

**Becker Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting
April 15, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 in the Conference Room of the Ag Service Center, 809 8th St. S.E., Detroit Lakes, Minnesota.

Those present were supervisors Don Lefebvre, Joe Stenger, Tony Beck, Duane Grossman, Jerome Flottesmesch, County Commissioner Barry Nelson, Soil Conservationist Dan Pazdernik, Dist. Secretary Ginger Flynn, Dist. Technicians Ed Clem and Dean Hendrickson, and Dist. Administrator Brad Grant.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lefebvre.

Motion by Grossman, second by Beck to approve the March minutes as sent out and received by the supervisors. Affirmative: Grossman, Beck, Stenger, Flottesmesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The 1st quarter supervisors' vouchers and extra meetings were presented. The extra meetings were the following:

Jan. 14th - JPB Committee Meeting - Flottesmesch

Feb. 5th - Area I MASWCD meeting in Mahnomen – Beck, Stenger, Flottesmesch, Grossman

March 4th - WCMJPB Board Meeting - Flottesmesch

March 17th - Area I MASWCD meeting in Ada – Beck, Lefebvre, Grossman, Stenger, Flottesmesch

March 25th - Annual Township Ag Weed Meeting in Callaway – Flottesmesch, Stenger, Lefebvre

Motion by Grossman, second by Flottesmesch to approve the 1st quarter supervisor vouchers and payment. Affirmative: Grossman, Flottesmesch, Beck, Stenger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The financial reports and bills payable were presented.

Motion by Flottesmesch, second by Beck to approve the financial statements and payment of bills. Affirmative: Flottesmesch, Grossman, Beck, Stenger. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Reports:

WesMin RC&D – Don Lefebvre reported on the following from the April 8th meeting of WesMin RC&D:

- The Smokey Timbers Camp Foundation has received its 5013C non-profit designation and the camp has been turned over to the Foundation.
- Don was appointed to the WesMin Executive Committee and Becker County Commissioner Jerry Schram to the finance committee.
- Dean sent some Dry Hydrant signs that he would like to have put up. Brad will contact the newspaper and the participating fire departments to do a story on the signage.

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Dist. Conservationist Report – Soil Conservationist Dan Pazdernik present the following NRCS report:

- EQIP and WHIP signups are ongoing. No scoring date has been set, but should be toward the end of the month. Have received two Ag Waste Sign-ups, 1 Animal Mortality, and several Tillage Sign-ups.
- Reported on the Biomass Workshop held in Ponsford on March 26th. Sixty persons attended. The workshop was well received by those attending.

Dist. Technicians Report – Dean and Ed reported on the following:

- Ed presented a map showing where the cost-shared windbreaks will be installed this spring. The District will be planting 12 sites with our machine.
- Dean reported that we have been receiving calls concerning damage to Colorado Spruce trees this spring. The damage is due to winter burn on the trees. Even larger spruce have received damage this year.
- Reviewed several sediment basin plans that will be installed this summer as part of the Hay Creek Project.

Tree Program Report – Brad noted that Lee Nursery in Fertile is going out of business and will not be able to supply all the trees we ordered for next week delivery. We have been able to obtain the needed stock from other nurseries for this year. Trees will arrive on April 17th, with customer pick-up day set for April 25th. We will start planting April 27th.

MASWCD Resolution Committee – Jerome reported on the Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts resolution committee meeting he attended April 15th. Brad noted that the call for resolutions for this year's convention is out. If we have any resolutions to submit, we will have to have them at our May meeting.

Red River Valley Conservation Service Area Joint Powers Board (RRVCSA-JPB) – Jerome and Joe reported on the organizational meeting of the RRVCSA-JPB that was held April 7th in Mahanomen. Fifteen of the counties were present and organized the new Joint Powers Board. All 17 had signed the preliminary agreement. Jerome was elected Chairperson of the new board with Linda Hanson of Pennington elected Vice-Chair. Pete Revier of Mahanomen was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Becker SWCD and Marshall-Beltrami were selected as the host Districts, with Becker being the fiscal agent. Committees were appointed to develop a new employee policy handbook and the other to prepare the FY10 budget. The next meeting of the full board will be in late June. Also a letter to JPB Area 8 will be sent canceling the engineering services agreement as the new RRVCSA will no longer need their services. The RRVCSA JPB also discussed the open meeting law and how it may apply to the new board.

