



Rice Soil and Water Conservation District

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Rice S.W.C.D. Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 19, 2008

PRESENT: Robert Borchert, Robert Duban, Wally Hildebrandt, Richard Huston, Gary Wagenbach, and Debbie Skarupa.

ABSENT: Steven Pahs and Tom Coffman

Chairman Duban called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

MINUTES: Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Bob Borchert to approve the October 15, 2008 board minutes as mailed. Aye: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Motion by Wally Hildebrandt, seconded by Dick Huston to approve the October Program Summary and Bills Payable subject to audit. Aye: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Gary Wagenbach asked about sharing our financial statement with Cannon River Watershed Partnership as they are interested in information on different sources of funding. Wally Hildebrandt felt CRWP would not be eligible to receive funding from our sources.

ELECTION RESULTS: Results in Rice County were as follows:

Constitutional Amendment	Yes	18,869	61.8%	No	11,659	38.2%
SWCD Dist#1 Robert Duban	Yes	21,838	99%	Write-Ins	172	.78%
SWCD Dist#2 Richard Huston	Yes	21,386	99%	Write-Ins	155	.72%
SWCD Dist#3 Gary Wagenbach	Yes	21,454	99%	Write-Ins	129	.60%
Commissioner D#1 M. Drevlow	No	2,568	47.5			
Commissioner D#1 J. Gillen	Yes	2,814	52%	Write-Ins	20	.37%
Commissioner D#3 M. Plaisance	Yes	3,350	68.8%			
Commissioner D#3 F.J. Rowan	No	1,493	30.7%	Write-Ins	27	.55%
Commissioner D#5 Jeff Docken	Yes	3,826	65.9%			
Commissioner D#5 Mike Piper	No	1,954	33.7%	Write-Ins	23	.40%

DITCH INSPECTION STATUS: Tabled until the December Meeting

ADOPT-A-HWY SIGNS: Bob Borchert said we will clean the ditches on Co. Rd #18, which is between 47 & 39, after the signs are up next year. This is 9th Avenue south of the middle school.

ENTERING SWCD SIGNS: Dick Huston said we are waiting to hear how LeSueur SWCD wants their sign set up. LeSueur just wanted one sign so the other sign will be entering and leaving Rice SWCD. Current SWCD signs are green on white.

WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT AWARD: A luncheon was held today at Gran Plaza for Dick Huston as he received the 2008 Wildlife Enhancement Award plaque for his many conservation acres, restoration projects and permanent easements. Congratulations to Dick and Glenda.

BIOMASS TECHNICIAN: Request for funding was turned down last month. Table until December meeting.

NACD NATIONAL CONVENTION: Rudie Spitzer will be going to the National Convention in New Orleans for Area 7 instead of Bob Borchert because Winona SWCD won one of five national awards from NRCS. Bob Borchert and Mark Ihlenfeld made that motion so Area 7 would cover Rudie's expenses. Mower SWCD won an award the previous year.

NEW BUSINESS:

NRCS WETLAND DETERMINATIONS FOIA: Motion by Bob Borchert, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to table this item until the December meeting. Aye: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

MASWCD CONVENTION: The state MASWCD Convention will be held at the Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront Hotel on December 7 – 9. A copy of the combined voting results ballot was in the board packet, but not discussed. An emergency resolution that was received late regarding Green Acres and land values was discussed. Board will attach this resolution to their resolution packets. Bob Duban stated that the ag land value is based on six townships in the four southwestern counties to reflect a true ag land value.

STATE COST-SHARE PARTIAL PAY VOUCHER: Discussion followed. Motion by Bob Borchert, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve the following 2008 PARTIAL cost-share payment:

FCS#080818 Scott Marik – 17691 LeSueur Ave – Kilkenny, MN 56052 – Ag Waste System - \$29,679.88 (partial) – Shieldsville – Section 18. Aaron Peter was the NRCS engineer designated Conservation District Technical Representative, 75% is the approved cost-share amount and \$2,967.88 is the approximate partial T&A amount. Affirmative: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried. Due to weather conditions, the grading and seeding will be finished the next construction season.

