

**POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am August 24, 2009**

**Meeting site: USDA Service Center,
1680 N. Franklin Avenue
Glenwood, MN 56334**

**Supervisors: Present: Keith Nygaard, Ralph Peterson, Randy Anderson,
Absent: Gary Reents, Mark Halls**

**SWCD Staff: Kelly Erickson, Kyle Hanson, Luan Johnsrud, Absent: Craig
Bower, NRCS,**

Guests: Paul Gerde, Pope County Commissioner, Committee member,

Meeting Agenda:

1. Call the meeting to order by Chairman Keith Nygaard at 7:20 a.m.
2. Motion by Ralph Peterson, second by Randy Anderson to approve the agenda as presented. Carried
3. Motion by Randy Anderson, second by Ralph Peterson to approve July 21, 2009 meeting minutes as presented. Carried
4. Financial Reports-Profit & Loss, Treasurer's Report, check Register, checking & savings Reconciliation Reports for July, 2009.
Motion by, Ralph Peterson, second by Randy Anderson, to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Carried

Paul Gerde entered at 7:45 a.m.

5. Old Business
 - o Post contest winner, Katie Hieseveh, sent at thank you to the Board for her stay at LLCC Explorer's Camp.
 - o Passed pictures of the 2009 Pope County Fair booth. Most of the questions at the booth were regarding the Weed Awareness program. Sauk River Watershed District hosted water testing at the booth.
 - o Working Land's Initiative Grassland Management Tour was held August 19th and 20th. Attendees included Rep. Paul Anderson and Senator Joe Gimse.
 - o Website usage report for the Pope SWCD website.
 - o Received MCIT 2010 Coverage Renewal. Invoice will be sent in December 2009 with payment due January 31, 2010.
 - o Discussed West Central Irrigation and service at Rosholt. The system needs adjustments to work properly. Keith, Kelly to talk with West Central Irrigation to make arrangement to have the system working properly. Include Garry Reents and staff from PLC to attend the meeting with WCI as well.
6. Reports-
 - o Paul Gerde, County Commissioner
The north and south courthouse doors will be open once surveillance cameras are in place at each entrance.
Planning and Zoning discussed the issue of campers on each lake lot. The new guideline is for one camper on each lake lot.
There will be a public hearing for the Law Enforcement Center with the new architect. The design should be ready by early winter. The committee is working with the Dept. of Corrections on staffing guidelines so that the sheriff can arrest someone during the night and hold them in Pope County facilities until their hearing, then move them to another site.
Commissioners are getting ready to review the 2010 budget. Paul advised Pope SWCD to stay in front of the Commissioners so that they realize all the projects that we are doing for the County.
 - o Kelly Erickson, Technician
The tree order form for 2010 has been revised. Red pine has been removed from the list-it does not grow well in this area.

Status Review for RIM/CREP programs is complete. One site had a thistle problem; otherwise the sites were in compliance.

Kelly has been attending WCA meetings and trainings as well as conducting site visits.

Observation wells have been checked for the month. Water levels are consistent with previous years.

NRCS has applied for a contribution agreement that will pay \$300 per Irrigation contract EQIP contracts. SWCD currently receive \$200 for this service. We're waiting for notification of funding.

Jason Mrnack is considering using State Cost share funding for a project.

Kelly met with Dave Perryman, City of Glenwood and Ralph Peterson for a catch basin on Ralph's property. Engineering assistance will be requested from Area II JPB.

Three tree plans have been completed for 2010. Kelly has leads for two more plans for 2010.

- o Kyle Hanson, SWCD Wildlife Technician

WCA-there are no decisions for August 2010.

Kyle and Kelly determined the wetland area for Minnewaska Marine and staked it. Ken Moe is removing buckthorn on his property on Lake Minnewaska. Jack Luxtercamp building a shed-the site plan is ok.

Jason Mrnack is planning on building a catch basin in his feed lot area; No Net loss project. Lake Emily Sec. 25 drives through Sec 36. Owners have a legal easement on record to get to their property. The owners are using four wheelers to get to the property. The owners want to build a road to access their property on the point. Kyle has requested additional information from the County Attorney regarding the easement.

Three Clean Water Legacy contracts to review. 2.2 acres in Douglas County; 3.0 acres in Chippewa County; and 2.0 acres in Douglas County. Motion by Ralph Peterson second by Randy Anderson to pay the contract with CLW funds. Carried. SWCD has received over \$6,000.00 in administration and technical fees through the CWL project.

All reporting has been done on E-Link. There are 4-5 CWL contract pending. Kelly and Luan have been cleared for E-Link.

Engineering request completed for Lake Emily rip rap project.

Two CRP contract have been re-enrolled in Westport TWP.

TMDL monitoring completed. The water flow in the creek is down. Kyle will train Kelly to monitor water and water testing.

Kyle and Luan will attend a Water Fest meeting today.

Exit interview will be conducted after the board meeting today.

- o Luan Johnsrud, Office Manager

See attached report.

Discussed accounts receivable. Accounts with small balances, usually the sales tax that was not added to the invoice cost more to collect than the account balance. Motion by Randy Anderson Second by Ralph Peterson to write off the sales tax to the client however, SWCD will be responsible for the sales tax. Carried. Motion by Randy Anderson second by Ralph Peterson to write-off Kelly Olson's past dues account. Carried.

- o Craig Bower, NRCS, vacation
- o Grant Herfindahl, FSA-not present
- o Ralph Peterson, WesMin RC&D/MN River Resource/Glacial Trail

Transfer of Smokey Timbers to the Foundation was completed.

RC& D will be conducting 2-3 workshops in 2010 for working part of grazing workshops.

Glacial Ridge Trail received grant approval for funding in 2010. Glacial Ridge Trail Model-t Tour is scheduled for September 4, 5, 6, 2009. It begins in Sauk Centre to Alexandria, Starbuck, Glacial Lakes Park, Willmar and New London, Terrace, Glenwood and ends at Sauk Centre.

Area II meeting is scheduled for September 3rd at Lakeside Ballroom. JP Technical Assistance committee will meet in the afternoon.

7. New Business

- 2010 Farm Bill Technical Assistance Grant. Motion by Ralph Peterson second by Randy Anderson to move forward with the grant and put in place the work that needs to be accomplished to secure matching funds. Carried.
- Motion by Randy Anderson, second by Ralph Peterson to continue administration of the WLI-#3 Langhei Township project. Carried.
- Kelly, Keith, Ralph and Luan will be attending the State Convention in Duluth in December. Luan is to contact Mark and Gary to see if they will be attending.
- BWSR Academy will be in November. Consider the cost involved an investment in staff training.
- Discussed the timeline for advertising, interviewing applications for the Farm Bill technician position. Application due September 11, 2009, personnel committee reviews applications September 14th, with Interviews September 17, 2009.

Motion by Ralph Peterson, second by Randy Anderson to adjourn. Carried.

8. Next Scheduled meeting date, August 15, 2009 at the SWCD office at 7:00 a.m.