

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2005

Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, Bloomington MN

Attending: President Carol Berg, Vice President Loyal Fisher, Area 1 Director Ken Pederson, Area 2 Director Mary Ann Scharf, Area 3 Director Bill Saumer, Area 4 Director Mary Wetter, Area 5 Director Clark Lingbeek, Area 6 Director and MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer Greg Roiger, Area 7 Director Ralph Breuer, Area 8 Director Tom Schulz; MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck, Sheila Vanney and Stefanie Martinez; BWSR Executive Director Ron Harnack, BWSR Assistant Director Doug Thomas; Wilkin SWCD Supervisor Ross Aigner and Wilkin SWCD Manager Don Bajumpaa.

1. **Call to Order** – President Berg called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes** – Motion by Schulz, seconded by Wetter, to approve the agenda. Motion carried. Motion by Breuer, seconded by Wetter, to approve the November 1, 2005 board meeting minutes with correction. Motion carried.
3. **President's Report – Carol Berg**
 - a. Berg led the board in a discussion of the appointment process for vacancies on the BWSR board and individuals who have expressed interest to date. The board will be taking action on recommendations to the Governor early in 2006.
 - b. Berg will be attending the annual convention of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) in Houston, Texas in early 2006. It is customary for each state to donate an auction item for the NACD auction. Motion by Pederson, seconded by Breuer, to authorize Berg to purchase an item for the NACD auction. Motion carried.
 - c. Motion by Wetter, seconded by Scharf, to send a letter to Minnesota's SWCD board chairs encouraging them to pay NACD quota. Motion carried.
4. **Vice President's Report – Loyal Fisher**
 - a. As chair of the personnel committee, Fisher brought forward a recommendation on the lobbyist contract. Motion by Wetter, seconded by Scharf, to approve the proposed lobbyist contract. Motion carried.
 - b. MASWCD will be forwarding approved resolutions dealing with national policy to the NACD North Central Meeting in Chicago in early January. The resolutions will be voted on at the annual NACD meeting in Houston.
5. **Finance Report – Greg Roiger, Secretary/Treasurer**
 - a. Roiger reviewed the finance report and Berg accepted subject to annual review.
 - b. Roiger reviewed the proposed budget which will be presented to the membership for vote during the convention business meeting.
 - c. As per previous board action, Roiger noted that a full audit will be completed for MASWCD in late December.
6. **Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**

Buck reported on the impaired waters spending plan draft, pre-convention balloting results for the resolutions, federal budget reconciliation, exit interviews for outgoing MASWCD board members, and an end of the year summary.

- 7. MASWCD Legislative Committee – Marilyn Bernhardson, Chair**
Bernhardson presented the committee's recommended legislative platform. Discussion followed. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Pederson, to approve the legislative platform as presented. Motion carried. Bernhardson also discussed strategy regarding the levy option. In addition, the committee has been discussing the development of an Adopt-a-Legislator program. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Schulz, to approve moving forward with an Adopt-a-Legislator program. Motion carried.
- 8. Review of SWCD Fiscal & Conservation Program Impacts.**
Information was presented by BWSR Assistant Director Doug Thomas.
- 9. Review of Convention Agenda – Sheila Vanney**
Vanney reviewed with the board topics and events which will be part of the annual convention the next three days.
- 10. Future Meeting Dates & Adjourn**
The next board meeting will take place following the Tuesday night banquet at the end of the convention. Motion by Pederson, seconded by Wetter, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.