



Kanabec Soil & Water Conservation District

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OUTCOME DOCUMENTS – August 14, 2018 - REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SUPERVISORS: Joyce Sawatzky, Paul Hoppe, Gene Carda, Jan Anderson. Kevin Belkholm arrived at 4:55pm

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.

M/S: Hoppe/Carda Motion to approve the agenda.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

2. **NRCS Report** Shannon Rasinski reported that the New State Conservationist, Troy Daniell visited the Mora office on August 10th. They toured the building, met staff and then toured a recent project site. Daniell stressed the importance of customer service. MN-NRCS is now able to start hiring again with vacancies posted on USAjobs.gov. There are 1,200 positions available nationwide. Minnesota expects to fill 50-60 positions. The NRCS met with a landowner who is interested in multiple conservation practices for their property. The County Fair generated about 10 quality contacts whom NRCS will meet with to discuss conservation planning. Rasinski reported that the annual Knife Lake Dam inspection was completed by Craig Peterson - Area Engineer, Amanda Deans – State Hydraulic Engineer, and Marv Kunkel – Civil Engineering Technician and herself. There were no issues with the dam. Previously this year the dam has been upgraded to a higher hazard risk and an emergency action plan has been completed. Rasinski attended with Kelzenberg a training workshop on Locally Led Workshops in St Cloud on August 1st.

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

3.1. Financial – receipts & disbursements

3.2. Outcomes Document - July

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Hoppe requested clarification the consent agenda items listed below:

2.1.3. Grant Applications Comments: I plan to work on and submit an Accelerated Implementation Grant (AIG) with BWSR this month for more long-term funding for a future District Forester Position. I have asked the East Central Landscape Forestry Committee for a letter of support for bringing on a District Forester.

Pomije responded with a confirmation that submission of this grant application is being worked on and that they will be completed this month.

2.2.3. Other Updates

August 1st – Shannon and I attended a Locally Led Workshop in St. Cloud, which was meant to review the Annual Local Workgroup meeting that each SWCD/NRCS hosts. People in attendance were NRCS, SWCD and BWSR staff and 2 SWCD Supervisors. Speakers at the meeting presented on NRCS program budgets. The requested NRCS funds are at least double of what is available. The training reviewed how to lead effective

meetings and how to get attendees engaged in the conversation. Some SWCD's shared success stories on hosting well attended meetings and how to make them more welcoming.

Kelzenberg and Rasinski shared the highlights of the Locally Led Workshop in St Cloud that was held on August 1st. Kelzenberg took away many techniques on how to engage the public in meetings, and ways to create follow-up and continued engagement to gather information and continue discussions to better understand the needs of the public. Rasinski found the presentation of project priorities to be interesting. Pomije requested more information on the EQIP program rankings from Rasinski, so follow-up can be done with the local work group.

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

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

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

4. Approve Treasurer's Report

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

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5. 4:25-5:45 Business

5.1. Civic Organizing Principle – Democracy = citizens governing for the common good

Pomije explained this principle of civic organizing, a commonly accepted principle.

5.2. AIS – (COLA) Expenses (total \$8,323.29)

5.2.1. Curly leaf treatment on Fish Lake, 15.2 acres – \$7,322.24

5.2.2. Materials for AIS signs for 2 Snake access sites - \$107.41

5.2.3. AIS Materials for Fair: 3 Ads in Advertiser (\$257.50), ID cards (\$219), bags (\$249.40), parade (\$50)
– total \$775.90

5.2.4. Tablet 1/3 cost to AIS - \$68.91

5.2.5. Inspector grabber tool - \$3.99

5.2.6. Postage to return costumes to Lake County - \$9.84

5.2.7. Auger rental – 2 sign AIS installs on Snake River ~\$35

M/S: Hoppe/Anderson Motion to approve the AIS expenses as presented in the total amount of \$8,323.29.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.3. County Fair Update, Project Completion Sheets

Pomije reviewed the SWCD conservation booth that was shared with Environmental Services. The COLA members manned a booth at the fair, where the exhibit focused on AIS education. Five people dressed up in AIS costumes and walked the parade route. McNally suggested having age appropriate prizes for children vs. adults.

Fredrickson discussed the August 11th Starry Trek. Lewis Lake, Knife, Fish, and Lory Lakes were inspected. No Starry Stonewort was discovered during this early detection event. COLA members assisted with this event. There weren't many volunteers from the general public.

Pomije discussed the Ann Lake Treatment Meeting that was held on August 10th in Ogilvie. Jeff Strom from Wenck presented an overview of the feasibility study. There were approximately 25 people in attendance. Many questions were discussed and answered.

- 5.4. *BWSR Academy Training Oct. 29-31, (possibly all staff – agenda dependent) estimated cost \$1,100, training budget will cover this.

Pomije requested approval to fund staff attendance at the annual BWSR training event stating that registration would be dependent on the content of classes offered.

M/S: Carda/Anderson Motion to approve funding attendance to BWSR Academy funded through the training budget for 2018.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 5.5. Kelzenberg Conservation Planning Boot Camp in Lincoln Nebraska registration confirmation for Sept. 11th – 27th. Travel days will be September 10th and 28th. Approve travel, meal and lodging funds for Kelzenberg to attend, all of which will be reimbursed to the SWCD through the Federal reimbursement process. ~\$2,592 (18 nights of \$144 per diem) and ~\$356-\$502 (round trip flight with checked bag) Details of the travel were discussed and it was mentioned that Hinckley offers multiple daily trips to the airport.

