

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2003

Radisson Hotel South, Bloomington, MN

Attending: President Scott Hoese, Vice President and Area I Director Carol Berg, Area II Director Mary Ann Scharf, Area III Director Ted Lovdahl, Area IV Director Rick Hansen, Area V Director Steve Sunderland, Area V Co-Director Clark Lingbeek, Secretary/Treasurer and Area VI Director Greg Roiger, Area VII Director Ralph Breuer, , MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck, and Sheila Vanney.

1. **Call to Order** – President Hoese called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes** – Motion by Roiger, seconded by Breuer, to approve the agenda with amendments. Motion carried. Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Scharf, to approve MASWCD October 28, 2003 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. **President's Report – Scott Hoese**
 - a. BWSR Board Members – Three BWSR seats are up for appointment, one of which is an SWCD seat. Board members discussed and mentioned individuals who expressed interest in applying. November 25th was the deadline, although applications may yet be accepted. The open appointment application form is available on the Minnesota Secretary of State's web site. Once all the applications are in and BWSR is notified of who has applied, MASWCD will have the opportunity to endorse candidates, as provided for in Minnesota Statutes.
 - b. CREP - Board members reviewed the draft policy statement regarding support of the new Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Motion by Hansen, seconded by Scharf to add a tenant that reads "We recognize the work done by SWCD staff and supervisors in preparing this diverse CREP application to meet the many needs of soil and water conservation in Minnesota" and to amend the last paragraph, adding that we support "the Governor's" CREP application. Board discussed. Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Hoese reported on the meeting that took place between the BWSR Administrative Advisory Committee and the MASWCD Executive Committee. The BWSR Administrative Advisory Committee consists of the Chairs of the BWSR committees, the Chair of the BWSR board and the Executive Director. The MASWCD Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Executive Director. The meeting focused on the issues of SWCD funding and the impaired waters initiative, how to enhance SWCD operations down the road.
 - d. Hoese reported that he had three radio interviews about the annual convention. They were with the Minnesota News Network, the Linder Farm Network and KROC. Buck reported that Agri-News newspaper is also interested in interviews with MASWCD regarding the convention.
4. **Finance Report – Greg Roiger**

Roiger led the board in a review and discussion of the 2003-2004 budget and dues information, with clarification on the order these items will be presented during the convention business meeting.
5. **Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**
 - a. Buck prepared a report outlining the status of approved 2002 resolutions which will be distributed at the convention.

5. Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck (continued)

b. Buck reviewed with the board the legislative committee's recommendation for the 2004 MASWCD Legislative Agenda. Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Hansen, to approve the legislative agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

6. FSA and Wetland Restorations

Roiger reported that the CRP sign-off issue in his county has been resolved, however he expressed concerns over wetland restorations associated with the first Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The Brown County FSA is indicating to landowners that the wetland restorations for CREP don't need to go in. Roiger mentioned this at his Area VI meeting earlier in the week and Renville SWCD noted it had also happened in their county. Hoese asked board members to try to talk with agency staff about this during the convention and bring it back for further discussion at the Tuesday night board meeting.

7. Review of Convention Events – Sheila Vanney

Vanney reviewed the convention events with board members. She requested guidance on the site selection process for 2005. Motion by Hansen, seconded by Roiger to send out a request for proposals for the 2005 convention. Motion carried.

8. Other and Adjourn

Board members reviewed expense reimbursement policies for the convention. Hansen asked board members about meeting posting policies. Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. by Hansen, seconded by Sunderland. Motion carried. Future board meetings will take place January 11-12 (retreat), February 17 (in conjunction with legislative briefing) and March 23.