

**Beltrami Soil & Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors Meeting  
Thursday, April 28, 2011 9:00 a.m.  
County Commissioners Conference Room  
701 Minnesota Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601**

**Members Present:** Ruth Trask  
Jay Frenzel  
Shane Bowe  
Jay Backstrom  
Rob Knudson  
Ray Hendrickson

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** William Patnaude, ESD Director/SWCD District Manager  
Jerry Stensing, SWCD Stewardship Forester  
Travis Doeden, NRCS  
Kathy Ruzicka, ESD/SWCD  
Molly Miron, Bemidji Pioneer  
Wayne Wilde  
Kayla Wilde

Jay Backstrom called the Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting for March 24, 2011 officially to order at 9:10 AM.

Jay Backstrom, Board Chairperson, presented Wayne Wilde with a Certificate of Appreciation for purchasing the 2 millionth tree in the Soil Water Conservation District Tree Program. He was also presented with a gift certificate for the purchase of 100 trees. Molly Miron with the Bemidji Pioneer was present to publish an article on the Tree Program and the presentation of the Certificate of Appreciation to Wayne Wilde.

**Ruth Trask made a motion to approve the April 28, 2011 Meeting Agenda. Shane Bowe seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Secretary's Report:**

**Shane Bowe made a motion to approve the March 24, 2011 minutes as read. Jay Frenzel seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Ruth Trask made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Shane Bowe seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Old Business:**

**Envirothon:**

Ruth Trask and Jay Backstrom attended the Envirothon which was held on April 20, 2011 at Lake Bemidji State Park. Lakeland Television aired coverage on the event on April 25. There were 12 teams competing with 5 students per team. Trek North School from Bemidji will be competing at the State Competition on May 16, 1011 at Spirit Mountain. Ruth Trask stated she would be willing to attend representing Beltrami SWCD.

**MASWCD DUES:**

Received letter stating MASWCD Board of Directors voted to grant Beltrami SWCD a designation of Hardship and to accept \$1375 as a payment of dues. They are requesting to have payment by May 16, 2011. **Ruth Trask made a motion to pay the MASWCD dues in the amount of \$1375. Jay Frenzel seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Red Lake Earth Day Event:**

Shane Bowe reported on the Red Lake Earth Day Event. Approximately 260 attended this event. Beltrami SWCD could not participate this year but will consider attending next year. It was suggested that the SWCD Tree Program could be involved next year.

**New Business:**

**New Cooperators - Cost Share Contracts:**

- None

**New Service Agreements:**

- Carl Josefson – Reforestation Project under EQIP Program. Total Cost - \$10,660; Turn Key Labor \$4,500; Materials - \$6,160.
- Carl Josefson – Wildlife Habitat/Incentives Project. Total Cost - \$9,700; Turn Key Labor \$2,225; Trees & Shrubs - \$6,600.

Shane Bowe stated he would like to set up a date and have the SWCD tour some of Jerry Stensing’s Turn Key Projects. He suggested video and picture footage of these projects as well as having a tour set up by the staff.

**Ruth Trask made a motion to approve and enter into the Service Agreements with Carl Josefson. Shane Bowe seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Stewardship Forester Report:**

- Tree Program: As of April 25, 2011, there are 236 tree orders. Total in sales - \$67,273.09. Turn Key Project’s labor portion is \$20,187.80. Tree crew will plant 35,437 plants this year. Jerry is predicting the Tree Program will bring in \$80,000 this year. Jerry is running two work crews to prevent any overtime. They are limited to 40 hours per week. There are a total of 8 temporary workers.
- MN Biomes Fund Update: Total Assets \$3,324.77. Project plan is completed for ADA design for the trails. It now needs to go out bids. Basic cost estimate is \$9,000 for the ADA Trails. Bond requested. Staff will prepare and present report on this phase of the project.

