

MINUTES
Board of Supervisors Meeting
January 22nd, 2009
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District
712 Industrial Park Blvd, Elbow Lake, MN 56531

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Randy Larson, Chairman
Odell Christenson, Treasurer
Paul Groneberg, Member
Mike Anderson, Member

Members Absent: Theo Myron, Personnel Director

Others Present: Drew Mosburg and Brent Gulbrandson, NRCS
Joe Montonye, Loren Olson and Mary Jo Knutson, Grant SWCD

Oath of Office— Christenson and Anderson took the Oath of Office and Chairman Larson signed the Oath of Office and welcomed new member Anderson to the Board.

Secretary's Report: Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to approve the regular board meeting minutes of the December 30th, 2008 meeting. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Groneberg to approve the Treasurer's report as read. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Old Business:

- 2009 MASWCD Dues**—Larson gave a background on the MASWCD and discussion followed. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to waive paying the 2009 dues the MASWCD is requesting. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Old Business: (continued)

- 2. Notice of Pay Equity Non-Compliance**—The SWCD has been notified by the Minnesota Management and Budget office that the Grant SWCD is in non-compliance with the state pay equity rules for the District Coordinator position. The reason for non-compliance is that at the time of the 2003 pay equity report, the coordinator was being compensated in salary the difference between family health coverage and single health coverage. When this amount is added to the hourly salary the coordinators positions was equal to 90% of the technicians salary. To come into compliance the SWCD would have to bring the coordinators position back up to 90% of the technicians salary. In July of 2003 this benefit/salary was removed by the Board when the coordinator position became a part-time position. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to give Knutson a \$2.55/hour pay increase to come into compliance with the pay equity requirements. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried. A new report will be submitted.

Clarification of the July 2003 minutes: Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Larson to clarify that when Knutson went to part-time in August of 2003 she was no longer eligible to receive the difference in salary between family and single health insurance coverage but would continue to receive single health insurance coverage. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

New Business:

- 1. Reorganization of the Board and Committee Appointments – Pomme de Terre River Association JPB, Chippewa River Project JPB and West Central Engineering JPB—**

Larson made the following committee appointments for 2009: Groneberg to the Pomme de Terre River Association JPB, Anderson to the Chippewa River JPB, and Christenson to the West Central Engineering JPB. Larson will be an alternate to all of the above committees.

Larson opened up the nominations for election of officers for 2009.

Chairman: Motion was made by Christenson to nominate Larson to the office of Chairman and for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot. Seconded by Groneberg. Motion Carried.

Vice-Chairman: Motion was made by Christenson to nominate Groneberg to the office of Vice-Chairman and for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot. Seconded by Anderson. Motion Carried.

Treasurer: Motion was made by Groneberg to nominate Christenson to the office of Treasurer and for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot. Seconded by Anderson. Motion Carried.

Personnel Director: Motion was made by Anderson to nominate Myron to the office of Personnel Director and for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot. Seconded by Christenson. Motion Carried.

New Business: (continued)

Member-at-Large: Motion was made by Christenson to nominate Anderson to the office of Member-at-Large and for nominations to cease and to cast a unanimous ballot. Seconded by Groneberg. Motion Carried.

Larson appointed Knutson as the Secretary to the Board.

2. **Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement Establishing the Red River Valley Conservation Service Area**—Copies of the agreement were distributed to the members present and asked to review it prior to the February meeting when it will be acted on.
3. **Designate Depository for District Funds**—Board decided to continue with the checking and savings accounts at Bank of the West in Elbow Lake and to continue to shop around when purchasing a certificate of deposit for the best interest rate as they mature.
4. **Mileage Rates & Supervisor Compensation Rates**—Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to use the IRS standard mile rate of \$.55/mile for 2009 and continue to pay supervisor compensation at a rate of \$75/day (the maximum). Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Mosburg and Gulbrandson left the meeting.

5. **Review Personnel Evaluations**—Montonye reviewed the personnel evaluations of Knutson and Olson and reported both of them to be doing satisfactory. Larson reviewed Montonye's personnel evaluation and reported him to be doing satisfactory also.
6. **Review Employee Salaries**—The employees requested the Board to hold off on raises at this time and address this issue in June when we know what impact the proposed budget cuts will have on the District. Board was in agreement with that.

Motion was made Christenson, seconded by Anderson to pay the 2008 year-end bills #11161 - #11173 and all debit card withdrawals and to pay January 2009 bills #11178 - #11186 and all debit card withdrawals as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Groneberg and Anderson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

***Next Board Meeting – Thursday, March 5th @ 9:00 a.m.
(Re-scheduled from Thursday, February 26th)***