OUTCOME DOCUMENTS FROM THE JUNE 14, 2016 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Gene Carda, Paul Hoppe, Betty Wilkins

STAFF PRESENT: Deanna Pomije, Kyle Weimann, Jacque Olson

OTHERS: Shannon Rasinski (NRCS), Jason Weinerman (BWSR), Dennis McNally (Kanabec County Commissioner), Kelly Osterdyk

1. Chair Hoppe called the meeting to order at 1:28 p.m.
2. May Meeting Minutes: M/S/Approved Carda/Hoppe to approve the May meeting minutes as written.
3. Consent Agenda (no discussion unless Supervisor requests)
   3.1. Financial
      3.1.1 Treasurer’s Report for May
      3.1.2 Disbursements since last meeting
      3.1.3 Receipts since last meeting
   3.2 Outcome Reports
      3.2.1 Pokegama Lake Association Water Fair
      3.2.2 Ann Lake Shoreland Restoration Tour
      3.2.3 SWCD Newsletter
   3.3 Staff Reports
      3.3.1 Administrative Assistant
      3.3.2 Technician
      3.3.3 District Manager
   3.4 NRCS Report
   3.5 Upcoming Staff Meetings/Outreach/Training
      3.5.1 6/15 Conservation Tour
      3.5.2 6/22-23 Administrative Training
      3.5.3 6/28 Financial Audit
      3.5.4 Boat launch AIS education: 6/18, 7/1

M/S/Approved Carda/Hoppe to approve the consent agenda.

M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins to approve the vouchers for payment.

4. Old Business
   4.1. Supervisor Elections – Hoppe and Belkholm filed for re-election. There is no candidate in two districts. There are several individuals who may be interested in write-in campaigns. Wilkins mentioned that any individual would have to campaign or put out advertisements for awareness. Weinerman cautioned that if a candidate spends $750 or more, they are obligated to file disclosure reports with the state. Hoppe will discuss with the individuals; Wilkins offered to help.
4.2. **Per Diem Rates** – A report on the per diem rates of the surrounding counties was provided. Rates vary: $45-$75 ($75 is the legal maximum). **M/S/Approved Wilkins/Carda** to change the per diem rate to $60 starting January 1, 2017.

5. **New Business**

5.1. **2016 State Cost-Share Base Grant** - In the past the SCS grant was kept to pay for staff technical assistance. New capacity funding has made that unnecessary. No action is required to keep it available for cost share. Any District that submits a BBR automatically gets the base grants (conservation delivery, SCS, RIM).

5.2. **Interseeder** – Pomije reported that Mille Lacs has purchased a new interseeder that can take 3 types of seed, including native grasses. The area grazing specialist believes that there is a need locally. Rasinski confirmed that it was an approved practice for NRCS for cost-share. Pomije said Pokegama Lake Association may be willing to provide some funding. Wilkins said the project seems like a good fit for capacity funding since it is an expansion of services. Carda recommended checking with Federated Co-op to see what may be available there. Kanabec County Pheasants Forever has one but it is tightly controlled. **M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins** to table to July for further investigation.

5.3. **Billable Rate** – **M/S/Approved Wilkins/Carda** to pass the resolution updating the BWSR billable rate: Manager – 37.89, Technician - 32.99, Administrative Assistant – 33.44.

5.4. **CWF Ann River Grant** – Pomije reported that two projects are finishing up and the second round of money will be requested from BWSR soon.

5.5. **Business Hours** – Will be discussed by the Personnel Committee. Hoppe said it might be appropriate to also consider implementing a PTO policy (rather than sick/annual).

5.6. **Administrative Assistant Trainings** – The Board approved splitting the expenses at the May meeting; Mille Lacs would like clarification of what that includes. Pomije included training costs (including staff time) in the capacity grant budget. **M/S/Approved Wilkins/Carda** to split staff time as well as training expenses (registration, etc.).

6. **Project Decisions**

6.1. **Well Monitoring** – Five wells will be monitored by Technician ($30/visit each). Pomije is listed as the contractor and requests authority to sign. **M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins** to grant Pomije signing authority for the DNR Groundwater Well Monitoring contract.