- Jason Spaeth with his existing Service Agreement is interested in bringing the Red Lake DNR and the Red Lake Fisheries in as partners on this project. Project involves a 1 ½ mile of stream bank. He is willing to allow monitoring of the river. Red Lake Watershed District would also be interested in this riparian enhancement project. A proposal will be put together on O'Brien Creek and Darigan's Creek. Shane Bowe will try and schedule a meeting with the Red Lake DNR and Red Lake Fisheries. Travis stated NRCS would be a willing partner also.

**RC & D Report:**

RC& D has been eliminated. Ruth Trask reported there was a meeting on April 218, 2011. There are funds in the amount of \$176,000 available. All projects were put on hold. There will be a meeting on May 4, 2011 at St. Cloud, Minnesota with the State Association of RCD to discuss and determine where we will go from here. There are five different entities involved in RC&D.

**NCJPB Report:**

Brad Kennedy sent his written project activities report. New Conservation Engineer will start on May 23, 2011. He will be up on May 4 and 5 and meet with Brad and Jon Hodgson for briefing.

**DC Report: Travis Doeden:**

- CSP – 35 active applications, of which 9 have been pre-approved. Five are forest land and 4 crop land. Waiting for monies.
- EQIP Program, rotation grazing and reforestation projects – 10 applications made into contracts. Two to four signed up for high tunnels for vegetables.
- Reorganizing office with soils staff moving in
- State Appraisals: Civil Rights Review, NRCS is doing a good job.

**District Manager Report:**

- MASWCD Call for Resolutions: District 8 Meeting June 3, 2011 at Beltrami Electric Cooperative Meeting Room. Jay Backstrom would like to attend. It was recommended that the SWCD Board attend.
- Rain Gauge Program. We had 14 volunteers. We advertised looking for more volunteers from areas that had no representation. We have now added 13 new volunteers. The State donated 12 new rain gauges to the SWCD. We need to have more rain gauges. Ruth Trask requested staff to make a map showing rain gauge volunteer locations.

**Ruth Trask made a motion to authorize the manager to submit an order for 12 more rain gauges. Jay Frenzel seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Steering Committee Meeting, April 25, 2011:**

Jay Backstrom, Shane Bowe, Bill Patnaude, Chad Severts and Tony Murphy were in attendance.

- Reviewed the Cooperative Agreement
- Report by Bill Patnaude on progress to date
- Discussed the first generation combined Work Plan for the ESD/SWCD
- Discussed issues which needed to be addressed and by whom
- Transition expenses need accurate accounting before request goes before the county Board of Commissioners; as long as can be documented, Tony Murphy said he could support request by the SWCD
- Staff working on new draft of Shoreland Management Ordinance No. 6 and the Wetland Conservation Ordinance No. 3. Steering Committee agreed SWCD should be the lead on this. SWCD Board Member, Shane Bowe, expressed he is quite pleased with list of accomplishments by both parties through the Cooperative Agreement entered into in May 2010. However, it is his feeling the SWCD Board would like more projects be given to them so that they can be the workhorse on environmental conservation issues for the County Board.
- Bill Patnaude then brought forth an idea that he has been thinking about; if the County Board would be receptive to exploring delegating the local unit of government authority to the SWCD for the Wetland Conservation Program and if there were a possibility of the SWCD Board having board members and others make up the required local Appeals Board. Everyone thought this is something that needs to be explored further. Tony Murphy stated he wanted Bill to discuss this with Tim Faver to see what the process would need to be and how the SWCD could have representation on an Appeals Board. Jay and Shane said they felt the biggest accomplishment is that the two are now functioning as a full team.

**Shane Bowe made motion to adjourn the Soil & Water Conservation District Board Meeting for April 29, 2011. Jay Frenzel seconded the motion. Voting on the motion:**

<b>Ruth Trask</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Rob Knudson</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Jay Frenzel</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Shane Bowe</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion approved and carried 4 to 0.**

**Next meeting scheduled for May 26, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Conference Room.**

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**Rob Knudson**  
**Recording Secretary**

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**Date**