

*Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
February 10, 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
Stephanie LaBrune, SWCD Administrative Assistant
Angie Raatz, SWCD Conservationist
Jerry Purdin, NRCS District Conservationist
Harold Miller, County Commissioner

Approve Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Approval of Financial Report & Bills:

Copies of the financial report and bills were reviewed. Motion made by Spronk, seconded by Fritz to approve the financial report & bills for January. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none.
Motion carried.

Reports:

Supervisors:

Loll – Attended and RC&D meeting and said that they received \$15,000 from the NRCS to give out grants. At the meeting, he also heard from a CERTS Speaker who talked about solar & other alternative energy as well as Don Baloun from NRCS who suggested that the RC&D be more involved with Wetland Mitigation Banking.

Cunningham- Attended the NACD Conference in Nashville. He said that the 2012 farm bill is shaping up to be a real doosie and talked about a few different programs that are in the bill.

Spronk- Let the board know that he had talked to Howard Konkel who is in charge of the SW Prairie TSA about adding additional staff and it was decided that they would discuss things further at their next meeting on March 30th.

J. LaBrune- Attended the RCRCA meeting. She said that they are still waiting on Redwood to sign the Joint Powers agreement for 2012-2013. The next RCRCA meeting is on Feb. 28th and she asked if Loll could represent Pipestone at that meeting as she will be on vacation during that time.

Fritz- Nothing to report

New Business:

A. FY 11' FWQM Grant Agreement

Spronk made a motion to sign the new grant agreement and Loll seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

B. State CWL Cost-Share

a. Contract F-1-2010 Payment

Krier explained that the Feedlot runoff control structure for Schulze has been completed. He explained that \$30,050 will be going to the producer, and \$14,000 will be going to the S.W. Prairie T.S.A for their technical assistance on the project. Spronk made a motion to approve the final payment for contract # F-1-2010 Schulze for \$30,050 and contract # F-1-2010 TSA for \$14,000. Loll seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

C. State Flood Disaster grant

a. 2010 Flood Payment

Krier explained to the board that Houselog applied for grant money to fix 1 of his basins that was damaged during the 2010 flood event. The total cost of the project was \$1,305 and the district will be paying out \$680.00 to the producer. Spronk made a motion to pay out \$680.00 to the producer and Loll seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

D. Seasonal Office Secretary

Krier discussed with the board the payment rate for a secretary that will be covering this spring while LaBrune is on maternity leave. After discussion, Fritz made a motion to pay the acting secretary \$14.00 per hour, Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

E. SWAG (Surface Water Assessment Grant) Agreement

Krier passed out the SWAG work plan & Budget information to the board and then went over the water monitoring sites that the staff will be monitoring. He explained to them that the district will receive \$49,130 over the next 2 years. Loll made a motion to sign the grant agreement and Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

F. Solid Waste / Water monitoring Position

Krier let the board know that he has had intentions to hire a person to do extra duties for the office. He said that most of the position would be solid waste related so he would like to hold off on hiring a person until we would get a HHW building.

G. MDH Grant Agreement

Krier talked to the board about the grant details and let them know that the district will be receiving \$20,000 for helping the MDH update their Well data records. Fritz made a motion to sign the grant agreement and Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

H. 2009 State Cost-Share Closeout

LaBrune explained to the board that \$27,707 has been spent out of the 2009 state cost-share program and that a closeout sheet needs to be signed and sent to BWSR reporting the funds that were utilized. Spronk made a motion to sign the 2009 Cost Share closeout sheet and Fritz seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

I. 2010 CWL FWQM Closeout

LaBrune explained to the board that \$44,050 has been spent out of the 2010 Clean Water Legacy Feedlot Water Quality Management program and that a closeout sheet needs to be signed and sent to BWSR reporting the funds that were utilized. Spronk made a motion to sign the 2010 CWL FWQM closeout sheet and Loll seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

J. Conservation Corp. Apprenticeship

Krier explained to the board that he had applied for the grant to have a Conservation Corp. apprentice located in the district office and that Pipestone was approved for a person, but a person must apply and wish to be located in the area in order for the district to obtain a person. The application & job description are out on the Corps. Website and applications are due by March 25th.

Office Reports:

NRCS:

Purdin- Said that the NRCS has hired a Soil Con. Tech. in Pipestone County, his name is David Dockter and he will be starting on Feb. 14th. Jerry also announced the EQIP deadline of Marsh 4th.

SWCD:

Krier- Has been working on reports and grant applications / work plans. He also talked about a rural clean-up collection that the office is working on organizing for the spring along with the HHW collection that is going to be held May 25th.

Raatz- Let the board know that tree sales have been poor this year. She also announced to the board that she has recently gotten a bid to build a tree shed with the reserve dollars that the district has. She said the bid was for a 14' x 64' x 40' pole shed with a concrete pad in front and a gravel floor. The building would be used to house trees and other SWCD equipment. The bid came in at \$26,566 for the building, but there would be other costs incurred with electricity and water. She also let the board know that the office will be holding a CAWT training on Feb. 23rd and an area SSTS training in Marshall.

S. LaBrune- Talked with the board about the Area Envirothon, and let them know that the information for the event has been sent out to the schools, but so far no one has shown any interest. Last year the Envirothon was cancelled due to the low number of teams that were attending the event. She also talked about sending out the environmental fair information to the schools and working on the website and other reports that are due in the near future.

Commissioner Report:

Harold Miller- Said that the County received a \$100,000 grant to preserve & restore the Courthouse. He also said that so far out of the 5 unions in the county, 3 of them have settled, 1 of them is in mediation, and 1 of them has not yet settled with an agreement. He also announced that they will be having a meeting regarding the Highway department exceeding their annual budget due to snow removal.

Upcoming Events:

Next Board meeting – March 10th at 9:00a.m.

Adjournment:

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

Anna Mae Fritz, Secretary