CANCEL STATE COST-SHARE CONTRACT: Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Bob Borchert **to cancel** state cost-share contract #080421 as follows:

CS#080421 Anthony Gillen – 13687 Culver Ave – Faribault Forest Twp Sec. #21 - \$3598.00 - Five sediment basins/one outlet. This FY 2008 contract was cancelled because the contract will

now be paid entirely from EQIP funds and none from state cost-share. Aye: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye - None opposed - Motion carried. This was that Tony Gillen/Circle Lake Association/Fred Wenthe project.

AG & ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS – SPONSOR W/ UMEX-RICE CO. Tabled until December.

COPY MACHINE: Motion by Wally Hildebrandt, seconded by Dick Huston to approve Steve starting the process of selling the old copy machine. Aye: Borchert, Duban, Hildebrandt, Huston and Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried. A maintenance agreement for the copy machine was discussed. In the past, we have come out ahead by foregoing the agreement. Consensus was to go without a service agreement for now.

RC&D VALUE ADDED CONFERENCE: Handouts in the packet were discussed. Conference will be held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester January 22 and 23. Speakers and sessions will be on solar, methane, ethanol, carbon, profitability, climate patterns, and many more topics. Wally said 200 people are registered.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS: Dick Huston spoke on the Pheasants Forever Youth Hunting Program that took place on his property. Just the kids had guns and were joined by parents, DNR personnel and Pheasants Forever people. Dick felt it was a good program and would participate again. Dick said he will be closing his office the first of the year and had two two-drawer cabinets, a four-drawer cabinet and three tables to give away. Wally spoke on the wind turbines on Buffalo Ridge and how the pheasants are thriving there. Dick said DNR Hunt Lake project was cancelled and Pheasants Forever funding went to Waseca project instead. Dick and Glenda Huston donated two Timberwolves tickets today for the MASWCD Convention live auction. Tickets are for December 17 in Row B, Seats 13 & 14, in Section 131 across from Kevin McHale and are valued at \$200.00 each. Bob Borchert said he will again be purchasing Sears gift certificates as a donation for the convention. Thank you to Huston's and Bob for your generosity. Gary Wagenbach said Beth Kallestad started November 10th as the new executive director for CRWP and is interested in the SWCD programs. Bob and Gary both spoke on the great job that Dave Legvold did for Cannon River Watershed Partnership. Dick Carlander donated money to the Circle Lake Association towards the Tony Gillen/Leonard Prescott/Fred Wenthe project. Organic dairies and Faribault Dairy were also discussed. Dick Huston and Gary Wagenbach will be absent for the December meeting.

D.C. REPORT By Tom Coffman:

Kelly and I along with Adam's help have been busy putting conservation on the ground by completing the following EQIP contracts:

1. **Completed projects so far this fall:**

Al Meyer: Grassed waterway, vegetated chute and grade stabilization structure.

Milt Olson: Two sediment basins

Steve Vikla: Grassed waterway and side inlet structure

Mike Vesely: Six sediment basins

Jim Melchert: Two sediment basins and a waterway

Dan Melchert: Grassed waterway and rock crossing

Dick Nielson: 11 sediment basins

Tony Gillen & Circle Lake Assoc: Four sediment basins

Bryan Lips: Organic crop rotation

Gladys Sunderlin: Buckthorn control

Ed Kalina: Buckthorn control

John Sinning: Woodland Burn

Presently in progress:

Dan Melchert (Kolars Farm)

Brad Covert

Dennis Doyle

Milt Olson (Tatge Farm)

Dave Lippert

Dean Nechkash

Mark Simon

Sherman Johnson

Dan Turek

Marvin Borchert

Marv Chmelik – Nutrient Management Initiative

Milt Olson – Nutrient Management Initiative

Tim Little

Wally Krenz

Danny Krenz

2. Financial Audit:

NRCS nationwide is in the process of responding to a national audit of farm bill program contracts that did not turn out real well. We'll be responding to this initiative over the next few weeks.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT by Steve Pahs: None received.