M/S: Hoppe/Carda Motion to approve the expected travel expenses for travel and per diem that will be reimbursed from the National Assn. of Conservation Districts (NACD) for attendance at the Conservation Boot Camp in Lincoln, NE.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 5.6. Clean Water Partnership 2015 – 3-year protection-based project grant completed, review final report. Pomije presented a handout to the board that detailed the reduction numbers that were produced through this grant. The CWF grant was not completely spent down. It involved two years of water quality monitoring, best management practices, forest stewardship planning, well sealing, manure pit closures, and a shoreline restoration project.

- 5.7. *2019 SWCD Budget Review

Pomije presented her 2019 budget. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

M/S: Anderson/Carda Motion to approve the proposed 2019 budget to be presented to the Kanabec County Board on August 29th at their budget meeting.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

(Note: Board member Belkholm arrived at 4:55pm)

- 5.8. *Pay Pal Account – LeRoy requested to start a Pay Pal account for more secure on-line purchasing for the SWCD.

M/S: Carda/Anderson Motion to approve opening a Pay Pal account for the SWCD.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6. **Project Updates:**

- *Reiser, David, Arthur 27, lined waterway – repair on waterway installed fall 2016, NRCS estimate \$16,701.30, cost of project \$13,814.
Pomije requested approval for payment voucher for \$10,360.50. Funding of \$4,214.44 from the Ann River CWF and \$6,146.06 from the 2017 State Cost Share fund.
Kelzenberg reviewed the improvements that were constructed on this site to assure longevity. This is a re-work of a project that was done in 2016. Pomije explained the reduction numbers for this project area include prevention of 68 tons/year of soil loss, and phosphorous reduction of 58 pounds per year.

M/S: Hoppe/Carda Motion to approve payment in the amount of \$10,360.50 to David Reiser with funding coming from \$4,214.44 from the Ann River CWF and \$6,146.06 from the 2017 State Cost Share fund.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

7. 6:00-6:10 **General Discussion / Public Input**

Belkholm felt the parade was a good educational event that contacted a lot of people in a short time. He had fun meeting people and especially teaching the kids.

Heavy rains & culvert discussion:

Hoppe mentioned the problems with flooded roadways due to heavy rains. Changes would involve cooperation between multiple entities (City, Townships, and County) who have oversight of each of the affected areas. Pomije responded that Wenck is trying to coordinate a meeting with the City of Mora Administrator to address possible grants to help pay for improved outlet for Mora Lake. Belkholm inquired about flooded/washed roads caused by heavy rains. His observation was that many of the flooded areas were caused by plugged up culverts and ditches. Board discussion included asking who is responsible for maintaining the culverts and ditches. Pomije said that the District has only just started a culvert inventory, starting with the County ditch system. This inventory is planned to be a long-term project, completed with summer interns. Carda believes the townships and county should inspect and repair their own culverts. McNally requested a review of the District's previous resolutions about inventorying culverts in the County for the next meeting.

LeRoy updated the board on Logan LaBeau's Eagle Scout Project. At this point the project will be completed on 8/19. The scope of the original project did not include financing the signs. Pomije offered the use of herbicide around the sign areas. LeRoy sought quotes from eight different sign vendors. The current price is \$500 per two-sided aluminum sign. Carda mentioned that he has an acquaintance who may possibly be able to make the signs at a lower cost. LeRoy will give Carda the specifications and the board will communicate via e-mail to decide on a vendor. Pomije requested that the board members seek funding for the replacement signs, since it had not been previously budgeted.

M/S: Hoppe/Carda Motion to have Carda request a quote from his acquaintance and approve the purchase via e-mails.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

LeRoy requested access to the District's bank accounts for purposes of viewing the accounts and downloading the monthly statements.

M/S: Belkholm/Anderson Motion to allow LeRoy access to the District's bank accounts for purposes of viewing the accounts and downloading the monthly statements.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

Carda shared photos and information about an AIS boat decontamination station that he recently visited in Ely. He was impressed with how it recycled water for washing and that there was no charge to use the boat cleaning station.

8. 6:10-6:25 Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports

8.1 COLA – AIS next Meeting 8/9, 5pm in Courthouse (Kelzenberg, Fredrickson)

8.2 Kanabec SWCD - Budget Presentation to the County Board 8/29 at 9:00 (Pomije)

8.3 Snake River Watershed Board – next meeting 8/27 at 9am

8.4 **Regular SWCD Board Meeting: Tues. Sept. 11, 4:00 PM**

8.5 *Area 3 Meeting/Tour – Wed. Sept. 20, Virginia – Who would like to attend? The registration deadline is 9/6. Hoppe and 1 staff will attend. If other board members are interested, they need to contact the office by 9/6.

M/S: Hoppe/Carda Motion to approve funding those who are interested in attending the Area 3 TSA meeting/tour.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

8.6 Forestry Association Report – next meeting Sept. 13 at 9:30 in McGregor

Hoppe reported that the previous meeting featured foresters talking about their job and what they do. Hoppe has been invited to be on the by-laws committee for the Forestry Association.

8.7 Technical Service Area (TSA) Area 3 Meeting - next meeting 9/26, Duluth

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

Carda mentioned that the meeting worked well.

10. Adjourn Chair Sawatzky adjourned the meeting at 6:00 pm

M/S: Carda/Belkholm Motion to adjourn.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Anderson, Hoppe, Carda, Belkholm

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 learning what is good and growing in that knowledge.