

**Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
70th Annual Meeting
Sheraton Bloomington Hotel – Minneapolis South
Bloomington, Minnesota**

Monday, December 4, 2006 – Business Meeting

President Carol Berg called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m. and led attendee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Berg welcomed everyone and introduced the MASWCD Board members:

Loyal Fisher, Vice President	
Ken Pederson, Area 1	Clark Lingbeek Secretary Treasurer & Area 5
Ross Aigner, Area 2	Greg Roiger, Area 6
Bill Saumer, Area 3	Rudie Spitzer, Area 7
Mary Wetter, Area 4	Tom Schulz, Area 8

President Berg stated that the MASWCD Board members are the ambassadors of the Association; that they welcome all questions or comments; and that they are available throughout this event. President Berg then introduced LeAnn Buck, MASWCD Executive Director, and noted that Sheila Vanney, MASWCD Assistant Director, was the Recording Secretary for the day.

President Berg reported on MASWCD involvement in partnerships and coalitions that have contributed to the success of the organization over the past year. She specifically highlighted the months of work put into the Clean Water Legacy Initiative which led to the largest ever one-time appropriation for SWCDs. Berg noted challenges being faced by Association at the state level, including: securing long-term funding for the Clean Water Legacy Act; educating legislators about SWCDs; supporting drainage ditch buffers; assessing the Wetland Conservation Act; and working on long-term fund development for the Association. Berg also talked about challenges faced by SWCDs at the local level, including: working across county boundaries; maintaining technical expertise; and working with governance issues. She thanked SWCDs for their accomplishments with drought assistance, wetland workload, setting local priorities, and partnering with county commissioners, educators and landowners. Berg thanked MASWCD committee member, board members, and staff for their contributions to the association.

President Berg recognized the following MASWCD Committee Chairs:

Awards Committee – Ken Pederson, East Polk SWCD & Area 1 Director
Education Committee - Karen Halverson, Yellow Medicine SWCD
Finance Committee – Clark Lingbeek, Cottonwood SWCD, Area 5 Director & MASWCD Sec./Treas.
Legislative Committee – Marilyn Bernhardson, Redwood SWCD
Resolutions/Policy Committee – Loyal Fisher, Renville SWCD, Vice President

President Berg recognized candidate for President: Loyal Fisher; and candidates for Vice President: Steve Sunderland and Tom Schulz; and asked them to stand. She noted the candidates will have an opportunity to address the assembly tomorrow prior to the elections.

President Berg introduced Clark Lingbeek, Finance Committee Chair. Lingbeek noted that copies of the budget were available at the back of the room. It will be acted on during tomorrow's business meeting.

President Berg introduced Loyal Fisher, Resolution/Policy Committee Chair. Fisher presented pre-balloting results, with 390-397 supervisors voting on any given resolution. Fisher noted that copies of the pre-balloting results were available at the back of the room. Resolutions will be acted on during tomorrow's business meeting.

President Berg recessed the meeting at 8:45 a.m., until 8:15 a.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2006.

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Tuesday, December 5, 2006 – Business Meeting

President Berg resumed the Business Meeting at 8:15 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voting tellers and Sergeants at Arms were appointed. President Berg introduced Roger Reinert, serving as Parliamentary Consultant. President Berg then introduced Stefanie Martinez, MASWCD Staff, as Recording Secretary for the day.

President Berg asked for corrections to the draft minutes from the 2005 annual meeting. A motion to approve the minutes from the 69th Annual Meeting was made, seconded and carried.

President Berg introduced Jim Gebhardt, Nominations Committee Chair, for the nominating committee report for President and Vice-President. The recommendations of the nominating committee were read: Loyal Fisher and were nominated for President, and Tom Schulz and Steve Sunderland were nominated for Vice-President. Further nominations were called for; Ken Pederson nominated from the floor President Berg then closed the nominations

Loyal Fisher, nominee for President, addressed the convention body about his goals if elected president.

Ken Pederson, nominee for President, addressed the convention body about his goals if elected president.

Tom Schulz, nominee for Vice-President, addressed the convention body about his goals if elected Vice President.

Steve Sunderland, nominee for Vice President, addressed the convention body about his goals if elected Vice President.

After the nominees' speeches, President Berg asked for the convention to approve the standing rules. Motion was made, seconded and carried. Tellers then distributed ballots for President and Vice-President. Ballots were then collected for counting.

