



## **Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Wednesday, July 15, 2020**

### **Meeting Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday July 15, 2020 at the Becker SWCD Shop Facility located at 1366 Mallard Street, Detroit Lakes, MN.

Those present were Supervisors Travis Schauer, Tony Beck, Eugene Pavelko, Michelle Andresen and Curt Ballard. Staff members District Administrator Peter Mead, Office Manager Deana Westberg, SWCD Soil & Water Technician Ed Clem, NRCS District Conservationist Ed Musielewicz, NRCS Civil Engineering Technician Abbi Klos and County Commissioner Barry Nelson.

#### **Call to Order**

Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

Introduction for 1 new employee. Mead introduced:

- NRCS Civil Engineering Technician Abbi Klos
- Welcome Abbi to the Area team

A special recognition to recently retired Jerry Flottesch for 50 years as SWCD Board Supervisor, who passed away on July 13<sup>th</sup>. The board and staff wish condolences to the family of Jerry. Many kind words and stories were shared and will always be remembered.

#### **Oath of Office and Installation of District 1 Supervisor**

Becker County Court petitioned and vacated the appointment of Curtis Ballard on May 20, 2020 because of a Minnesota Statute appointment timing. On June 25, 2020 the Becker County Court approved the reappointment of Curtis Ballard to the position of District 1 supervisor of the Becker County Soil and water Commission for the unexpired term of Mr. Flottesch. Curt will replace Jerome Flottesch and fill the remainder of the term which expires 2022.

Curtis Ballard read aloud the Oath of Office, stating that he solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Minnesota and that he will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of supervisor, upon which he now enters.

#### **Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items**

(June 17, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes; Employee Program Reports)

Motion (Beck, Pavelko) to approve the consent agenda items including the June meeting minutes.

Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Motion (Beck, Andresen) to approve the employee program reports. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

#### **Financial Reports**

Mead reviewed the Treasurers Report and the amended Bills for Approval.

Motion (Ballard, Andresen) to approve the June's Treasurer's Report and July bills for payment.  
Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

### **Reports**

District Administrator Peter Mead reported:

- Still teleworking as much as possible
- 1W1P Buffalo Red is in the 60 day review process and waiting for comments to proceed.
- 1W1P Steering Committee meetings
- Red Eye 1W1P public hearing – an open meeting that a few people attended. Wrapping up and hopefully approved in August
- Discussion regarding the 1W1P process and the many hours of meetings and planning by multiple organizations. Mead and Nelson explained the process and Mead showed a statistical spreadsheet of estimated costs of a 1W1P.
- Crow Wing and Otter Tail are starting the 1W1P planning process.
- Discussion on irrigation systems and the effect they have on water tables and ground water level fluctuating readings.
- RRVCSA Manager's meeting was held at the Becker SWCD Shop and via video conference. FY2021 budget was to leave as status quo until more information available from the state regarding grant budget cuts.
- TSA Board meeting was held at the Becker SWCD Shop and via video conference. A quorum was not met, short 2 board supervisors. A roll call vote was taken and a special meeting will be scheduled to approve the motions.
- MASWCD was looking for a story about partnerships and the benefits of Capacity Funding Check out the next newsletter.
- Discussion about county funding and the great support that Becker SWCD has with the county. Nelson commended Mead on the good relationship.
- Zoning Ordinance meeting
- Quarterly reporting and billing done
- Pictures and discussion regarding the old abandoned city lagoon
- COVID-19 update – At a Level 1 so the doors are still locked to the public and employees teleworking when they can.

### **Open Forum**

- Mead showed pictures and encouraged everyone to routinely check out the Becker SWCD facebook page for the great pictures and stories posted by the staff.
- A gentleman from New Zealand contacted Mead asking permission to copy the Soil Health bumper sticker design Mead developed. Mead gave permission and wondered how they saw it so far away!
- County Commissioner Nelson reported updates on the Middle Cormorant public access and the zoning set back changes recently approved by the county board.
- Discussion regarding the BWSR LWM grant and the county matching funds.
- Nelson reported that the county received \$4.2 million in COVID funds to disperse to businesses to help with the pandemic costs incurred. Applications are now being taken.

### **Budget Discussion**

Preliminary CY 2021 Operational Budget was discussed. Changes noted were the additional rent expense for larger shop space, Jetpack monthly expense for added security and potential wage freeze. Schauer recommended to follow the federal guidelines for wage increases. The Budget Committee will meet on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the SWCD shop.

**Clean Water Legacy Applications for Approval**

- # CWL-48-BR, Terry Kohler, Water and Sediment Control Basins-Total Project Cost:\$8,620 Cost Share: \$7,758
- # CWL-49-BR, Barry Nelson, Grassed Waterway-Total Project Cost:\$36,140 Cost Share: \$32,526
- # CWL-65-LP, Pelican River Watershed District, BSWCD – Total Project Cost:\$3.182 Cost Share: \$2,387

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve the Clean Water Legacy Applications as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

**Clean Water Legacy Amendment for Approval**

- # CWL-10-WR, Jerred Jirava, Increased Cost due to lack of federal funding: Amended Total \$66,376

Motion (Pavelko, Andresen) to approve the Clean Water Legacy Amendment as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**Clean Water Legacy Vouchers for Approval**

- # CWL-12-TD, Todd Andresen, Cover Crop-Total Project Cost: \$3,500

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve the Clean Water Legacy Voucher as presented. Affirmative: Andresen abstained from voting. Carried

- # CWL-59-LP, Delrae Amann (Zurn), Critical Area Planting-Total Project Cost: \$7,793 Cost Share: \$5,845
- # CWL-61-LP, Richard Taylor, Shoreline/Streambank Stabilization-Total Project Cost: \$4,020 Cost Share: \$2,010
- # CWL-62-LP, David & Matt Gadberry, Critical Area Planting-Total Project Cost: \$5,860 Cost Share: \$4,395
- # CWL-63-LP, Wayne Gadberry, Critical Area Planting-Total Project Cost: \$4,889 Cost Share: \$3,667
- # CWL-64-LP, Tom Moore, Critical Area Planting-Total Project Cost: \$3,020 Cost Share: \$ 1,510

Motion (Andresen, Beck) to approve the Clean Water Legacy Vouchers as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

**State Cost Share Vouchers for Approval**

- #SCS-19-7, Travis Schauer, Cover Crop-Total Project Cost: \$3,442
- #SCS-19-8, Allen Bergquist, Cover Crop-Total Project Cost: \$3,500

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve the State Cost Share Vouchers as presented. Affirmative: Schauer abstained from voting. Carried

**Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 10:12 am.

**Approved: Michelle Andresen, Becker SWCD Secretary**

**Date: August 19, 2020**