

# Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2004

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Duluth, 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 III Co-Director Roland Cleveland, Area IV Director Rick Hansen, Area IV Treasurer Mary Wetter, Area V Director Steve Sunderland, Area 5 Co-Director Clark Lingbeek, Area VI Director and MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer Greg Roiger, Area VI Co-Director Loyal Fisher, Area VII Director Ralph Breuer; MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck, Sheila Vanney, Stefanie Martinez; Doug Thomas, BWSR; Marilyn Bernhardson, MASWCD Legislative Committee Chair and Redwood SWCD Manager; Jerry Flashberger, North St. Louis SWCD Supervisor and Minnesota Representative to the NACD Great Lakes Committee; Art Norton, Itasca SWCD staff.

1. **Call to Order** – President Hoese called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Sunderland, to approve the agenda with changes. Motion carried. Minutes for the November meeting are not yet prepared as staff have been busy with convention preparation.
3. **President's Report – Scott Hoese**
  - a. Hoese reported that meeting with AMC to discuss the SWCD levy option is still an objective for the organization, but such a meeting has not yet been scheduled.
  - b. MASWCD will be entering into a contract with the lobbyist for November 1 through May 31<sup>st</sup> for the amount set-forth in the budget.
  - c. Hoese noted there will be vacancies on the BWSR Board in the coming year, including one for SWCD representative on the board. Interested individuals can apply through the open appointments process on the Secretary of State's web site. State statute allows MASWCD to endorse candidates for the position. Individuals seeking MASWCD endorsement should submit that request in writing to the MASWCD office. Further board discussion and action should be taken at a future meeting.
  - d. Hoese referred to the MASWCD strategic plan and noted that as a board action is still proceeding.
4. **Vice-President's Report – Carol Berg**

As chair of the Personnel Committee, Berg reported on the committee's review of the Executive Director. Motion by Berg, seconded by Roiger, to implement a 4% increase in salaries for all staff to go into effect in conjunction with staff anniversary dates. Motion carried. The 4% includes cost of living adjustment.
5. **Finance Committee – Greg Roiger**
  - a. Roiger reported on the end of the year financial status of the Association and referred to the balance sheet and profit/loss spreadsheet. These documents will be available at the Tuesday business meeting of the convention.
  - b. Roiger led a review of the budget going before the membership at the convention business meeting.

- c. Roiger discussed with the board the options of a year end review or audit. The Association is a 501 c3 non-profit organization. Motion by Roiger, seconded by Sunderland to conduct a year end review of the Association's financials.
  
- 6. NACD Great Lakes Committee Report – Jerry Flaschberger, North St. Louis SWCD**  
Flaschberger went through a PowerPoint presentation on the recent activities and goals of the committee and how they relate to opportunities and activities for Minnesota SWCDs in the Lake Superior Basin.
  
- 7. Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**
  - a. Buck went through an overview of the spending plan for the Impaired Waters Initiative and how this effort would provide opportunities for Minnesota SWCDs. She also reported on a meeting with Representative Ozment.
  - b. A spreadsheet outlining the results from the pre-balloting resolution process was distributed and reviewed. A total of fifteen resolutions were part of the process this year. Eight were approved through the pre-balloting process and the remaining seven will be up for debate during the business meeting of the convention.
  
- 8. MACDE Report – Art Norton, Area III MACDE Director**  
Norton thanked the Association for assistance with the MACDE raffle this year. The MACDE board will have a meeting tomorrow to plan for their summer session.
  
- 9. MASWCD 2005 Legislative Platform – Marilyn Bernhardson, Legislative Committee Chair**  
Bernhardson presented the proposed legislative platform for the Association for the 2005 legislative session. Motion by Sunderland, seconded by Scharf to approve the platform. Motion carried.
  
- 10. Adjourn**  
Motion by Lovdahl, seconded by Roiger, to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried. There will be a short board meeting after the conclusion of the Tuesday banquet on December 7.