

**Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts**  
Board Meeting Minutes January 25, 2007  
Hawthorn Suites, Duluth MN

Attending: President Ken Pederson, Vice President Steve Sunderland, Area 1 Director Russell Severson, Area 2 Director Ross Aigner, Area 3 Merrill Loy, Area 4 Director Mark Zabel, Secretary/Treasurer & Area 5 Director Clark Lingbeek, Area 6 Director Kathryn Kelly, Area 7 Director Rudie Spitzer, Area 8 Director Tom Schulz; MASWCD staff LeAnn Buck, Sheila Vanney; BWSR Assistant Director Doug Thomas; R. C. Boheim, South St. Louis SWCD Manager.

1. **Call to Order** – President Pederson called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Approval of Agenda and Board Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Schulz, seconded by Kelly, to approve today’s agenda with change. Motion carried. Motion by Spitzer, seconded by Loy, to approve the December 3, 2006 meeting minutes with correction. Motion carried. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Spitzer, to approve the December 5, 2006 meeting minutes. Motion carried. Motion by Loy, seconded by Severson, to approve the December 21 conference call meeting minutes. Motion carried. Zabel abstained from voting on approval of the minutes as he was not in attendance at those meetings.
3. **President’s Report – Ken Pederson**

Pederson started off with some opening comments and expressed appreciation for the energy and input put forth by the board members yesterday and today during the annual retreat. He noted that he is excited about the talent being brought forward by the various board members.

  - a. Chicago North Central NACD Board Meeting
  - b. 2006 Resolutions Forwarded to NACD Annual Meeting
  - c. Board of Directors Annual Calendar/Activities
  - d. Committee Appointments Next Steps
  - e. BWSR Board Appointments – Pederson noted that MASWCD was approached by a non-SWCD candidate for the BWSR Board requesting letter of support. Discussion followed. Motion by Spitzer, seconded by Loy, that MASWCD follow the statutory provisions that allow MASWCD to provide the Governor with recommendations for support for SWCD candidates only. Motion carried.
4. **Finance Report – Clark Lingbeek**
  - a. Lingbeek presented the monthly finance report. Pederson accepted subject to annual review.
  - b. Lingbeek referenced dues invoices from NACD. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Loy, to approve payment of dues in the amount of \$1775 to NACD at the national level and \$300 to NACD North Central Region. Motion carried.
  - c. Lingbeek discussed potentially providing funding support for an NACD Congressional Staff Tour. Consensus of the board was to bring this back for further consideration at the February board meeting following NACD Annual meeting.
5. **DNR Roundtable Conference – Tom Schulz**

Schulz presented highlights of a DNR roundtable conference which he attended on behalf of MASWCD.
6. **Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Work Group – LeAnn Buck, MASWCD & Doug Thomas, BWSR**

Buck presented an overview of the issue which stemmed from a 2004 resolution from Brown SWCD. The resolution was the impetus for BWSR’s facilitation of a Drainage Work Group. Thomas went through a powerpoint slide presentation of the issue, the work and recommendations of the work group, and the proposed development of a drainage assistance team made up of agency representatives.

**7. Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck**

Buck provided an update on the legislative session, her involvement as a Governor appointment on the Conservation Legacy Council, SWCD supervisor and staff appointments by the Governor to the Clean Water legacy Council, the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol, a future training workshop on Public and Private Data Information, SWCD Supervisor Orientation Training, Wetland Summit, Policy to Sunset Resolutions, and Family Forestry conference. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Spitzer to authorize sending a representative to the Wetlands Summit in Bloomington in early February. Motion carried. Tentative plans are for Lingbeek to attend and if he is unable he will contact Spitzer.

**8. Next Meeting & Adjourn**

The next meeting will be held February 26 in conjunction with the Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol. The March meeting will be March 27. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.