



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thursday, October 4, 2018

9:00 a.m.

4100 220th Street, Suite 102
Farmington, Minnesota

Board Members Present:

Laura Zanmiller, Chair
Kevin Chamberlain, Vice Chair
Jayne Hager Dee, Treasurer
Chelsea Skog, Secretary
Bruce Johnson, Public Relations

SWCD Staff Present:

Brian Watson
Lana Rotty
Curt Coudron
Todd Matzke
Liz Dengate
Ashley Gallagher

Others Present:

Dean Davis, Apple Valley Resident
Brad Blackett, Apple Valley Resident
Michelle Wohlers, NRCS

1. Call to Order

Chair Zanmiller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Zanmiller led the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience

Chair Zanmiller asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the board on an item that is not on the agenda. No one appeared.

4. Recognition of 2018 Outstanding Conservationist

Liz Dengate introduced Dean Davis. She stated that Dean was one of the earliest homeowners to install a raingarden through the Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water program; and the raingarden he installed in 2008 still functions well. Dean's impact on water conservation has spread far beyond his own backyard, however. Since 2009, he has become a significant contributor to the Landscaping for Clean Water workshops for Dakota County residents. He volunteers his time at multiple workshops every year to help homeowners design and plan hundreds of raingardens and native gardens. In the spring of 2018 alone, he volunteered thirty hours of his time, offering his expertise and advice. On behalf of the Board of

Supervisors, Chair Zanmiller presented Dean Davis with a plaque recognizing him as the 2018 Outstanding Conservationist and commended him for his many conservation efforts.

5. Approval of Agenda

18.104 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

6. Secretary's Report –September 6, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

18.105 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to approve the September 6, 2018 Meeting Minutes. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

7. Treasurer's Report

7.1 October 4, 2018 Accounts Payable

18.106 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to approve the October 4, 2018 Accounts Payable. Members voting in favor: Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee. Motion carried.

7.2 September 30, 2018 Financial Report

18.107 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to accept the September 30, 2018 Financial Report, subject to audit. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

8. Rural Lands Committee

8.1 Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Bryce Kimmes for Installation of Cover Crops

Coudron stated that Bryce Kimmes has completed the installation of a cover crop on 80 acres. The project was approved for funding at the June 7, 2018 Board meeting with an incentive payment not to exceed \$2,000. A cover crop mix of oats and radishes was planted after sweet corn was harvested. The project installation cost is \$2,200. Watson added cover crops are a new initiative and staff will be following up with landowners to see how they are benefitting from cover crops on their land; and reasons they would continue or not continue with this conservation practice.

18.108 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to approve final payment to Bruce Kimmes for installation of cover crops in Section 33, Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed at \$25 per acre not to exceed \$2,000. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain. Motion carried.

8.2 Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Lloyd Peine for Installation of Grassed Waterways

Coudron stated that Lloyd Peine has completed the installation of two grassed waterways. He explained that sediment buildup prevented runoff from entering the waterway and was causing erosion. The accumulated sediment was excavated and the waterway was graded, seeded and mulched. Temporary bio-logs were also installed to slow down and disperse runoff from large rain events. The project was approved for funding at the August 2, 2018 Board meeting at 75% cost share not to exceed \$7,050 and based on a cost estimate of \$9,400. The final project cost was \$5,774.35. The final project costs were under the cost estimate because the erosion blanket was not needed.

18.109 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to approve final payment to Lloyd Peine for installation of two grassed waterways in Section 13, Hampton Township, Trout Brook Watershed of the Cannon River at 75% cost share, not to exceed \$4,330.76. Members voting in favor: Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller. Motion carried.

8.3 Authorization to Execute Contract with Ken Taylor for Installation of Grassed Waterway

Coudron stated that Ken Taylor is proposing to construct a grassed waterway in the Cannon River Watershed. Concentrated flow is causing gully erosion along the edge of the field. A 570-foot grassed waterway will be constructed to reduce erosion and sediment loading to the Cannon River. Total project cost is estimated at \$6,500.

18.110 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to execute contract with Ken Taylor for installation of grassed waterway in Section 24, Sciota Township, Canon River Watershed at 75% cost share, not to exceed \$4,875. Members voting in favor: Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog. Motion carried.

