

Minutes of the June BELTRAMI SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT Board of Supervisors Meeting held Wednesday Aug 26<sup>th</sup> 2009.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 9:05 AM by Secretary Jay Backstrom

Those present were:

Jay Backstrom, Secretary  
Chris Parthun, District Manager  
Larry Voltz, Dist. Cons. (NRCS)  
Paula L Lowe, Administrative Assistant  
Guests- Loren Lossing and Bill Hubbell

Shane Bowe, Legislative & Public Relations  
Ruth Trask, Treasurer  
Jerry Stensing, Stewardship Forester  
Chad Severts- BC- BWSR  
Absent- Jerome Geerdes, Vice Chair

SECRETARY REPORT

**Motion** by S Bowe, second by R Trask to approve July minutes as mailed, carried.

TREASURER REPORT

**Motion** by R Trask, second by S Bowe to accept July's Treasurer's Report as submitted for audit, carried.

NEW COOPERATORS- NONE

MN COST-SHARE CONTRACTS - None

STEWARDSHIP FORESTER REPORT

Brief discussion on the YTD accomplishments and a 5 year report of past projects. 2600 Conservation clients served. 421,000 conservation trees and shrubs sold. 366 SWCD projects completed on 832 acres. The Neilson Foundation Grant was awarded. This grant will cover the engineering design and state cost-share match for the MN Biomes project at JW Smith.

**Motion** by R Trask, second by S Bowe to authorize the Secretary Backstrom to sign the grant agreement, carried.

MN Dept of Education grant was not awarded so will have to look for other sources of funding.

RC&D

Ruth covered information from the Aug 12, 09 meeting.

2009 Grazing tour hosted by Hubbard was successful.

Lake of the Woods County is asking Gizibii RC&D to help them find funding to promote their county as the population is declining.

WATER PERMIT

Permit #2010 was presented to the SWCD Board for review and comment.

ONGOING/TABLED BUSINESS

Guest Loren Lossing brought his concerns as to why there had not been an appointment for the vacant supervisor's position for Area I. Discussion followed regarding the timing of responses to be received from letters sent to Area 1 townships.

**Motion** by S Bowe, second by R Trask to set up a special meeting of the full board before the September meeting to appoint a successor to the Area I supervisor position, carried.

Self Assessment report. Of the 51 customer surveys sent out we have received 24 back. 83% rated the SWCD as very good or outstanding. Partner surveys (34) will be returned to BC Severts. The results of these surveys will go to the BWSR self-assessment committee and we will have the finished report by the end of October.

Web policy will be addressed at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

MCIT 2009 Dividend. Both the SWCD & JPB will be receiving dividends. SWCD \$2,012 and JPB \$1,524. County Work Session Sept 1. Jay and Shane will be attending this session to represent the SWCD.

**Motion** by R Trask, second by S Bowe to authorize the Secretary to sign the FY 2010 BWSR Base Service Grant (\$29,487.00), carried.

Area VIII Fall tour is being hosted by Clearwater County. It is scheduled for Sept 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Ruth will be attending and possibly Shane.

Forest Conservation Easements. A draft of the bonding proposal for Water Quality (Fish and Wildlife) Conservation Easements in the Forested zone was passed out and discussed.

The Headwaters Regional Development Commission has a position open on its board of directors which is designated for a natural resource representative. They are looking for nominations from the SWCD and timber associations. Jay Backstrom agreed to the nomination from the Beltrami SWCD.

D.C. REPORT

**Motion** by R Trask, second by S Bowe to authorize the Secretary to sign the FY 09 Rental agreement for Oct 1, 08 to Sept 30, 09 in the amount of \$10,395.00, carried.

CRP acres have been reduced and this will not help the conservation issues, locally or nationwide.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) This program focuses on management techniques and is a producer based program. Sign up began Aug 10. Public meetings scheduled in Bemidji, Grygla & Kelliher.

There has been a lot of interest in wetland determinations/drainage maintenance this summer.

EQIP- work load is heavy. Trying to wrap up certifications before the end of fiscal year.

Internal audits- These will be ongoing for the CSP and EQIP programs.

Tribal liaison has been busy. Providing a lot of soils information which will aid in forestry work being done.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

CLWP- There a couple of projects that have to be finished up with Dann. SWAG report needs to be in by the end of the week.

JPB- In Beltrami county wetland banking interest is up. NPEA grant has been received and will be signed and returned immediately.

WCA- There is a long list of violations. Many of the landowners are not complying with their restoration orders, which increase work load for both the SWCD and County,

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT

Water testing clinic, Next year we will look into giving out the water test bottles at the Fair to see if we can get more participants.

TIME & DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Due to a scheduling conflict the next regular meeting will be held Wed Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.

MEETING ADJOURNED

**Motion** by R Trask, second by S Bowe to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 pm, carried.

Date

Secretary

BCLARA – Beltrami County Lakes & Rivers Association  
 BMP - Best Management Practice  
 CPA – Conservation Priority Area  
 CRP – Conservation Reserve Program  
 CSP – Conservation Security Program  
 CTAC – Conservation Technical Assistance Committee  
 EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentive Program  
 GIS - Geographical Information System  
 JPB - Joint Powers Board (North Central MN SWCDs)  
 LBWM - Lake Bemidji Watershed Management Project  
 LWM – Local Water Management  
 (formerly CLWP - Comprehensive Local Water Plan)  
 MASWCD - MN Assoc. of Soil & Water Districts

MDA – MN Department of Agriculture  
 NRBG – Natural Resources Block Grant  
 NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly SCS)  
 PFM - Private Forest Management  
 RC&D - Resource Conservation & Development  
 RIM - Reinvest in Minnesota  
 ROPE – Reservoir Operation Plan Evaluation  
 TAC - Technical Advisory Committee  
 TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load  
 USF&W - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 WCA - Wetland Conservation Act  
 WHIP - Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program  
 WQIP - Water Quality Incentive Project