

*Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
June 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m. at the District Office, Pipestone, Minnesota*

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Kyle Krier, SWCD Office Administrator

Others Present:

Stephanie LaBrune, SWCD Admin. Assistant
Angie Raatz, SWCD Conservationist
Jerry Purdin, NRCS
Harold (Butch) Miller, County Commissioner
Deb Fitzgerald, Pipestone Star

Approve Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Loll to approve the minutes of the May 2010 board meeting with the addition of Loll seconding the motion for item (E.), the motion was then seconded by Cunningham. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report & Bills:

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

Reports:

Supervisors:

Loll – Filed for re-election of SWCD Supervisor.

Cunningham- Discussed the upcoming Area V meeting which is going to take place in Canby. He also stated that he is planning to attend the Water Management Summit Meeting in St. Cloud.

Spronk- Did his supervisors report on a section in the supervisor's handbook. His report was about the Legislative process. During his report, he also handed out a list of the Minnesota State Legislatures.

Stensgaard- Attended an RCRCA meeting recently, and talked about their finances. He also talked about AMC's budget situation.

Fritz- Helped the staff out by talking signatures and handing out reusable grocery bags at the Spring Household Hazardous Waste Collection last month.

New Business:

A. Water Management Summit

Discussion was held with the board on who is planning to attend the water management summit meeting in St. Cloud next month. No motion was made.

B. Angie Review

Due to Administrator Krier being absent, Stensgaard went over Raatz's review with the rest of the board and explained that Krier had made a recommendation to provide Raatz with a step increase. After a small discussion was held, Ian made a motion made to grant Raatz a step increase, Loll seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

C. State Cost-Share Discussion

Raatz talked to the board about prioritizing state cost share projects. The Board advised Raatz to make a list of practices and rate them from highest priority to lowest priority. No motion was made.

D. 2008 State Cost-Share Payments

LaBrune asked the board to approve 2 final 2008 cost share payments; both of them were for the installation of 6 water and sediment control basins. Cost share contract number 1-2008 was for 25% of the total cost (\$5,787.95) and cost share contract number 5-2008 was also for 25% of the total cost (\$7,028.00.) Cunningham made a motion to approve a pay 25% of the project cost for both contract numbers 1-2008 and 5-2008 as presented, Fritz seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

E. 2009 Cost-Share / Native Buffer Closeout

LaBrune explained that June 30th, 2010 is the deadline to have the 2008 Cost-share and Native Buffer programs closed out with any remaining dollars sent back to BWSR. She explained that none of the Native Buffer money was utilized and that \$7,500 would have to be signed off on and sent back to BWSR. She also explained that all of the anticipated 2008 projects have been completed and that due to EQIP and bids coming in low there would be \$4,454.99 that would also need to be sent back to BWSR. Cunningham made a motion to send back all unused 2008 cost-share (\$4,454.99) & native buffer (\$7,500) money to BWSR, Fritz seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Office Reports:

NRCS:

Purdin- Report attached.

SWCD:

LaBrune- Been working on finishing 2008 Cost-share closeouts. Let everyone know that Women's Day is coming up next week on the 16th in Marshall. This year there are 12 women that are attending which is a good number.

Raatz- Request that the board consider changing Sick leave to PTO time, so that the staff can utilize their built up sick leave for other purposes. Raatz also requested that the board consider different options for employee insurance. After discussion was held, the board agreed to have a committee made up of the chair, vice-chair and office administrator discuss the employee benefits plan and make a final recommendation to the rest of the board by the end of the 2010 calendar year.

Commissioner Report:

Butch- Talked about the state budget situation, said that in 2011 the county hopes that each office will keep a 0% increase and 0 COLA. He also said that the county is looking at different employee insurance options. He stated that they hired a new family services director, and is pursuing hiring a solid waste / HHW technician.

Upcoming Events:

Next Board meeting – July 8th at 9:00a.m.

Adjournment:

There being no further business; chairman Stensgaard declared the meeting adjourned.

Ed Loll, Secretary