

**BIG STONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING –December 4th, 2018
AG SERVICE CENTER, ORTONVILLE MN**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jorgenson at 3:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Supervisors present: Reisdorph, Jorgenson, Holker, Moen

Supervisors absent: Morrill

Others present: Tammy Neubauer, Joe Otto, Adam Kleinschmidt, Beau Peterson – SWCD; Darren Wilke, Danny Tuckett – Big Stone County Environmental Office; Stephanie Adams, Pomme de Terre WD; Chris Domeier, DNR Fisheries; Krecia Leddy, NRCS

Approval of Agenda: motion Moen, second Holker, to approve the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.

Secretary's Minutes – motion Holker, second Reisdorph, to approve the minutes of November 6th, 2018, meeting. All in favor – motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – motion Moen, second Holker, to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay all bills presented. All in favor – motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

GUESTS

Stephanie Adams from the Pomme de Terre River Association presented the status of their current Watershed Management Plan being put together by the Local Governmental Units with assistance from EOR. PdT still has project funds available, accessible to landowners working with SWCDs.

Chris Domeier from the Area Fisheries office for DNR was present to discuss the project he has been working with Beau on, regarding a dam on Bentsen Lake. The plan is to apply for Conservation Partner Legacy funds to remove the current failing structure and re-build with a rock arch riffle project that would allow for fish passage. Darren Wilke and Danny Tuckett from the Big Stone County Environmental Office were present to show their support of the project and discuss if the grant fails to provide enough funding, the Environmental Office may be able to apply Aquatic Invasive Species grant funds to supplement any funding shortfall.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bentsen Lake Project/CPL Grant – after discussion with Fisheries Board, staff will write a resolution to move forward with the project, to be discussed again and moved on at the next board meeting.

Domeier, Wilke, and Tuckett left the meeting at 3:23 PM

- 2019 State Cost Share Contract – motion Moen, second Holker, to approve 2019 State Cost Share Contract to Roger Haukos #19-3 – well sealing; total contract amount approved \$925.00 – total state cost share funding approved – 50%, or \$462.50. All in favor – motion carried.
- 2017 Local Capacity Grant Cost Share Voucher – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve 2017 Local Capacity Grant Cost Share voucher to Gene Moberg # LC2017-02 Sediment Basin – total contract approved \$48,619.27; total assistance approved from federal EQIP - \$18,900.60; total 2017 Local Capacity Grant cost share funds approved - 50%, or \$5,409.03. All in favor – motion carried.
- Nursery Stock Dealer License Renewal – Motion Reisdorph, second Holker, to renew the SWCD Nursery Stock Dealer license and pay \$250.00 fee. All in favor – motion carried.
- MDA Joint Powers Agreement for Nitrite/Nitrate Testings – Beau explained that the MN Dept. of Ag. is working statewide to send free well test kits to landowners in townships that are susceptible to nitrate exposure in groundwater. The program works through counties through a small grant to work with a water testing contractor for these landowners. Big Stone SWCD currently works with RMB Labs courier service for water testing available to residents, and the project would work well with them. The County Attorney has reviewed the document with no concerns. Motion Holker, second Reisdorph, to approve the JPA with MDA, and to move forward with this process. All in favor – motion carried.

Tammy left the meeting at 3:33pm

- District Services Profit/Loss Review – Beau presented the spreadsheets Adam Kleinschmidt had put together with inputs and outputs of each service the district provides.
- Control Billing – Beau presented the bill from Control Crop Consulting for work with soil health landowners. Motion Holker, second Reisdorph, to approve the payment of \$3,450.80 to Control. All in favor – motion carried.
- Adam Kleinschmidt Severance Payout – Motion Moen, second Holker, to approve payment of remaining PTO balance of \$1,113.51, to Adam Kleinschmidt. All in favor – motion carried.

- Business Housing for DNR Employee – Beau presented an offer made by Judy Schulte with the DNR, to house a new position that would work regionally on the Native Prairie Bank program, as Big Stone County is the main target point for the area. General consensus of the Board was that there simply is not room in our current office setting to accommodate more personnel at this time.
- Desks – Beau presented some of the quotes he has received to replace the borrowed NRCS desks with SWCD owned desk set-ups. Since there are still quotes coming in, this was tabled to next month; but the board presented their support in returning the current desks being borrowed.
- Debit Card for Joe Otto – Motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to request a debit card from Minnwest Bank for Joe Otto for hotel bills while traveling for meetings/trainings. All in favor – motion carried.
- Laptop Update – Beau discussed that after ordering a new laptop from the county, there was an option to be given two free laptops, that would just require purchase of updated software. Tammy now has a County laptop, and the seasonal field technician position has an improved laptop for summer.
- Conservation Farmer of the Year Sign – Beau presented a local quote for a realtor type metal sign that can be annually presented to the Conservation Farmer of the Year. Motion Moen, second Holker, to order sign from ProImage Partners. All in favor – motion carried.
- Complaint Notice – Gene Sanasack has been in the SWCD office about his concern on a Well-Sealing application that was not funded by the SWCD in the Fall of 2016. Beau presented the documents to the Board as reminder of the situation. In the Meeting Minutes November 1st, 2016, the board rejected two well sealing applications that had the work done before the application and contract were approved by the SWCD board. Board consensus remains that we follow the guidelines and policies put before us by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, who these state grant funds are administered through.

Big Stone County Commissioner Report – none

NRCS Report – Krecia Leddy distributed the NRCS Report.

SWCD Technician Report – vacant.

FarmBill Technician Report – Joe Otto presented the FBT report, with topics such as Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and buffer site visits.

Manager's Report – Beau Peterson presented the District Manager's Report and District Technician posting updates.

Meeting was closed at 4:07 p.m. with the Personnel Committee meeting to discuss Annual Performance Reviews.

Meeting was re-opened and adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Sincerely,

Tammy Neubauer

District Admin Asst