

Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Board Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2006

Holiday Inn St. Paul East, St. Paul 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; Area 2 Co-Director Glenn Matejka; Area 3 Co-Director Roland Cleveland; Area 4 Co-Director Mark Zabel; Area 7 Co-Director Jim Gebhardt; Area 8 Co-Director Bob Albrecht; MASWCD Legislative Committee Chair Marilyn Bernhardson; MASWCD Legislative Specialist Judy Erickson; Mower SWCD Manager Bev Nordby; Wilkin SWCD Manager Don Bajumpaa; BWSR Executive Director Ron Harnack; BWSR Assistant Director Doug Thomas; NRCS Assistant State Conservationist Ann English.

1. **Call to Order** – President Berg called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Board Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Wetter, seconded by Lingbeek, to approve today's agenda. Motion by Wetter, seconded by Spitzer to approve February 23, 2006 meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. **President's Report – Carol Berg**
 - a. Berg shared names of individuals Area Directors submitted to her for consideration as appointees to the future Fund Development Task Force. She requested Area Directors continue to find interested individuals from within their Areas so that final decisions and appointments can be made at the April meeting.
 - b. Berg noted Penny Doty, staff with West Polk SWCD, is stepping down from the Finance Committee because she is taking a job in North Dakota. Berg appointed Gary Lee, staff with East Polk SWCD, in her place.
 - c. Berg, Buck, Fisher, BWSR Asst. Director Doug Thomas and Renville SWCD staff Tom Kalahar will be attending NACD's Spring Legislative Conference next week in Washington DC.
 - d. Berg reported to the board on a funding request from NACD for contributions to their Legislative Tour. Board discussed. Motion by Roiger, seconded by Schulz to table the issue. Motion carried.
 - e. Brief discussion was held on BWSR Board appointments and Berg noted that the Governor has not announced his decision as to who will take the vacant SWCD seat on the Board.
4. **Finance Report – Clark Lingbeek**
 - a. Lingbeek presented the monthly finance report. Berg accepted subject to annual review.
 - b. Hardship Requests. The Finance Committee will be conducting a conference call to further address these issues and plans to have a recommendation for the board at the April meeting.
5. **Area Director & Vice President Reports** – Board members commented on issues of interest in their Areas.
6. **2006 Legislative Session Update – Judy Erickson and Marilyn Bernhardson**

Erickson and Bernhardson updated the board on issues related to the current legislative session.
7. **NRCS Report – Ann English**

English reported on NRCS wetland determinations, the White Earth Tribal SWCD, and the status of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
8. **BWSR Report – Ron Harnack**

Harnack reported on BWSR Board appointments, Governor's supplemental budget, and CREP 2.
9. **Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**

Buck reported on 2006 Priorities/Work Plan, Clean Water Legacy Initiative and MASWCD Leadership Institute.
10. **MACDE Report – Brian Watson**

Watson reported on activities of the Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees.
11. **Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 25 at the MASWCD office. Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.