MASWCD Treasurer, Clark Lingbeek, introduced the 2006 budget. Copies of the budget had been distributed to all the delegates. Adoption of the 2006 budget was made and seconded. Motion passed; vote was by a show of voting cards.

President Berg announced the results of the election. Ken Pederson will be the new President, and Steve Sunderland will be Vice-President. The delegates congratulated the newly elected officers.

President Berg introduced Loyal Fisher, MASWCD Vice-President, and Resolutions/Policy Committee Chair, who introduced resolutions. Fisher stated Resolutions 3, 6, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 23, and 26 passed in the pre-balloting process. Motion made by Fisher to approve the resolutions that were approved through pre-balloting. Motion seconded and carried. Motion from the floor to pull Resolution 6 from the resolutions approved pre-balloting, to address further today. Motion seconded and carried. President Berg introduced the technical advisors, who are available to answer questions, if requested. The remaining resolutions were presented for debate and voted upon with Fisher making the motions and Berg asking for seconds from the floor. The following actions were taken:

Resolution	Action
1. <u>Clarifying MASWCD Levy Initiatives to fund SWCD</u>	Failed.
2. <u>Drainage Assessments on Permanent Easements</u>	Passed
4. <u>Pervious Pavement as a State Cost-Sharable Practice</u>	Passed
5. <u>Shoreline Buffers in Soil and Water Policy and as a Cost-Share Practice</u>	Passed
6. <u>Woodland Protection and Preservation</u>	Passed
Discussion. Motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting the words “not have a significant impact on the economies of the people of the State of Minnesota” and “including woodlands in the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) program”.	
Motion and second to approve the resolution as amended.	Amendment passed.
7. <u>Improving the Implementation of Forest Stewardship Plans</u>	Passed
9. <u>Hard Rock Mining and Mineral Exploration</u>	Passed
11. <u>Elimination Imposition of Cost Recovery in EQIP Contracts Prior to 07</u>	Passed
12. <u>EQIP Acreage Increase for Residue Management</u>	Failed
13. <u>EQIP Acreage Increase & Allow it Throughout Producer’s Operation</u>	Failed
14. <u>EQIP Cost-Share Rate</u>	Failed
Discussion. Motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by adding the words “Should be targeted to smaller operations to meet standards” and “to cap cost share to \$200,000 in order to serve more operators”. Motion and second to approve the resolution as amended.	Amendment Failed
16. <u>Remove 25% Cropland Limitation from Continuous CRP</u>	Passed
18. <u>Eligibility of Expiring CRP Contracts from 2008-2010 for CCRP</u>	Passed
19. <u>CRP CP-23 Contract Extensions from 2007-10; Managed Haying & Grazing</u>	Failed
20. <u>Haying and Filter Strips</u>	Passed
21. <u>Allow Managed CRP Haying and Grazing to Begin July 15</u>	Failed
24. <u>Flexibility in Labeling SWCD Supervisor Election Ballots</u>	Passed
25. <u>Redefining BWSR’s “Metro” to include All of Area 4</u>	Passed
27. <u>Resolution Voting</u>	Failed
28. <u>Privileges and Responsibilities of Vice President on MASWCD Board</u>	Failed
29. <u>Convention Day Change</u>	Failed
30. <u>One-Day Convention Registration Fee Option</u>	Passed
31. <u>MASWCD Annual Convention Structure</u>	Passed
Discussion. Motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting the words “determine the annual convention” and adding “make recommendations to the Board of Directors on the structure of the annual convention”. Motion and second to approve the resolution as amended.	Amendment Passed

After the voting, President Berg asked if there was any other old business from the floor. None was offered. She then asked if there was any new business. None was offered.

Doug Thomas, BWSR, reported on the progress of the 2005 Resolution on Buffers for Drainage Ditches.

State Representative Rick Hanson and John Patterson, with the Office of the Legislative Auditor, co-presented an overview of the study on watershed management, where it is at in the process, what will be the next steps and what the anticipated timeframe is for completion of the process.

President Berg thanked the Area I Planning Committee and host Area for all of their efforts to make the convention a success. She also thanked the MASWCD staff and other partner agencies and volunteers for their assistance. President Berg then called on Greg Roiger who announced that Area VI will be the host of the 2007 Convention. It will be held in Rochester, Minnesota, December 2-4, 2007. Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.