

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2002

MASWCD Office, St. Paul MN

Attending: President Richard Zupp, Vice President Scott Hoese, Secretary/Treasurer & Area I Director Carol Berg, Area II Director Mary Ann Scharf, Area III Director Ted Lovdahl, Area IV Director Jim Main, Area V Director Steve Sunderland, Area VI Director Greg Roiger, Area VI Co-Director Loyal Fisher, Area VII Director Clarence Anderson, LeAnn Buck (MASWCD Staff), Sheila Vanney (MASWCD Staff). Others in attendance: Ralph Breuer, Wabasha SWCD Supervisor; Doug Thomas, BWSR.

1. **Call to Order** – President Zupp called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes** – Motion by Lovdahl to approve the agenda. Seconded by Berg. Motion carried. Motion by Lovdahl to approve MASWCD September Board meeting minutes with clarifications. Seconded by Scharf. Motion carried.
3. **President's Report - Richard Zupp**
 - a. Zupp reported that NACD is looking into establishing a law suit against the federal Office of Management and Budgets (OMB) because some programs are not being allocated their technical assistance funds. Special donations have been requested of districts nationwide. The NACD annual conference will be held February 9-13 in Orlando, Florida.
 - b. Zupp discussed the Fund Development Committee.
4. **Finance Report - Carol Berg**
 - a. Berg and Buck reviewed the move budget – relating to the move of the MASWCD office.
 - b. Zupp accepted the finance report subject to annual review.
 - c. Berg and Buck updated the board on the IRS audit which was conducted.
5. **Proposed Bylaw Changes- Scott Hoese**

Hoese presented the board with proposed bylaws changes which would go before the membership at the annual convention. Motion by Main to approve the proposed changes. Seconded by Sunderland. Motion carried.
6. **State Budget Issues – Doug Thomas, BWSR**

Thomas discussed with the board BWSR's budget strategies for the next legislative session, the ½ cent for nature proposal, and the need for MASWCD to meet with the newly elected Governor or Lt. Governor.
7. **Legislative Committee Recommendations - LeAnn Buck**

Buck presented the board with the Legislative Committee's recommended strategies, including proposed SWCD statute changes.

Board recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Sunderland, to accept the proposed SWCD statute changes. Motion carried. Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Main, to approve #1 of the legislative committee's recommendation. Motion carried. Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Berg to table #2 of the legislative committee's recommendations. Motion carried with dissenting vote from Roiger.

8. MASWCD Staff Update – LeAnn Buck

Buck updated the board and discussed the following: Hennepin Conservation District referendum was defeated and HCD will continue to operate; grant agreements between MASWCD and NRCS; the resolution on the WCA formula and the ad hoc group which is working to address it; resolutions; and the MASWCD strategic plan.

9. Board Retreat – LeAnn Buck

The board will be conducting the annual retreat in either January or February to review accomplishments, discuss priorities for the coming year and review strategic plan.

10. Area VI Support for Forestry – Greg Roiger

Roiger read a letter which he had sent Zupp. The issue was support for forestry which was endorsed at the last Area VI meeting. Board discussed. Roiger requested the issue be pursued further at the annual retreat.

11. Technical Ad Hoc Work Group – Carol Berg & Clarence Anderson

Berg and Anderson reported on their attendance at the meeting of the technical ad hoc work group, coordinated by MASWCD and BWSR.

12. Area Directors Reports

Area 1 – 4 of 18 running legislative candidates attended the Area I meeting in Warroad. Changes were made to the Area 1 bylaws regarding their elections. Officers will remain as follows: Berg director, Ruth Trask co-director and Ken Peterson secretary/treasurer. District capacity issues were discussed. 55 SWCD staff and supervisors attended.

Area 2 – met November 4th in Staples. Major item is housekeeping – changing meeting dates (so as not to miss the opportunities to meet with legislative candidates prior to elections). Convention preparation was discussed.

Area 3 – The SWCD Forestry Association held a training conference. 45 people attended.

Area 4 - next meeting will be November 18, 2002 at the Rockford Town Hall, Wright County. Agenda topics will include the election and the budget. Newly elected officials have been invited. Bill Hunt, NRCS State Conservationist, will speak about the Conservation Security Program.

Area 5 - meeting will be held November 21, 2002 in Marshall. Agenda topics will include the election, BWSR budget forecast and an update from NRCS on the Conservation Security Program.

Area 6 - next meeting will be November 21. At the last meeting, Vic Ormsby, BWSR Board Member and Winona SWCD supervisor attended.

Area 7 - next meeting scheduled for 2003. At the last meeting, 32 of the 50 attendees were supervisors. Anderson will be stepping down as Area VII director. Ralph Breuer from Wabasha SWCD will take his place.

13. Future Meeting Dates & Adjourn

Next board meeting will take place Saturday, December 7th at 2:00 p.m. at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in St. Paul. January 28 and 29 is tentatively set as the date for the annual retreat. Meeting adjourned.