



# Kanabec Soil & Water Conservation District

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## OUTCOME DOCUMENTS – July 10, 2018 - REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**SUPERVISORS:** Jan Anderson, Joyce Sawatzky, Paul Hoppe

**STAFF:** Deanna Pomije, Jacquelynn Kelzenberg, Anne LeRoy, Kyle Fredrickson

**OTHERS:** – Dennis McNally – Kanabec County Commissioner, Shannon Rasinski - NRCS

**1. Call to Order** — Chair Sawatzky called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda

**Pomije added agenda item 5.6 Dues to NACD**

**M/S: Hoppe/Anderson** Motion to approve the agenda with the addition as requested.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

**2. NRCS Report** Shannon Rasinski reviewed some of their recent site visits with potential runoff control and soil health long-term projects. She mentioned some of their recent meetings and trainings. The new State Conservationist, Troy Daniels is due to start July 22. Rasinski reviewed some of the proposed changes with the new Farm Bill. They are an increase in CRP acres by 1 million acres, a decrease in CSP acres to be enrolled and an EQIP emphasis on soil health. Work continues maintenance on current EQIP contracts. The NRCS reorganization has Mora as a field office hub with more staff set to work out of this office, covering 5 counties. The Brooklyn Center area office is expected to close and Baxter would be the new area office location.

**3. Consent Agenda** (no discussion unless Supervisor requests)

Hoppe requested more information regarding the following from the consent agenda:

2.1.2. 6/20 – Meeting with ALWACOLT, BWSR staff and Wenck Consulting (Pomije) to discuss further detailed questions we have on treatment options to address the high internal phosphorus in Ann Lake. This was a very productive meeting with all our questions being addressed. Wenck was able to address the technical questions regarding the various treatment options, especially the Aluminum Phosphate Treatment. BWSR staff was able to help us understand the potential BWSR grants for funding a treatment. It sounds like there is lea-way on previously though BWSR grant limitations to fund an in-lake treatment. It's just a matter of telling our story and explaining the multiple year treatment over 14 years. Wenck stood by the research stating that a no-wake on the lake is not needed due to the treatment area being greater than 10' deep. This was a serious concern from Ann Lake residence addressed at the start of this lake study. Another continued concern is needing multiple grants, possibly state and federal mixes to meet the grant match requirements on such a large grant (Alum. treatment \$651,000) This needs to be worked out yet.

2.1.3. Grant Applications Comments (Pomije): On 6/14 Jacque and I meet with the new City of Mora Administrator (Lindy Crawford & Beth Thorp, Community Development) on a possible BWSR grant application this summer to fund stormwater practices in the city. They seemed very interested in installing more stormwater practices in the City of Mora. After this discussion, everyone agreed to wait until next year to apply for a stormwater project grant, possibly with BWSR. At the end of the meeting we identified a few steps to take in preparation for a grant application over this next year. First off, the Stormwater Study with Wenck needs to be finalized and then attending

a couple of City Council meetings to explain some of the proposed projects and the possible funding match requirements. Jacque plans to meet with Mike Johnson on the City Planning Committee. Pomije stated that feasibility and design are the next steps before implementing any projects.

Anderson expressed the need for maintenance follow-up on the rain garden in Mora near Railroad Ave, where a tree has encroached. The City of Mora maintains the site. The staff will follow up on this concern.

I'm still hoping to submit an Accelerated Implementation Grant (AIG) with BWSR this summer for more long-term funding for a future District Forester Position. The BWSR Request for Grant Proposals are due out shortly. I hope to ask the East Central Landscape Forestry Committee for a letter of support for bringing on a District Forester.

### 2.2.2. Buffer Inventory (Kelzenberg)

Darren Meyers, BWSR Buffer Specialist, came over on Monday afternoon to check on a buffer seeding with me. He offered good advice on how to proceed with landowners that won't meet the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for compliance. He wanted to come for a visit to see more of Kanabec County and get a feel for the common practices here. The DNR has emailed me regarding the discrepancy between their ditch map and the county's. They have reviewed the submitted comments by myself and Teresa. As follow up the map will be adjusted accordingly. I asked Darren when we can expect this change to be updated on the map and he said he would investigate it. I also took him to a voluntary buffer installation that was happening that day on the Snake River, using the Snake River Clean Water Fund grant. Since that is the work he used to do with Crow Wing SWCD he enjoyed seeing a native buffer get installed and being able to catch up with the Prairie Restoration Inc. crew. Anderson mentioned a buffer question she received on compliance in Grass Lake Township. Anderson will map the exact location and review with Kelzenberg to see if it is classified as a public ditch.

