

# Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2006

MASWCD Office, St. Paul MN

Attending: President Carol Berg, Vice President & Area VI Loyal Fisher, Area 1 Director Ken Pederson, Area 2 Director Ross Aigner, Area 3 Bill Saumer, Area 4 Director Mary Wetter, Secretary/Treasurer & Area 5 Director Clark Lingbeek, Area 6 Director Greg Roiger, Area 7 Co-Director Jim Gebhardt, Area 8 Director Tom Schulz; MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck and Stefanie Martinez; Marilyn Bernhardson, MASWCD Legislative Committee; Judy Erickson, MASWCD Lobbyist; Paul Flynn, NRCS; Al Kean, BWSR.

Absent: Area 7 Director Rudie Spitzer.

1. **Call to Order** – President Berg called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Board Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Roiger, seconded by Saumer, to approve today's agenda. Motion carried. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Schulz to approve April 25, 2006 meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. **President's Report – Carol Berg**
  - a. Nominating Committee appointments. Berg presented suggestions for individuals to appoint to the Nominating Committee including: Jim Gebhardt, Mower SWCD, Ken Berg, Wadena SWCD, Ian Cunningham, Pipestone SWCD, Deb Taylor, So. St. Louis SWCD. Motion by Saumer seconded by Lingbeek to accept Bergs recommended appointments. Further discussion was held. Motion carried.
  - b. Motion by Schulz, seconded by Saumer to approve adding Robert Becker, Crow Wing SWCD to Fund Development Task Force. Motion carried
  - c. SWCD Vacancy on BWSR Board has still not been filled. Governor's office will appoint by the end of June.
  - d. Carlton SWCD sent letter requesting not to pay hardship amount due to lack of funds available to district. Motion by Schulz, seconded by Pederson to allow Carlton to be members with out hardship payment. Further discussion was held. Motion carried.
4. **Finance Report – Clark Lingbeek**
  - a. Lingbeek presented the monthly finance report. Berg accepted subject to annual review.
5. **VP & Area Director Reports**
  - a. Reports were presented regarding activities around the state.
  - b. Schulz up dated board on his meeting at the Next Million Acres: Forestry Conference.
6. **Forestry Association of SWCD Request – Tom Schulz**

Schulz reported that the Forestry Association will host a statewide two-day conference some time in September or October. Schulz requested \$1,000 from the forestry initiative funds to help with the risk of the conference. Motion by Saumer, seconded by Pederson, to approve up to \$1,000 to help with the two-day conference. Further discussion was held. Motion carried.
7. **Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**
  - a. Buck updated the board on the status of priority issues identified by the Board of Directors during the January board retreat.
  - b. Buck reported she is working with League of Conservation Voters to assist with public outreach regarding SWCD Board Elections. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Wetter, for MASWCD to partner with the Minnesota League of Conservation Voters. Motion carried.
  - c. Buck reported that the Clean Water Legacy Act establishes a Council to provide input to MPCA and state agencies on the Implementation of the Act. SWCD representation is included on the council and the Association is providing information to the districts on the Governor's appointment process. Buck also

reported on the Legislative & Citizen's Commission on Minnesota Resources. Information was also sent to the district's regarding the appointment process.

- d. Buck provided the board with a list of resolutions that are scheduled to sunset at the end of the 2006.
- e. Discussion included the upcoming SWCD Supervisor Conference.
- f. The Association received a request from a district to use the Association's non profit status. Motion was tabled by Roiger.

**8. 2006 Legislative Session Summary-Judy Erickson**

Erickson reported on MASWCD 2006 Legislative platform and updated the board on Legislative Citizen's Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

**9. Looking to 2007 Session-Judy Erickson and Marilyn Bernhardson**

Erickson and Bernhardson lead discussion on what direction the legislative platform will go from here. Bernhardson will follow up with districts who participated in the adopted a legislator initiative.

**10. Clarification on TSP Policy-Paul Flynn, NRCS**

Discussion was held on the need to get clarification on the Natural Resources Conservation Service Technical Service Provide (TSP) Policy. The Technical Service Areas Non Point Engineers are getting mixed signals with TSP vs. Contribution agreements. Kane and Flynn agreed to work through area to work out the details.

**11. Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held August 22 at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud. Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.