6.2. **Ann River CWF** – A steep field upstream of Fish Lake is forming substantial gullies. The landowner has been approved for EQIP funding of $6,836. Staff requests SWCD funds of $10,105 to in total cover 75% of project cost ($22,589). **M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins** to approve the contract. Weinerman mentioned that the signer would be liable for 10 years of maintenance even if the property is sold. **M/S/Approved Wilkins/Carda** to record the maintenance agreement on the deed.

6.3. **AIS Expenditures for Kanabec County** - Pomije reported that Fish Lake Improvement Association did spraying of Curly Leaf Pond Weed for $10,710 and are requesting their entire allocation of $8,258. **M/S/Approved Wilkins/Carda** to approve the expenditure for payment by Kanabec County. Pomije will appear before the County Board with the Knife Lake Improvement District to request pay for their volunteers to work at the boat launch for AIS education. McNally said that the County is working on the logistics; other counties have used employment agencies to avoid legal/insurance issues but KLID believes it would be cheaper to go through the County.
6.4. **Ann River Loading 319 Grant** – MPCA requires a Quality Assurance Project Plan. A contract is required as a part of that process to specify protocols. M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins to grant Pomije authority to sign the QAPP.

6.5. **AgBMP 3% interest loans** – Pomije explained that the financial institution verifies creditworthiness and will only pay out the amount invoiced at the end. Pomije will still come to the Board for approval but requests authority for project completion certification. Weinerman added that SWCD approval simply is to verify that the project is eligible programmatically for the loan (i.e. it provides a water quality benefit). Equipment and feedlot fixes have been funded in addition to septic upgrades. **M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins to approve the AgBMP loan applications** Kroska and Webeck for septic replacement.

6.6. **MAWQCP** – The BWSR grant for promotion of the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification program expired on May 31. Three landowners have begun the application process. The final report has been compiled and is ready to submit pending receipt of a final bill from Kanabec Publishing for the newsletter. Approximately $2,606 will be returned to BWSR. **M/S/Approved Carda/Wilkins to grant Pomije authority to sign final report.** Olson mentioned that additional funds can be requested for reimbursement through Carlton County. (from General Discussion)

7. **Committee / Meeting Reports**

7.1. **Forestry Association, May 19th** - Hoppe and Carda attended. Weinerman mentioned that the discussion of funding for SFIA was currently moot since the tax bill was vetoed.

7.2. **Snake River Watershed (SRW) Board, May 23rd** - Olson reported that there was discussion of payment to Ford Township for road treatment to reduce sediment runoff. Since it has been a long-term problem, Weinerman recommended including the project in the County Water Plan update.

7.3. **Area 3 Resolution Meeting, June 3rd** - Johnson and Olson attended. A resolution from Mille Lacs SWCD to provide a state property tax credit for Lake Stewardship was passed unanimously and sent on to the MASWCD.

7.4. **EQIP Local Work Group Meeting, June 9th** - Hoppe reported that the consensus priority was water quality with additional emphasis on soil health.

8. **General Discussion / Public Input**

Rasinski reported that NRCS will have a summer intern with an engineering background for 6-8 weeks.

Osterdyk mentioned that he appreciates being able to continue working with the District doing Forest Stewardship Plans.

Pomije said that geological mapping presentation to the County Board on July 20th. Also on the 20th is public input on prioritizing the priority concerns for the water plan. Pomije reminded the Board to turn in reimbursement for per diem by the end of June.

9. **Set Next Meeting Dates**

9.1. **Personnel Committee next meeting date:** Pomije will schedule with Belkholm and Johnson.

9.2. **SWCD Land Committee next meeting date:** Pomije will schedule with Belkholm and citizen.

9.3. **Regular Meeting: July 12th, 1:30pm**
10. Adjourn

Wilkins motion to adjourn; Carda second. Motion carried. Next meeting July 12th at 3:27pm.

Approved:

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Date: __________________________