



Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 15, 2018

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 in the Conference Room of the USDA Ag Center Building located at 809 8th Street SE, Detroit Lakes, MN.

Those present were Chairman Tony Beck, Eugene Pavelko, Jerome Flottesmesch, Travis Schauer and Kathy Stenger. Staff members include District Administrator Peter Mead, Office Assistant Alisa Bentley, NRCS District Conservationist Ed Musielewicz Private Lands Biologist Phil Doll and Program Technician Aaron Salo. Becker County Commissioner Barry Nelson was also in attendance.

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:36 a.m. by Chairman Beck.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

(August 15, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes; Employee Program Reports)

Motion (Stenger, Flottesmesch) to pull ENRCS report from the Employee Program Reports to further discuss.

Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

Motion (Schauer, Stenger) to approve the July minutes as well as the agenda and consent agenda. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Financials

Treasurers Report and Bills for Approval. Mead reviewed the July reports and list of bills to pay for August.

Motion (Pavelko, Schauer) to approve July Treasurers Report and pay the list of bills. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

District Reports

Administrator's Report, presented by Peter Mead

- Working on CWL grant applications
- Phil has been stepping in on the Crow Wing Healthy Watersheds, "RIM in the trees" meetings
- Visited Big Sugar Bush regarding erosion problems
- Worked the Otter Tail Aqua Chetaqua event organized at Dunton Locks by U of M extension. They had 11 different stations, family friendly event.
- County budget worksheets turned in last Friday. Can discuss further during open forum
- Ed M and Phil attended the cover crop & working lands initiative meeting in Barnesville in his absence.
- Jen is at MASWCD leadership training up in Moorhead.

District Conservationist, presented by Ed M

- Further discussed his employee program report in detail.

Program Technician's Report, presented by Aaron Salo

- CRP sign up is Friday Aug 17 for brand new and re-enrollment. 151 expiring contracts... we will have 30 contracts to this year's sign up. Many will be a 1year extension or will expire the end of September. Will start working on cons plan by end of Sept 2018

- Phil and I have been working on CREP proposal. Still working with BWSR
- Had a closing last week on CREP but hit a snag and still working on fixing it.
- Have flown the drone over Okeson project. Get documents for waiver and release. Office policy procedure.
- Buffer update meeting Aug 16th with Darrin Myers for local LGU's. Lots of gray area with buffer law and CRP program for filter strips

Shoreland Program Report, presented by Peter Mead

I am adjusting to my new position and it certainly has come with new challenges but also new rewards. May and June have been a very busy months! We have assisted 15 landowners with either shoreland buffers, rain gardens and/or seeding projects this spring. July-Aug, we have been busy completing site evaluations for next year's projects. Brandon and I have completed 27 site evaluations and have 21 people signed up for projects! It is great to have Brandon as the new Shoreline Technician. He has been a valued asset to the Shoreline Program. As well as helping with installations, he has been great to have assisting with site evaluations, speaking with landowners and getting the shop area set up for the 2019 shoreland installation season. He also did a great job of taking inventory after the 2018 shoreline season and his dedication and interest in the shoreland projects is much appreciated. Our 2018 Conservation Corp intern, Dylan, was invaluable this summer. With his humor and great work ethic, he fit right in with the rest of the crew. He was willing to do anything that was asked of him and with no complaints. He went over and beyond his requirements and stayed as long as it took to get the jobs done. Logan, as always, is great to work with and his willingness to help made our crew complete. The program is growing by leaps and bounds and without him, we would have had even longer days!

Landowner/Lake Project Date

Justin Scallon, Detroit Lake (#1)	2 Rain Gardens	May 21st, 2018
Marietta Keenan, Island Lake	Coir Log Planting (Coir logs installed fall 2017)	May 22nd, 2018
Howie & Linda Anderson, Bad Medicine	Rain Garden	May 23rd, 2018
Anne Anderson, Long Lake	Upland Buffer	May 30th, 2018
Golden Bay Shores, Detroit Lake Development	Seeded 2 Retention Basins	May 31st, 2018
Middle Cormorant Swimming Beach	4 Shoreland Buffers Assisted by Conservation Corp	June 4-6, 2018
Bill Ufkin, Lake Melissa	Shoreland Buffer	June 7th, 2018
Pam Kinnenberg, Leaf Lake	Upland Seeding	June 7th, 2018
Barb Mollberg, Detroit Lake	Shoreland Buffer	June 12th, 2018
Frazee Beach, Town Lake	3 Shoreland Buffers Assisted by Conservation Corp	June 18th, 2018
Dave Gaboury, Island Lake	Shoreland Buffer Assisted by Conservation Corp	June 19th, 2018
Darren Leno, Little Cormorant Lake	Shoreland Buffer Assisted by Conservation Corp	June 20-21, 2018
The Fireside Restaurant	2 Rain Gardens	June 26th, 2018
Jim Wood, Detroit Lake	Shoreland Buffer	June 27 th , 2018
Justin Scallon, Detroit Lakes (#2)	2 Rain Gardens	July 2 nd , 2018

