

MINUTES
Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 27th, 2017
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District
712 Industrial Park Blvd, Elbow Lake, MN 56531

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

Members Present: Randy Larson, Chairman
Odell Christenson, Treasurer
Don Dally, Personnel Director
Larry Stephens, Member

Members Absent: Paul Groneberg, Vice-Chairman

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

Secretary's Report: Motion was made by Stephens, seconded by Christenson to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of the June 22nd, 2017 meeting. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Motion Carried.

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

Correspondence:

1. **Percent of Cropland being No-Tilled**—Handouts were distributed and Board discussed the increase of no-till and cover crop acres state-wide.
2. **Potential New CRP Rates**—Handouts were distributed and Board discussed the potential new CRP rental rates.
3. **25BY25 Town Hall Meetings**—The town hall meeting for Area I will be held on Tuesday, September 5th in Crookston, MN from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Correspondence:

4. **MASWCD – Capacity Work Group**—MASWCD and the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) are convening a work group to enhance the future of SWCD capacity. No one is interesting in serving on this work group at this time.
5. **Soil Health – We All Love It, But What Is IT Worth?**—Handouts were distributed and Board discussed.
6. **Incorporating Cover Crops, Perennials & Oilseed Cash Crops Tour – August 15th, Havana, ND**—At this time Larson, Stephens, Montonye and Gulbrandson plan on attending. Staff will contact Groneberg to see if he’s interested.
7. **Strip-Till Expo – Wednesday, September 6th, Fergus Falls**—At this time Larson, Dally, Stephens, Montonye, House and Gulbrandson plan on attending.
8. **Buffer Jurisdiction**—Handout of “Election Jurisdiction over Buffer Enforcement” was handed out and Board discussed. The next Grant County buffer meeting will be held Thursday, August 10th @ 9:00 a.m.

Old Business:

1. **RIM Master Joint Powers Agreement**—Montonye received an e-mail from Dave Reikert (BWSR) regarding the Hedtke RIM violation. Board will leave the RIM Master Joint Powers Agreement tabled. It was discussed that funding from other sources can be used to perform the RIM site inspections.
2. **Letter from Randall Hedtke Regarding his RIM Easement**—A letter dated 6/20/2017 from Randall Hedtke to John Jaschke (BWSR) was read to the Board and discussed.
3. **Grant SWCD August Conservation Tour**—The Grant SWCD Conservation Tour will be held Thursday, August 24th and will cover the Northwestern part of the County.

New Business:

1. **Cooperative Working Agreement with NRCS/Operational Agreement**—
Cooperative Working Agreement: Motion was made by Dally, seconded by Stephens to approve the Cooperative Working Agreement as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
Operational Agreement: Montonye explained. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Dally to approve the Operational Agreement as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

New Business: (continued)

2. **Computer Networking**—Montonye explained the different options we had with our computer networking. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Stephens to proceed with an agreement with Grant County to tie into their computer & phone network. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried. Also a new copy machine would need to be added since we will no longer be on the federal system.
3. **Approval of 2018 Buffer Cost-Share Grant**—Section 2.1 Implementation was discussed. Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Dally to approve the 2018 Buffer Cost-Share Grant with BWSR in the amount of \$40,000.00. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
4. **Approval of 2018 Farm Bill Assistance Grant**—Motion was made by Dally, seconded by Stephens to approve the 2018 Farm Bill Assistance Grant with BWSR in the amount of \$58,500.00. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
5. **2017 NACD Dues**—Stephens read the request from NACD for \$775.00. No motion was made.
6. **2017 Outstanding Conservationist**—Board discussed. No one was chosen for this year.
7. **Conservation Practice Assistance Contracts – John Kapphahn**—Board reviewed the Pomme de Terre Conservation Practice Assistance Contract and the State Cost-Share Conservation Practice Assistance Contract for John Kapphahn. Motion was made by Stephens, seconded by Dally to approve both contracts for a water and sediment control structure project. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.
8. **One Watershed/One Plan – Mustinka/Bois de Sioux**—House reported that the committee had applied for a grant and was successful in receiving it so they will be moving forward with the One Watershed/One Plan.
9. **NRCS Report**—Mosburg has put in his resignation and his last day will be September 1st. He also reported on CSP and EQIP.

Motion was made by Christenson, seconded by Stephens to pay the July 2017 bills # 12897 - #12911 and all debit card withdrawals as presented. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Dally, seconded by Stephens to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. Affirmative: Larson, Christenson, Dally and Stephens. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

July minutes were approved at the August 24th, 2017 Board Meeting.