### 2.2.5. Other Updates (Kelzenberg)

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, Ryan Clark and I spent the entire day with John Crellin, NRCS ARC (Area Resource Conservationist). He is the person, staff in this large area can go to with questions regarding practice designs, acquiring Job Approval Authority (JAA) and conservation planning certification. The purpose of his day long visit was to review plans that Ryan and I had written to become certified conservation planners. It was good to hear what he looks for in a conservation plan and his input on filling out NRCS forms and what documentation is required. We also talked through a few scenarios of how situations can be approached differently and where to find resources for those scenarios.

At the end of the day, he signed off on levels B/C for JAA on multiple practices, so I can do designs independently unless there are unusual circumstances. Kelzenberg now has JAA in such ecological practices as tree planting, site prep. and establishment, fencing, exclusions, mulching and seeding. John Crellin is ready to approve Ryan and myself as conservation planners once we submit all our documentation to Ryan Galbreth, NRCS. For conservation planning certification Kelzenberg has yet to complete cultural resources training.

- 3.1. Financial – receipts & disbursements
- 3.2. Outcomes Document - June
- 3.3. Staff Reports
- 3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

**M/S:** Anderson/Hoppe Motion to approve the consent agenda, outcomes document financial receipts & disbursements, staff reports and scheduled meetings.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

## **4. Approve Treasurer's Report**

**M/S:** Hoppe/Anderson Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

**5. Business**

5.1. Civic Organizing Principle – Human Capacity = the belief that everyone has the ability to organize for the common good. Pomije gave a brief review of her knowledge of the human capacity as it relates to civic organizing.

5.2. \*AIS – (COLA) Expenses (total \$3,001.41)

5.2.1. Curly leaf treatment on Ann Lake – \$2,662.47

5.2.2. Materials/rental for AIS sign installed at launch, Pomroy Lake - \$138.94

5.2.3. County Fair Parade Registration - \$50

5.2.4. Additional purchase educational bags – County Fair parade / booth ~\$250

**M/S:** Anderson/Hoppe Motion to approve the AIS expenses.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

5.3. County Fair Update & Sign-Up (passed around)

5.4. \*Lake St. Croix Improvement Program Grant – Contract approval for \$40,000 through 6/30/2020 for Phosphorus reduction projects (livestock operations) within the Ann River Watershed, 25% match. This may work as possible match to an Ann Lake Treatment Grant.

**M/S:** Hoppe/Anderson Motion to approve the contract for the Lower St Croix Improvement Program Grant in the amount of \$40,000.00.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

5.5. Draft 2019 SWCD Budget

Pomije described her beginning draft for a 2018 budget and changes in the classifications of computer expenses based on the recent grant reconciliation from BWSR. Planning to list computer expenses in our billable rate instead of paid by Capacity funds.

5.6. Dues payment to NACD

Pomije presented the option to contribute to the National Association of Conservation Districts. The district hasn't paid into this in the past. The district can't use capacity funding to pay dues, payment would need to come from District funds. It would be part of the facility costs that are part of the billable rate. Anderson recommended to include dues to NACD in the 2019 budget.

5.7. Accelerated Implementation Grant Application to BWSR – Deanna will apply for long-term funding for a District Forester.

**6. Project Updates:**

- \*Fischer, Tim, Kanabec sec. 22, manure waste closure completed – 50% funding through CWP - \$6,973.50, (total cost \$13,947.01) Seeking payment voucher approval.

**M/S:** Hoppe/Anderson Motion to approve payment in the amount of \$6,973.50 to Tim Fischer.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** None

- \*Hamiel, Matt, Fish Lake, Arthur 27, shoreland restoration – coir log, native plugs, completed, 75% funding through Ann River CWF (contract \$5,845.50), Amendment approval - \$456.31 additional using State Cost Share 2017 funds plus the original Ann River CWF. Seeking payment voucher approval for \$6,301.81 (75% of eligible project costs, total cost \$9,417.41).

