PRESENT: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, Gary Wagenbach, Steve Pahs, Thomas Coffman, Justin Fuchs, Bridget Evers, Debbie Skarupa, Sarah Middleton, the executive director from Zumbro Watershed Partnership, Rice County Commissioner Jeff Docken, and Tim Little, a supervisor candidate.

ABSENT: Dick Peterson

Chairman Bob Duban called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MINUTES: Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to approve the September 14, 2016 board minutes. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL/BILLS PAYABLE: Steve reviewed the September financial summary line by line. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to accept the September financial summary and bills payable subject to audit. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

SOIL HEATH TOPIC: Tom Coffman showed slides of the aerial cover crop seeding done this year. About 1500 acres were aerial seeded and slides were shown of cover crops at different stages in development. Some seeds germinated in two to three days this year. Yields, benefits, germination, seeding rates, water infiltration, dates, cereal rye, and no-till were discussed. Tim Little, Tom, and Jim Purfeerst were thanked for their time and efforts.

OLD BUSINESS:
BUFFER LAW STATUS: There was a Public Buffer Law Meeting September 14th at 7:00 pm at the Faribault Public Works Building. Jim Purfeerst said Travis did a wonderful job. Ron Maas spoke for some of the group about the two square mile, 1280 acre issue. Legislative framework is that it is the landowner’s responsibility and most will comply. Area 7 MASWCD convention resolution to increase CRP cap was discussed. BWSR handout “Local Development and Inclusion of Summary Watercourses” on other waters had been given to the board.

SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP – DEC 8, 2016: The September 8 Soil Health Tour at Jeff Jirik’s farm near Millersburg was cancelled due to wet conditions. Will do a workshop on December 8 at Forest Town Hall. Hoping to work with Julie Fox on
videos and invite guest speakers (two farmers and Craig Messner from Central Valley Co-op.) Time 1-4:00 pm. Nice if we could touch on nitrogen application for no-till corn into beans. Will do soil rainfall simulator in shop area.

**RICE CO. COMMISSIONERS AND NEW ADMINISTRATOR WORK SESSION:** Could meet with county officials Nov. 1 or Nov 15. Put on November agenda – need proposed agenda.

**ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN:** Cannon River Watershed has been selected for One Watershed One Plan. Steve will meet with partners again on November 3rd from 10:30 to 4:00 pm. Will be a two year process.

**COMPUTER NETWORK STATUS:** Computer change is in a holding pattern now. A NRCS and SWCD work group is working on and will get guidance in March or April 2017. Could have a regional or statewide computer network.

**RETIREMENT OPEN HOUSE FOR BOB AND GARY:** Discussion. Lunch at The Depot, then cake and coffee at open house in office, November 9, 1:30 to 3:00 pm. Invite County Board, staff, other area supervisors, past supervisors, CRWP, etc.

**AREA 7 SEMASWCD FALL JOINT MEETING:** Fall Joint Area 7 SEMASWCD meeting was September 21 at the Ed McNamara farm at 9:00 am. Was a well-organized meeting. New Area 7 Team is:

- Director: Bill Thompson
- Co-Director: Mark Ihlenfeld
- Treasurer: Jim Gebhardt
- Executive Committee Member: Jim Purfeerst
- Executive Committee Member: Tom Gosse
- Executive Committee Member: John Jaeger

Was surprising how much erosion occurs in sloped forestland when leaf cover is gone as seen during the rainfall simulator run at Ed’s shop.

**DISTRICT CAPACITY FUNDS:** Steve listed the following goals on the board:

- Buffer Strip Seed – Education and Outreach – Drill Rent Reimbursement
- Increase State Cost-Share – Cover Crop Seeds – Interseeder – New Staff.

Have approximately $60,000 that can’t supplement or increase funding to be used by December 31, 2018. Will be budgeted in the 2017 year so need plan by end of this December. Can share a person with other SWCD. Bob said lake associations don’t know where to go for assistance. He would like to see a December meeting to discuss lake issues. One Watershed One Plan and DNR tool to spot concern areas. Jim and Bob could form work plan in late November for December Agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RIM GRANT CLOSEOUT FORM:** Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve a RIM 2016 closeout form. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.
WCA GRANT BWSR CLOSEOUT FORM:  Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve WCA Grant 2015 closeout form. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

DEAN SCHWAKE 2016 STATE C-S CONTRACT:  Discussion. Motion to approve the following 2016 state cost share contract at 50% by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst:

CS16-03 – Dean Schwake-12220 E. 190 St. Nerstrand Wheeling 23-24-waterway - $3375.00.

Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

BWSR ACADEMY TRAINING:  Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to approve BWSR Academy training for all staff at approximately $103.00 each, plus lodging on October 24-25. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

HERITAGE PARK BWSR GRANT AGREEMENT:  City of Faribault is building sediment system in Downtown Faribault to treat storm sewer water underground before it reaches the river. Will be on old city shop site by American Legion. Will get approximately $2,000 for administering grant as fiscal agent. Project will be City of Faribault’s engineering staff’s responsibility and Rice SWCD has no responsibility.

Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to approve the Heritage Park Urban Runoff Improvement Project Grant for $392,934.00. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

FY17 CLEAN WATER FUND BUFFER IMPLEMENTATION:  SWCD received $20,000.00 for 2016 implementation. This $20,000.00 is to help implement the Buffer Law for 2017. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve the request for the FY 17 Clean Water Fund Buffer Implementation and authorize Steve Pahs as the SWCD Representative. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

NATURES ACRES RIM EASEMENT BOUNDARIES:  Justin Fuchs explained the RIM easement owner, Ronald Barnes, boundary encroachment issues. Letters to landowner and aerial photos of vineyard and RIM boundaries were reviewed. Discussion about possible solutions (relocate RIM-replace 2 to 1 ratio - abstract changes-survey etc.) and violation proceedings was held. Motion by Gary Wagenbach, second by Richard Cook to table this item discussion until the November board meeting. Further discussion. Polygon was originally picked by landowner Ronald Barnes to be exactly 12 acres. Maps accurate to within 10-20 feet. Vote: Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.
More Discussion: Should put corner posts up in the future. RIM is not open to public hunting. Need “No Trespassing” sign up for land that is not cropland or pasture land.

OTHER: ZWP Executive Director Sarah Middleton invited board to a November 15th meeting at People’s Co-op in Oronoco. Jeff Docken and Sara Middleton left around 10:45 am.

SCOTT WMO AMENDMENT TO BILLABLE RATES: Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve amendment to use BWSR billable hourly rates as reimbursement rates for the Scott WMO Grant Agreement. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

SCOTT WMO CHUCK SHIMOTA CONTRACTS AMENDMENT: Motion by Gary Wagenbach, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to approve the following date extension amendments:

WMO 15-49 Charles Shimota-New Prague–6 waterways-$13,657.50–12/31/17
WMO 15-50 Charles Shimota-New Prague-Sediment Basin-$3,702.00-12/31/17

Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

STATE C-S 2014 AND 2015 GRANT EXTENSION: Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve extending the deadline from 12/31/16 to 12/31/17 for the 2014 and 2015 general state cost-share grants. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

APPROVE DATE AMENDMENT STATE COST-SHARE DAVID GROSS: Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gary Wagenbach to approve the following deadline extension due to weather conditions:

CS14-03 David Gross 6420 French Lake Trail Faribault Wells 7 Sediment Basin $6447.66.

Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

RICE CO 2017 DITCH INSPECTION AGREEMENT: Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to approve the 2017 Rice County Ditch Inspection Agreement. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

MASWCD CONVENTION REGISTRATION: Resolution packets and registration forms have been received by the board for the December MASWCD convention. Supervisors will register themselves by November 14.
SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES RADIO INTERVIEW: All four supervisor candidates and Steve will be on KDHL Radio’s AM MN next Tuesday at 9:30 am with Jerry Groskreutz.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS: Jim said Hiawatha RC&D will not host a joint meeting for One Watershed One Plan. Invasive Grazing Tour will be on October 26 from 10:00 to Noon. Gary said state association is preparing for direction for 2017. Next legislative session is key. Gary preparing for Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in LaCrosse. He asked board for assistance with registration fees and will bring back resource materials and postings. Richard Cook asked if he could glean a 20 minute PowerPoint presentation that would be beneficial to enlighten us and service groups. He could.

Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to pay $325.00 towards registration fee for Gary Wagenbach to attend the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in LaCrosse. Ayes: Richard Cook, Robert Duban, Jim Purfeerst, and Gary Wagenbach. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

D.C. REPORT by Tom Coffman:
1. Fall construction will be a challenge this fall. We’ve started staking, should be ok on well-tiled land, hilly topography is going to be a problem due to subsoil saturation.

2. NRCS contract employee Teresa Crooks has resigned to take a full time position. NRCS has contracted with a company called Ultima the last few years to assist with clerical duties. Melissa Peteler was here one to two days a week up until June when Ultima placed Teresa here full-time. Ultima did not renew contract with NRCS, but another firm called PiCo (Piper-Coughlin) took over and placed everyone at 20 hours per week.

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT by Steve Pahs:
No written report received. Dept. of Ag is looking to partner for nitrate testing on wells. Could have part-time staff and two year timeline. SE MN Water Resources Board is struggling and possibly will merge with something. We were getting 319 EPA small feedlot fix funding from them. Might incorporate into 1W1P. New door decals are on Chevy Traverse and look nice. Cost was about $300.00. May do other two vehicles.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN’S REPORT by Bridget Evers:
- New CRP contracts
- CRP Checks
- State Cost Share projects Survey and Designs
- Ditch Stuff with Steve
- State Cost share checks
- Scott WMO projects
- Toolkit Training
- Area Meeting

Upcoming:
• Survey’s
• Continue New CRP Sign ups
• Survey and designs for Cost share items and CRP program (wetland restorations)
• BWSR Academy

**NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT REPORT by Travis Hirman:**

- Most of my time was spent on buffer implementation. This involved phone conversations and in office meetings. I also made a few site visits to make compliance determinations.
- Inspected a few sites for CRP filter strips.
- Held a public meeting to discuss the buffer law.
- Attended the Area 7 meeting.
- Looking ahead: More buffer related work. As harvest continues I will begin to perform more site visits. Later in October I will be attending the BWSR Academy.

**RESOURCE SPECIALIST REPORT by Justin Fuchs**

- Meeting with landowner regarding RIM options on property.
- Meet with landowner regarding potential RIM violation.
- Cedar Lake Association meeting (had to cancel due to illness).
- Wetlands training conference at Cragun’s Resort in Brainerd.
- Area meeting in Goodhue.
- Sent RIM site inspection forms to BWSR for concurrence.
- E-Filing WCA files (1992-present), currently 10 years have been completed.
- WCA E-File Data Management.
- Off work for vacation.

**OTHER/CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Robert Duban adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.

Submitted by:  
Debbie Skarupa – Admin. Assistant  
Board Member