Biologist's Report, presented by Phil Doll

- Submitted 2 additional CREP applications. Doing more outreach to attract CREP applications.
- Working on title issues with existing easements.
- Struggling with getting blanket utility easements confined on two RIM easements sites.
- Working with the Audubon 6th grade teacher (Katie O'Connell), have existing pollinator area but want to expand the area, trying to locate some funding and plan the site and maybe install a rain garden to. Project area is 4000square feet
- Working on the CRP stuff with Aaron.

Becker

Rorah CREP restoration survey/concept design
Breezy Point site visit
Lake Eunice site visit/Prelim complete
Okeson Construction
Sugarbush site visit

WOT

Eagle Lake survey
Thompson 638 design complete
Stake Swenson 638 Project
Dubbles Prelim revisions

EOT

Pasek Contractor Meetingg
Pete Knapp Diversion/Rain Garden Construction complete
Leinen Grade Stab Construction complete
Franklin 657 Construction (training)

Open Forum

- Peter discussed the AIS budget, to address Barry's concerns from last meeting about doubling up in the budget. They are planning a standalone budget for the AIS program. In the future the commissioners will be wanting a separate clear budget of where AIS program funds are being spent.
- Peter discussed Marsha's busy weed season, 68 Notice 1's that have been sent out. She has been busy working on weed complaints. Barry was notified of a weed issue in Don Skarie's district. Marsha and the Township weed inspector are working with the individual to achieve compliance.

Grants and Agreements

Review and Approve FY 2019 CWF Applications

- Peter discussed the competitive clean water legacy grant applications in progress for FY 2019 in the Buffalo Watershed and Straight River Groundwater Management Area.

Motion (Flottesmesch, Schauer) approve to move forward with applying for these Clean Water Legacy grants. Affirmative. Unanimous. Carried.

TNC Agreement for Services

Review and Approval of TNC Agreement for services

- Peter provided Todd Holman (nature conservancy) a draft agreement for services. This would provide the SWCD 18,000 a year for 3 years to provide outreach and biologist services in portions of Becker, Clearwater, Hubbard, and Crow Wing counties. No official agreement in place but seeking approval to enter agreement.

Motion (Stenger, Schauer) to approve the TNC agreement for services grant. Affirmative. Unanimous. Carried

State Cost Share Contracts for Approval

#CS-17-9, Darwin Hendrickson, Cover Crop. Total estimated project costs \$3,500 with 100% eligible for flat rate cost share.

#CS-18-5, Bruce Nelson, Mulching. Total estimated project costs \$2,000 with eligible 75% cost share payment of \$1,500.

Motion (Schauer, Flottesmesch) to approve the above noted State Cost Share grant contracts. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Clean Water Legacy Contracts for Approval

#CWL-45-LP, Lake Eunice Township, Grade Stabilization. Total estimated project costs \$5,225 with 50% cost share payment of \$2,612.50.

Motion (Flottemesch, Pavelko) to approve the above noted Clean Water Legacy grant contract. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Clean Water Legacy Vouchers for Approval

#CWL-41-LP, William & Jean Ufkin, Shoreline Stabilization. Total project costs \$7,360 with 75% approved funding and cost share payments of \$5,520.

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the above noted Clean Water Legacy grant payments. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

State Cost Share Vouchers for Approval

#CS-18-1, Denise Anderson (City of Frazee), Shoreline Stabilization. Total project costs \$10,351 with 50% approved funding and cost share payment of \$5,175.

Motion (Flottemesch, Schauer) to approve the above noted State Cost Share grant payment. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Upcoming Events:

Cormorant Days, Aug 18th

SWCD & TSA Audits, Aug 28th

“Dirt Rich” Soil Health Day, Aug 29th

Adjourn

Chairman Beck adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Approved: Eugene Pavelko, Becker SWCD Secretary

Date: September 19, 2018