**M/S:** Anderson/Hoppe Motion to approve the amendment to provide an additional \$456.31 using State Cost Share 2017 funds plus the original Ann River CWF.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** None

**M/S:** Anderson/Hoppe Motion to approve payment in the amount of \$6,301.81 to Matt Hamiel.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** None

- \*Wilcocks, Heidi & Jeff, Fish Lake, Arthur 34, shoreland restoration – native plugs, completed, 50% funding through CWP (contract \$2,175), 25% funding through Ann River CWF (\$795.54), Seeking payment voucher approval, total \$2,970.54.

**M/S:** Hoppe/Anderson Motion to approve payment in the amount of \$2,970.54 to Heidi & Jeff Wilcocks.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** None

- \*Reiser, David, Arthur 27, lined waterway – repair on waterway installed fall 2016, NRCS design increase from total cost \$4,719 to \$16,701.30. Seeking contract amendment to install the practice by 12/1/18 with an expiration date of 12/31/18 and funding of \$12,525.97 (75%) from the Ann River CWF and the 2017 State Cost Share fund.

**M/S:** Hoppe / Anderson Motion to approve a contract amendment to allow for a modified design and increased cost with a total payment of \$12,525.97 (75%) from the Ann River CWF and the 2017 State Cost Share fund.

**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** None

## 7. General Discussion / Public Input

8/1 – Local Work Group Training, St. Cloud (Kelzenberg) This training should be interesting. It is designed to provide more tips and tools for conducting good local meetings, for example the annual Local Work Group Meeting with NRCS. Wanting to facilitate more of an agreed upon consensus. Also hoping to incorporate more of reports such as the Snake WRAPS into this process for more prioritized and targeting.

2.4.12 9/26 – TSA Area 3 Meeting, Duluth (Pomije, Hoppe) Pomije reporting on this meeting briefly. She mentioned there was some consensus in setting up an Area 3 SWCD staff meeting to share ideas and projects, possibly in fall or Feb.

There was a general discussion on a possible AIS CD-3 ‘Clean, Drain, Dry’ self-decontamination unit.

## 8. Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports

- 8.1 Water Plan Presentation to the County Board / Public Hearing 7/25 at 9:30 (Pomije, Hoppe)
- 8.2 COLA – AIS next Meeting 7/12, 5pm in Courthouse (Kelzenberg)
- 8.3 Forestry Association Report – next meeting July 19 at 9:30 in McGregor – Hoppe won’t be able attend, Carda possibly?
- 8.4 Snake River Watershed Board – next meeting 7/23
- 8.5 Kanabec County Fair: 7/25-7/29 See sign-up sheet, planning for well nitrate testing two hours per day
- 8.6 East Central Landscape Forestry Meeting 7/27 (Pomije) This meeting has been postponed.
- 8.7 **Regular SWCD Board Meeting: Tues. Aug. 14, 4:00 PM**
- 8.8 Area 3 Meeting/Tour – Wed. Sept. 20, Virginia
- 8.9 TSA Area 3 Meeting - next meeting 9/26, Duluth (Quarterly Meetings)

**9. 6:25-6:30 Evaluate the Meeting** – What worked? What needs further discussion?

Good discussion – Joyce Sawatzky. Board members whom were not present were missed.

**10. Adjourn Chair Sawatzky adjourned the meeting at 6:06 pm**

**M/S:** Anderson/Hoppe Motion to adjourn.  
**Affirmative:** Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe  
**Opposed:** None                      **Abstain:** None

**Civic Governance** is a new approach to organizing to facilitate change for the common good, creating effective and stable organizations.

The **purpose** of Civic Organizing is to organize people to the obligation of being an active citizen; providing the opportunity for them to impact decision making in their role and in day to day work; learning what is good and growing in that knowledge.

- To broaden governing responsibility to include those impacted but not replacing existing governing responsibilities of board members and supervisors. We need to work together; no one group can alone solve our environmental concerns.
- Organizing comes with the obligation of active citizenship.
- Active citizenship is developed in the way institutions and projects are governed in the process of carrying out their mission/purpose/ achieving goals.

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_