

MINUTES
Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 28th, 2014
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District
712 Industrial Park Blvd, Elbow Lake, MN 56531

Vice-Chairman Groneberg called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Randy Larson, Chairman (arrived at 8:35)
Paul Groneberg, Vice-Chairman
Odell Christenson, Treasurer
Don Dally, Member
Larry Stephens, Member

Others Present: Drew Mosburg and Brent Gulbrandson, NRCS
Joe Montonye, Loren Olson and Mary Jo Knutson, Grant SWCD
Greg Lillemon, Office of Land Management.

Secretary's Report: Motion was made by Stephens, seconded by Dally to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of the July 24th, 2014 meeting. Affirmative: Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

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

Correspondence:

1. **Grant County Acres Planted**---Handouts were distributed and Board discussed the change in crops planted and the preventive plant acres this year.
2. **Chippewa River Phosphorus Reduction Practices – Cover Crops**—Handouts were distributed and Board discussed the incentive payment for adding cover crop acres to a farming rotation.
3. **Strengthening Your SWCD – Taking Charge of Your Strategic Direction**—Training will be held September 10-11 at the Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes in Baxter.

New Business:

1. **Guest – Greg Lillemon, Office of Land Management – WCA Issues**—Lillemon informed the Board that his office has received a \$26,000 grant to be used for awareness etc. of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). He also reported the increase in WCA/Shoreland violations in the County. He has met with all the drainage contractors and they will have to have a signed contractor notification form while on the job or the Conservation Officer will be called and a ticket will be issued. They need to contact Lillemon before every drainage job they perform so he is aware of the project and make sure there are no violations occurring.
2. **Pomme de Terre Clean Water Partnership Grant / Easements**—The Pomme de Terre JPB has received a \$150,000.00 Clean Water Partnership (CWP) grant from MPCA that was going to be used for incentives for the RIM Buffer Easements. None of the applications for the RIM Buffer Program from Grant SWCD were accepted by BWSR. The option of the Grant SWCD holding the Conservation Easement was discussed. It was the consensus of the Board that the Grant SWCD would be willing to hold a Conservation Easement on a case by case basis and that the Pomme de Terre JPB be made aware that the Grant SWCD would be willing to secure and hold a Conservation Easement by utilizing Clean Water Partnership funds.
3. **Pomme de Terre Report**—Groneberg reported that all of 2012 CWF funds have been encumbered and there still is money available for projects with the 2013 and 2014 CWF funds. Discussion was held on the encroachment of the road right of ways and that there has been no enforcement in Grant County.
4. **MASWCD / U of M Webinar: “Soil Health” Report**—Dally and Stephens attended and reported on the Webinar at the SWCD office.
5. **ARS Field Day / Swan Lake Report**—Dally and Stephens attended and reported on the ARS Field Day.
6. **Grant Administrative Training Report**—Montonye and Knutson attended a training session put on by BWSR. We need to establish billable rates for each employee to keep track of time for all grants we receive from BWSR.
7. **Hiring of a Conservation Technician – Grant SWCD**— An office remodel needs to be completed prior to hiring a person along with purchasing equipment etc. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Dally to proceed with the hiring of a Conservation Technician and for the office work that needs to be completed. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
8. **Payment of State Cost-Share Contract- Theresa Moberg**—The contract came in under budget because tree fabric was only installed on half of the trees. Motion was made by Groneberg, seconded by Dally to approve payment of State Cost-Share Contract #2013-02 for Theresa Moberg in the amount of \$3,789.65. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

New Business:

- 9. Approval of Mustinka River Watershed CWF Cost-Share Contract – Randy Island—**
Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to approve the Mustinka River Watershed CWF Cost-Share Contract for Randy Island for water and sediment control basins in the amount of \$23,000.00 with cost-sharing not to exceed \$17,250 or 75%. Funding will come from the 2013 funds. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

- 10. Upcoming Field Days—**Staff informed the Board of the upcoming field days to be held in Appleton and Grant County.

- 11. BWSR Academy—**BWSR Academy will be held October 28-30 at Breezy Point. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Groneberg to allow staff to attend all or part of the training. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

- 12. Grant SWCD Fall Flight—**Discussion was held on doing a fall flight for staff and supervisors. Christenson, Groneberg, Dally and Stephens were interested, Larson was not.

- 13. October Board Meeting Date / Area 1 Fall Meeting—**Discussion was held on the October Board meeting falling on the same date as the Area 1 Fall Meeting. Board decided to leave the Board meeting on the scheduled date and no one will be attending the Area 1 meeting.

- 14. NRCS Report—**Mosburg reported that all the EQIP contracts are approved and all eligible CSP contracts are approved. Gulbrandson has been working on WRP projects.

Motion was made Stephens, seconded by Dally to pay the August 2014 bills #12295 - #12315 and all debit card withdrawals as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Dally to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 am. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

August, 2014 Minutes were approved at the September 25th, 2014 Board Meeting.