

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2006

Country Inn & Suites, St. Cloud MN

Attending: President Carol Berg, Vice President Loyal Fisher, Area 1 Director Ken Pederson, Area 2 Director Ross Aigner, Area 3 Director Bill Saumer, Area 4 Director Mary Wetter, Secretary/Treasurer & Area 5 Director Clark Lingbeek, Area 6 Director Greg Roiger, Area 7 Director Rudie Spitzer, Area 8 Director Tom Schulz; MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck, Sheila Vanney.

1. **Call to Order** – President Berg called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Board Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Wetter, seconded by Schulz, to approve today’s agenda and the December 6, 2005 meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. **President’s Report**
 - a. Berg reported on the NACD North Central Region Meeting in Chicago that was held January 5-6. Resolutions approved at the 2005 MASWCD Annual Meeting that have national implications will be acted on at the NACD Annual Convention in Houston January 29 to February 2. Some of Minnesota’s resolutions have been endorsed by the NACD North Central Region and some have not, but all get voted on at the national convention. Those that are approved at the NACD Annual Convention become NACD policy which means NACD will then work with leaders in Congress, the President’s Administration and others to address them.
 - b. Berg reviewed the general 2005-2006 calendar of issues and events for the board.
 - c. The board addressed changes to committee appointments in response to Mary Ann Scharf (Area 2) and Ralph Breuer (Area 7) stepping down from the board and Greg Roiger stepping down as Secretary Treasurer.
 - 1) Awards Committee - Cottonwood SWCD Supervisor Tom Muller replaces Clark Lingbeek as the Area 5 representative.
 - 2) Finance Committee - Clark Lingbeek replaces Tom Muller as the Area 5 representative and Lingbeek is the new committee chair, MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer. Roiger continues to serve on the committee as the Area 6 representative.
 - 3) Personnel Committee - Lingbeek replaces Roiger.
 - 4) Resolution/Policy Committee - Aigner replaces Scharf. Fisher is the new chair.
 - 5) Fund Development Task Force is sunset and the issues of fund development will continue to be addressed via the board and other committees.
 - d. Berg noted the change in the IRS approved mileage rate effective January 1, 2006 – now 44.5 cents per mile. MASWCD policy is to use the current approved mileage rate.
4. **Area Directors Reports** – Board members commented on feedback they’ve received regarding the annual convention and commented on issues of interest in their areas.
5. **Finance Report**
 - a. Lingbeek presented the monthly finance report. Berg accepted subject to annual review.
 - b. Lingbeek discussed revenue generated from the raffle held at the convention. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Wetter, to approve allocation the auction proceeds as follows: \$4,314.02 for Association/SWCD Educational Activities; \$2,157.01 for establishment of an Association endowment fund; and \$2,157.02 for the MN Association of Conservation District

Employees. Motion carried. Motion by Roiger, seconded by Pederson, to allocate \$3,000 of the \$4314.02 for educational activities to the State Envirothon, administered by BWSR. Motion carried.

- c. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Pederson, to pay NACD national dues in the amount of \$1775, and regional dues in the amount of \$200. Motion carried.

6. BWSR Board Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee members Saumer and Schulz presented a report to the board on letters received from individuals seeking MASWCD endorsement for appointment to the BWSR Board by Governor Pawlenty. Discussion was held. Motion by Schulz, seconded by Saumer, to accept consideration of all names submitted by the Nominating Committee. Motion carried. Further discussion was held. Motion by Saumer, seconded by Spitzer, to submit the following three names to the Governor: West Polk SWCD Supervisor Russ Severson (Area 1); Pine SWCD Supervisor Kelly Osterdyk (Area 3); and Nobles SWCD Supervisor Paul Langseth (Area 5). Motion carried on a split vote (5 for, 2 against, 1 abstaining).

7. Executive Director's Report

Buck reported to the board on various ongoing and emerging issues including the Clean Water Legacy initiative, Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Study, letter to Governor Pawlenty supporting BWSR's supplemental budget request for technical assistance, lobbyist contract, Legislative Day at the Capitol, NACD Legislative Conference, Outreach for Success Training Evaluation, audit update, BWSR Feedlot Cost-Share, and White Earth Soil and Water Conservation District. Motion by Roiger, seconded by Wetter, to adopt the Clean Water Legacy Supporter Commitment statement as presented. Motion carried.

8. Upcoming Meetings/Conferences

Board members discussed attendance at several upcoming events. Motion by Roiger, seconded by Pederson, to approve attendance as follows, with MASWCD reimbursing registration and expenses: Schulz to "A Million Acres in Minnesota" conference; Buck and Wetter to "Wetland Summit;" Fisher to "Lake Pepin TMDL Technical Conference;" and Lingbeek to "Duck Rally." If the designee cannot attend for some reason, they may contact another board member to attend in their place.

- 8. Adjourn** – Motion by Roiger, seconded by Saumer to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.