Annual Report on Web – Brad noted that an Annual Report of Activities and Accomplishments for 2008 has been written and posted on our web site as required by BWSR.

Spring Administration Session – Ginger reported on the Spring Administration training session she attended April 7-8.

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Water Plan Update – Brad noted that he has started compiling data for the implementation schedule update for the water plan. We will re-organize the committee and have a meeting later this summer.

Becker County Landowner Guide – The committee met and the project is moving forward. Patty and Tera will be meeting with Paula West to go over some proposed changes to the booklet.

Envirothon – Ginger reported that the Area II Envirothon is set for May 8th at the Prairie Wetlands Center in Fergus Falls. Ed Musielewicz, Dan Pazdernik, John Voz and Ginger will be assisting at the Envirothon.

Wetland Conservation Act – Technical Evaluation Panel met on April 8th. Discussions included review of the Bruce Paakh wetland bank request for deposit and the North Country Trail route through Becker County. Ed and Brad met with Holmesville Township supervisor on a road realignment project.

Cost-share Contracts – The following cost-share contracts were presented for payment authorization:

Abandoned Well Sealing Contract AW#465 with Darrell Woessner. Total cost of sealing \$500.00. Eligible cost-share \$240.00.

Motion by Grossman, second by Flottesch to authorize payment of contract AW#465 in the amount of \$250.00 from water plan funds. Affirmative: Beck, Stenger, Flottesch, Grossman. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The following Native Buffer Cost-share contracts in the Hay Creek Watershed project were presented for consideration:

Contract #HCNB-1 with Dave Stowman. Estimated cost \$1,416.96. Eligible cost-share \$1,062.00.

Contract #HCNB-2 with Gloria Buhaug. Estimated cost \$1,560.00. Eligible cost-share \$1,170.00.

Motion by Beck, second by Grossman to approve the above listed Native Buffer Cost-Share contracts for the amounts presented. Affirmative: Beck, Grossman, Flottesch, Flottesch. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The following State Cost-share Contracts were presented for consideration:

Cont. #09-22 with Bruce Hillukka, windbreak. Estimated cost \$1,440.00. Eligible cost-share \$1,080.00.

Cont. #09-23 with Bruce Retz, windbreak. Estimated cost \$1,096.00. Eligible cost-share \$822.00.

Cont. #09-24 with Jesse Schattschneider, windbreak. Estimated cost \$1,194.00. Eligible cost-share \$895.00.

Cont. #09-25 with Bruce Jacobs, windbreak. Estimated cost \$2,287.00. Eligible cost-share \$1,715.00.

Cont. #09-26 with Art Schneiderman, windbreak. Estimated cost \$1,124.00. Eligible cost share \$843.00.

Motion by Stenger, second by Beck to approve the above listed cost-share contracts for the amounts presented. Affirmative: Stenger, Beck, Flottesch, Grossman. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

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Ag Inspector Program – The Annual Township Weed Meeting was held in Callaway, March 25th. Marsha is contacting gravel pits on the certification program. We have requested final payment of our 2007-08 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant and submitted a request for the phase 1 funding of our 2009-10 NFWF grant. We hope to apply for a third NFWF grant in December as we can receive up to three from the foundation. Marsha has been collecting seed samples from several retail outlets and some elevators.

Other –

- Brad noted that a public information meeting will be held on March 31st in Barnesville concerning the proposed Wind Energy Conversion System in Becker, Clay and Ottertail counties.
- 5th Grade Conservation Tour scheduled for May 11th -12th.
- An Invasive Weed Mgt. Workshop will be held on May 19th in Detroit Lakes in the Commissioner's Room at the Becker County Courthouse.
- Ag Land Workshop in Frazee this afternoon today. We will have a display at the workshop.
- John Voz will give a Wetland Reserve Program report at our June meeting.
- Duane Erickson and John Austinson were appointed to the Wild Rice River Watershed District Board of Managers.
- Ginger reported that we now have to fill out the Special District Form for the State Auditor's Office.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Lefebvre.

Approved: Duane Grossman

Dated: May 20, 2009