

***Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
April 21, 2011, 9:00 a.m. at the District Office, Pipestone, Minnesota***

Members Present:

Ian Cunningham, Chairman
Cal Spronk, Vice-Chairman
Ed Loll, Programs
Anna Mae Fritz, Secretary/Treasurer
Joyce LaBrune, PR & I

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Kyle Krier, SWCD Administrator
Mavis Kruisselbrink, SWCD Acting Administrative Assistant
Angie Raatz, SWCD Conservationist
Harold Miller, County Commissioner
Ron Beckering

Approve Agenda:

Motion by Spronk; seconded by Fritz to approve agenda. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none.
Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Loll to approve the minutes of the March 2011 board meeting, the motion was then seconded by Fritz. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report & Bills: No report

Ron Beckering discussed the overloaded septic system of Hatfield. Ron made a request to the SWCD Board for funds to help pay for the use of a camera that will be used to take diagnostic pictures of residential septic systems. Motion by Spronk, seconded by Loll to pay camera costs for the City of Hatfield out of water plan dollars, not to exceed the amount of \$1000.00. Affirmative: All. Oppose: None

Reports:

Supervisors:

Loll – Attended an RC&D meeting and said that Pipestone County received a grant in the amount of \$1,500 for community gardens. Pipestone has done well in receiving grant dollars.

Cunningham- Nothing to report

Spronk- Attended the SW Prairie meeting. Said that every county pays \$1000.00 in dues but that Lyon County was allowed to not pay their dues this year. Election of officers was also held.

J. LaBrune- Attended two RCRCA meetings. The merger of Area 2 with RCRCA was discussed. Area 2 is funded as of the 18th of May. Said BWSR is looking for accountability in all areas.

Fritz- Nothing to report

Old Business

Tree Shed: Angie discussed seeing Lincoln's County's tree shed. She stated it was great for sheltering equipment and storing trees. Krier will get on County building committee next agenda to proceed with potential project.

New Business:

A. 2011 MASWCD Resolutions

Chairman Cunningham asked if there were any resolutions to present to MASWCD. None were presented.

B. 2010 Audit

Krier said after obtaining an extension, the audit was submitted to BWSR on April 15, the last day allowed.

C. 2011 MN Cattlemen's Association Trade Show

The MN State Cattlemen's Association will hold a summer tour and trade show in Worthington. Raatz asked about having a 3 county booth but it would be representing the state as a whole also. Cost is \$300.00. Nobles and Rock are planning to pay \$100 each and wondering if Pipestone would like to pay \$100.00 too. She said they may do a slideshow of TSA feedlot fixes. Motion by Fritz, seconded by LaBrune to support sharing a booth with Nobles and Rock counties with Pipestone SWCD paying \$100.00. Affirmative: All. Oppose: None.

D. Tree Cost Share Contract

Doug and Lisa Brands – farmstead windbreak
Request \$3500.00 which is 75% of total cost.

Loll made a motion to approve the C/S agreement and Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

E. Walk in program Grant and Authorized Individual

Pipestone SWCD received a grant from BWSR in the amount of \$4210.00 to promote the walk in program. Krier stated that BWSR would like boards to authorize a person to sign grants when received so program can move along faster. Motion by Loll and seconded by LaBrune to authorize Kyle to sign grant agreement when completed. Affirmative: All. Oppose: None.

F. Rain Garden Project funding

Angie would like to plant a rain garden in West Park and perhaps utilize the help of the FFA Ag landscaping class. She has no plans drawn up at present. Motion by Spronk to authorize Angie to proceed with plans with tentative approval of funds to do a demonstration rain garden. Fritz seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

G. Financial Consultant Discussion

Dave Sill from BWSR said there will not be any leeway for future annual financial reports. After further discussion it was decided that Krier invite Matt Taubert and Dave Sill to our next board meeting in May.

H. 2010 Audit

Krier also informed Board that another audit will be required of the SWCD's 2010 books. Board directed Kyle to get quote from Kinner to do the audit.

I. Southwest Prairie TSA Job Evaluations

Kyle presented the Southwest Prairie JPO tech evaluations and said they were all rated excellent. Motion by Loll and seconded by Fritz to approve the evaluations.

Affirmative: All. Oppose: None.

Office Reports:

NRCS:

Purdin – Mavis handed out Jerry’s report to each of the supervisors for them to read.

Dockter - None

SWCD:

Krier – reported that a new 2 to 3 year position to be located in Nobles County is being advertised. This position will be conducting water monitoring in addition to what we are doing with Surface Water assessment grant. This position will be funded by MPCA and overseen by Nobles County SWCD.

Krier explained the Conservation Corps are doing the interviews for a summer intern to work in the office for three months. They haven’t chosen a person yet but will have one soon. This position will be starting May 23rd but will have orientation training the first week.

Raatz - None

Mavis Kruisselbrink – Mavis stated that she is happy to be back and able to help out in the office while Stephanie is on maternity leave. She has been busy with work connected with public hearings, entering well data, etc.

Commissioner Report:

Harold Miller- He said that all 5 of the union contracts have been settled.

He announced that Pipestone County hired Cathy Feste as HR to replace Judy Oldemeyer who is retiring.

The City of Pipestone applied for a grant and received \$575,000.00 for radio equipment for the fire department.

There will be a national sheep show held in August at the Pipestone County Fairgrounds. He stated this was due to the new show building.

Upcoming Events:

Earth Day – April 22

E-Waste Collection – April 27 11:00 - 1:00

Next Board meeting – May 12 at 9:00a.m.

E-Waste Collection – May 25 11:00 – 1:00

HHW Collection – May 25 – 3:00 – 6:00

Adjournment:

There being no further business; Chairman Cunningham declared the meeting adjourned.

_____ Anna Mae Fritz, Secretary