DISTRICT PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT by Tim Labs:

- ✿ Five Observation Well Readings taken.
- ✿ Continued processing various CREP easements
- ✿ Attended state eLink reporting training.
- ✿ Attended 1st Aid Training
- ✿ Attending the County Water Plan Technical Committee Meeting
- ✿ Attended monthly Plat Review Meeting at Planning & Zoning
- ✿ Reviewed Current and Pending State Cost Share Applications
- ✿ Attended Ag BMP Loan Program Workshop.
- ✿ Wetland Conservation Act:
 - Looked at aerial slides with staff from I & S Engineering.

- Checked various wetland delineations on Co. Rd. #76, Co. Rd. #1, Sages Site in Faribault and along State Highways #3 and #21.
- Field reviewed the third year wetland replacement monitoring report on the Parkland Village Development.
- Reviewed a wetland replacement application for impacting 13,087 square feet of Type 2 Wetland for a bike trail extension in the City of Lonsdale.
- Met with the owners of J & J Power Sports requesting an extension on the deadline date for them to purchase wetland credits for their wetland violation.
- On site on the Marion Hagel property in Section 27 of Cannon City Twp. to view a proposed private ditch cleanout bordering a wetland.
- Viewed a couple of proposed driveway sites for any wetland impacts.

MPCA STORMWATER TECHNCIAN'S REPORT by Danielle Waldschmidt:

I have been completing inspections and meeting with permit contacts to address issues on inspection reports. I have been working with the MPCA on several construction sites that have severe violations from the NPDES requirements on enforcement actions. I have also been working on the raingarden at the Rice County Fair Grounds. With the raingarden installation completed, I have been working on maintaining the raingarden.

Accomplishments Include:

- Updated and organized case files for the stormwater program
- Conducted construction site inspections
- Worked with Contractors/Owners/Site Contacts to get their construction site activities in compliance with the NPDES/SDS
- Reviewed SWPPP's for compliance with the NPDES/SDS
- Worked on enforcement cases with the MPCA
- Attended MPCA JPA training in St. Cloud
- Provided ordinance guidance to the City of Lonsdale
- Completed First Aid and CPR training at Gold Cross in Rochester
- Completed complaint investigation on an unpermitted County highway project
- Attended a pre-construction meeting

Nutrient Management Report by Adam Arndt:

- Met with Harlow Splichal to start nutrient planning.
- Surveying sediment basins with Kelly Oliver on the Dick Nielson farm (13 basins total).
- Spreader calibration for Oran Clemmensen, also updated his nutrient plan.

- MinnFarm evaluations for Clemmensen, Dan LaCanne, and Mike Sogla.
- Participated in the CTIC teleconference (looking at reducing the Hypoxia zone in the Gulf of Mexico). We are planning a meeting in Jan. at Cabela's in Owatonna.
- Surveying sediment basins with Tom Coffman.
- Completed water sampling each Tuesday morning.
- Traveled to Wabasha Co., met with Bill McMillin to start CNMP.
- Attended e-Link 4 Web training in Rochester.
- Reported Nitrogen and Phosphorus reductions on each plan I have written for grant reporting.
- Attended CPR and First Aid Training in Rochester.
- Surveying a waterway on Allan Meyer's farm with Kelly.

Nutrient Plans in Progress or Completed Last Month:

1. Gary Lenhertz (Wabasha)
2. Harlow Splichal (Rice)
3. Oran Clemmensen (Rice)
4. Bill McMillin (Wabasha)

October Ditch Services:

- Surveying CD 23 for clean out needs.
- Surveying on CD 32 for clean out needs.
- Contacted Tim Rudd and Ron Maas about putting a bid in for cleaning CD23.
- Inspected stabilization repair on CD 25 and turned bill in.
- Met with Tim Rudd on CD 23 to look at clean out needs.

JPB MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS: Sent to board in packets.

OTHER/CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you card received from Bob Borchert and family.

ADJOURN: Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Bob Borchert to adjourn. All aye - None opposed - Motion carried. Time: 1:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Skarupa
District Secretary

Wally Hildebrandt
Board Secretary