

**POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am August 17, 2010**

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

Supervisors: Mark Halls, Keith Nygaard, Gary Reents, Randy Anderson, Ralph Peterson
SWCD Staff: Kelly Erickson, Matt Fischer, Luan Johnsrud
Guests: Ron Shelito, BWSR Regional Supervisor; Pete Waller, BSWR Board
Conservationist, Tom Talle, guest; Craig Bower, NRCS

Meeting Agenda:

1. Call the meeting to order by Keith Nygaard, Chair at 7:10 a.m...
2. Motion by Ralph Peterson, second by D. Gary Reents to approve agenda as sent. Carried
3. Motion by D. Gary Reents, second by Ralph Peterson to approve July 20, 2010 meeting minutes as sent. Carried.

Randy Anderson entered at 7:15 a.m.

4. Old Business
 - o Completed 11 nitrate water tests at the 2010 Pope County Fair.
 - o Randy Anderson reviewed the proposed 2011 County allocation request for funding with the Board. Request for allocation is appropriate for operating and staff.
5. Financial Report-Current Bills review. July-August 2010, Profit & Loss for July 2010, Profit & Loss Actual vs. Budget, Balance Sheet, Treasurer's Report, checking & savings account reconciliation. Verification of Bank Statements completed by Randy Anderson. Motion by Randy Anderson second by D. Gary Reents to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Carried.

6. Reports-
 - o Kelly Erickson, Technician
One drill rental completed; 28 RIM easement site reviews and observation well monitoring completed. Mowed grass at Rosholt in preparation for field day. Completed WCA site reviews. Final 2009 cost share project under construction; expected to be complete fall 2010.
 - o Matt Fischer, SWCD Wildlife Technician
Attended Hydric soils and General CRP signup training. Busy providing technical support for landowners interested in enrolling land in CRP; no money left for SAFE program. Attended annual COLA meeting and thanked them for their financial support. Two additional RIM contracts have been accepted-expect contracts soon. Irrigation management projects continue-we had a lot of rain this year. Participated in the BWSR Farm Bill Technician teleconference August 16th. There may be more money in 2012 for this program. Attending Sauk River Watershed District meeting this evening-SRWD has donated \$1000 toward the Farmbill Technician position.

Pete Waller BWSR entered at 9:15 a.m.

- o Luan Johnsrud, Office Manager

Planning Pope Stevens WaterFest September 10th. Arranged for TMDL Stakeholders meeting to be held at the Glenwood Senior Center September 14th. Attended Lake Villard Lake Association and annual COLA meetings in August. Helped set up the fair booth and will contact board members to work at the booth. Discussed Tastefully Simple grant for rain barrel project. Ralph Peterson suggested checking on funds available before submitting any request.

We have money for equipment for WaterFest. Motion made by Ralph Peterson, second by D. Gary Reents to purchase two laminators; one for Stevens County SWCD, one for Pope SWCD. Carried.

Presented CWL08-124 Glenwood & Beyond Rain Garden at the Veteran's Memorial Node. Motion by Randy Anderson, second by D. Gary Reents to approve cost share through CWL funds. Carried. Motion by Ralph Peterson, second by D. Gary Reents to pay voucher CWL08-121 O'Borsky. Carried

Motion by Randy Anderson, second by D. Gary Reents to pay CWMA Cost Share contracts and request for payment vouchers on CWMA08-15, CWMA08-06 and CWMA08-16. Carried.

Ron Shelito, BWSR entered at 9:45 a.m.

- Craig Bower, NRCS
Attended trainings; General CRP signup August 2-27th. Three applications were approved for the first round of CSP funding. EQIP payments made for 2 dead animal compost facilities, 3 prescribed grazing contracts and 1 access control. Expect to close on 3 WRP easements this month.
- Grant Herfindahl, FSA no report
- Ralph Peterson, WesMin RC&D/Glacial Trail
Reported on MASWCD monthly meeting. MASWCD will raise district dues \$45 for 2011; they have not increased for some time. Dues are based on the taxable net capacity. Provided Worksheet on the Environmental Benefits Index of CRP; Homeland Security Presidential Directive #12 and HSPE-12 non-employee LincPass. Some of the SWCDs around the Great Lakes will receive money through the Great Lakes Commission for water quality projects. Judy Johnston, Stevens SWCD has volunteered to coordinate Envirothons for Area II. Leadership training may be offered again in cooperation with the U of M if there is funding and interest in the program. Glacial Ridge Trail brochures have been going out quickly. They are considering printing more. The Model T tour is set for September. One of the stops is at Lakeside Ballroom on Sunday afternoon. GRT Board members are planning a bus tour of the southern portion of the Glacial Ridge Trail in September-Board members will pay their own way for this tour.
- D. Gary Reents attended the Sauk River Watershed District Citizen Advisory committee meeting. Watched a COLA DVD featuring Lake Osakis Association and enjoyed a pontoon ride on the chain of lakes. SRWD has taxing authority and can levy, however, they had funding issues as well. Their TMDL studies are in the public comment stage.

7. New Business

- Motion by Randy Anderson, second by D. Gary Reents to sign the Native Buffer Cost Share Grant Agreement Amendment. Carried.
- Motion by Ralph Peterson, second by Randy Anderson to sign the 2011 BWSR Base Grant Agreement. Funding for general services cost share, easement services and RIM easement total \$48,264.00. Carried.

- Discussed BWSR Technical Assistance Option for FY'11 State Cost Share Base Grant. We will wait and see how our funding is before requested change.
- Pope County 8 Lake TMDL-Pope SWCD will coordinate Steering Committee to identify and implement study findings. Mark Halls indicated that he is interested in serving on that committee.
- WaterFest, September 10th at Barsness Park, Glenwood; backup is Pope County fairgrounds. Ralph and Jeanette Peterson and D. Gary Reents offered to volunteer for this event.

Presentation Keys to Successful SWCDs by Ron Shelito, BWSR Regional Supervisor

1. Hire good Staff-people that get things done
 - Know what type of staff you need
 - Staff does the work/board members ask the questions
 2. Have a good relationship with your County Commissioners
 - County may be your biggest source of income
 - What can we do for the county?
 3. Know your district's needs
 - Know your programs
 - What is your target, 'niche'
 4. Do what you are good at on the SWCD Board of Supervisors
 - Provide orientation for new board members
 - Provide Board training opportunities
 5. Run a good meeting; open to the public
 - Keep the public informed as to your meetings
 - Update your website
8. Motion by Randy Anderson, second by Ralph Peterson to adjourn. Carried.