or ordinances are in need of technical or engineering assistance Becker SWCD’s services are available at the billable rate + 15%.

Motion (Pavelko, Schauer) to approve the Fees for Service for Engineering Assistance and Shoreland Mitigation. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Technical Training & Certification

Individual Development Plans (IDP) to track every employee’s certifications is being developed as part of eLink. The deadline is October 11th. Webinars are available.

Clean Water Legacy Contract Amendments

#CWL-48-LP, David Bowe, Raingarden, Increased project costs of \$221.00

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the Clean water Legacy Contract Amendments as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Clean Water Legacy Contracts for Approval

#CWL-10-TD, Jake Nelson, Cover Crop - Total Project Cost: \$2,640

#CWL-52-LP, Bill Ufkin, Shoreland Stabilization - Total Project Cost: \$8,195 Cost Share: \$6,146

Motion (Stenger, Flottesmesch) to approve the Clean water Legacy Contracts as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Clean Water Legacy Vouchers for Payment

#CWL-1-TD, Matt Jirava, Water & Sediment Control Basins - Total Project Cost: \$14,248 Cost Share: \$5,760

#CWL-8-UB, Bill Steffl, Grade Stabilization - Total Project Cost: \$48,810 Cost Share: \$43,929

#CWL-48-LP, David Bowe, Raingarden - Total Project Cost: \$4,369 Cost Share: \$3,277

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the Clean water Legacy Vouchers as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

AIS Prevention Vouchers for Payment

Pelican River Watershed District. Total Cost \$4,000

City of Detroit Lakes. Total Cost \$4,000

Motion (Schauer, Stenger) to approve the AIS Prevention Vouchers as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Chairman Beck adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

Approved: Eugene Pavelko, Becker SWCD Secretary

Date: October 16, 2019