

MINUTES
Board of Supervisors Meeting
January 27th, 2010
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District
712 Industrial Park Blvd, Elbow Lake, MN 56531

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 9:41 am.

Members Present: Randy Larson, Chairman
Paul Groneberg, Vice-Chairman
Odell Christenson, Treasurer

Members Absent: Theo Myron, Personnel Director
Mike Anderson, Member

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

Secretary's Report: Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to approve the regular board meeting minutes of the December 30th, 2009 meeting. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

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

Old Business:

1. **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Update**—Mosburg gave an update on CSP. He stated that 19 of the 35 applicants for Grant County had been approved thus far. He would like to have a meeting with the local crop consultants prior to the next CSP sign-up.
2. **2010 MASWCD Dues**—Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to not pay the \$1850.00 dues requested from the MASWCD for 2010. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Old Business: (continued)

3. **EQIP Local Work Group Meeting**—There will be an EQIP local work group meeting at 1:00 p.m. today to determine local natural resource priority concerns for the USDA Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The meeting will be held at the Extension office.
4. **Pheasants Forever Award**—Montonye accepted the Brood Booster Award on behalf of the Grant SWCD at the Pheasants Forever State Convention in Grand Rapids.

New Business:

1. **Reorganization of the Board and Committee Appointments – Pomme de Terre River Association JPB, Chippewa River Project JPB and Technical Service Area #1 JPB**—Montonye assumed the position of Chair.

Chair: Motion was made by Christenson to nominate Larson to the office of Chair. Motion was made by Larson to nominate Christenson to the office of Chair. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson that nominations cease. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to elect Larson to the office of Chair. Motion Carried.

Larson resumed the position of Chair.

Vice-Chair: Motion was made by Christenson to nominate Groneberg to the office of Vice-Chair. Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Christenson that nominations cease. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Larson to elect Groneberg to the office of Vice-Chair. Motion Carried.

Treasurer: Motion was made by Groneberg to nominate Christenson to the office of Treasurer. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Larson that nominations cease. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Larson to elect Christenson to the office of Treasurer. Motion Carried.

Personal Director: Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to elect Myron to the position of personal director. Motion Carried.

Member-at-Large: Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to elect Anderson to the position of member-at-large. Motion Carried.

Larson made the following committee appointments for 2010: Groneberg to the Pomme de Terre River Association JPB, Anderson to the Chippewa River JPB, and Christenson to the Technical Service Area #1 JPB with Larson being the alternate.

Larson appointed Knutson as the Secretary to the Board.

New Business: (continued)

2. **Pomme de Terre Report**—Montonye explained that there is some desire by one of the SWCD's in the Pomme de Terre project to change criteria and policy for incentive payments on filter strips. If this change occurs it could be in conflict with existing Grant SWCD policy regarding filter strips. The Board instructed Montonye to share the Boards' concerns with changing this policy to the Pomme de Terre Technical Advisory Committee. It was the consensus of the Board that our current policy would override the Pomme de Terre JPB policy in those areas.
3. **RIM Riparian Buffer Program**—Montonye explained the new permanent easement program to the Board.
4. **Rural Preserves Property Tax Program**—Tabled.
5. **Designate Depository for District Funds**—Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg 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. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
6. **Mileage Rates and Supervisor Compensation Rates**—Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to use the IRS standard mileage rate of \$.50/mile for 2010 and continue to pay supervisor compensation at a rate of \$75/day (the maximum). Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
7. **State Cost-Share Program Year 2009**—The District still has \$21,173 left in FY2009 State Cost-Share funds that need to be encumbered by June 30th, 2010 or returned to the State.
8. **Final Financial Report – 2007 State Cost-Share Program**—Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to approve the 2007 State Cost-Share Program final financial report as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried. Christenson signed the report.
9. **Finalize 2010 Budget**—Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to approve the 2010 proposed budget as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Mosburg and Gulbrandson left the meeting.

10. **Review Personnel Evaluations**—Montonye reviewed the personnel evaluations of Knutson and Olson. Larson reviewed Montonye's personnel evaluation. Complete personnel reviews are on file at the SWCD office.

New Business: (continued)

11. **Review Employee Salaries**—Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Christenson to give all employees a 2% increase in salaries for 2010. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to pay the 2009 year-end bills #11360 - #11372 and all debit card withdrawals and January 2010 bills #11373 - #11378 and all debit card withdrawals as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg and Christenson. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

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

January Minutes were approved February 25th, 2010

***Next Board Meeting – Thursday, February 25th, @ 9:00 a.m.
Please call if you are unable to attend.***