8.4 Authorization to Execute Contract with Nick Weiland for Installation of Cover Crops.

Coudron stated that Nick Weiland is proposing to annually establish cover crops on 24 acres over a three year period. This field is located in the Vermillion River Watershed. A seeding plan has been prepared and approved. SWCD staff will certify cover crop establishment each year.

18.111 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to execute contract with Nick Weiland for establishment of cover crops on 24 acres in Section 3, Hampton Township, Vermillion River Watershed at \$35 per acre, not to exceed \$2,520. Members voting in favor: Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson. Motion carried.

9. Committee of the Whole

9.1 Authorization to Execute Joint Powers Agreement with City of Eagan for Technical Services

Watson stated that since 2013, the SWCD has entered into three-year agreements with the City of Eagan to provide technical assistance on an as needed basis. Our current three-year agreement expires on December 31, 2018. The City of Eagan has indicated a desire to continue with another three-year agreement. The term of the new agreement would be January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 and allows the SWCD to charge our Board approved hourly rate when requests are made for technical assistance. The agreement will also include a clause that allows the SWCD to decline City requests pending workload and staff availability.

18.112 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to approve and execute a joint powers agreement with the City of Eagan for technical services to be charged at the established hourly rate, through December 31, 2021. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

9.2 Authorization to Execute Joint Powers Agreement with City of Inver Grove Heights for Technical Services

Watson stated that since 2013, the SWCD has also entered into three-year agreements with the City of Eagan to provide technical assistance on an as needed basis. Our current three-year agreement expires on December 31, 2018. The City of Eagan has indicated a desire to continue with another three-year agreement. The term of the new agreement would be January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 and allows the SWCD to charge our Board approved hourly rate when requests are made for technical assistance. The agreement will also include a clause that allows the SWCD to decline City requests pending workload and staff availability.

18.113 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to approve and execute the Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Inver Grove Heights for technical services to be charged at the established hourly rate, through December 31, 2021. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

10. Announcements and Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Michelle Wohlers provided the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) agency report. She stated that USDA offices officially have moved to the Farmington City Hall. They are in the process of getting settled into their space.

Wohler's added that the NRCS and FSA agencies are both going through federal changes. The NRCS has been undergoing a State re-organization and as of October 1, they will have just four regional area offices within the State. Within these larger statewide regional areas, they will have conservation delivery teams. There will be one District Conservationist for every 3 to 7 conservation delivery teams. The new Area Office for Dakota County will be located in Faribault.

Wohlers stated that the new monitoring list for FNAP easements will be available soon, as this information is typically available on October 1. They are taking 2019 EQIP signups; however there is no tentative cost list and no deadline for signup information available. She stated that CRP enrollment was down; enrollment has been completed for Dakota and Scott counties.

Dakota County

There was no Dakota County Report.

Metropolitan Conservation Districts Joint Powers Board

There was no Metropolitan Conservation District Joint Powers Board report.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

There was no Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts report. Watson stated that the next Metro Area meeting is scheduled for November 16. The agenda and minutes from previous meeting were distributed. Troy Daniel, new NRCS State Conservationist is on the agenda.

Cannon River One Watershed, One Plan Policy Committee

Chamberlain provided the Cannon River One Watershed, One Plan Policy Committee report. He stated that the draft plan should be approved for the 60 day review at the December meeting, which is approximately three months behind the previous schedule. The plan should be on pace to be approved by the BWSR Board next summer. The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was approved to form and is being reviewed by local county attorney offices. The JPA includes a 3-tier system for determining dues annually. For example it is based on land area and may be set up to a maximum amount of \$2,000, \$3,500, and \$5,000 depending on how much land area each local unit of government has within the Cannon River Watershed. Dakota SWCD encompasses approximately 10% of the Cannon River Watershed and would fall into the \$3,500 tier. If the JPA is signed, the new joint powers board would set the budget and would have the ability to set annual dues less than the maximum amounts.

10. Upcoming Meetings and Events

Zanmiller noted upcoming events.

11. District Managers Report

Watson stated that Dakota County Facilities Management will likely be looking at a short-term and a long-term plan for the vacant offices in the building now the USDA has moved. No timeframes have been discussed.

Watson reported that the 18th year of our Outdoor Education Days was held the last two weeks of September. Dengate provided additional overview of the four Outdoor Education Days' held.

12. Adjourn

18.114 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Skog, Secretary