

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2008, Pequot Lakes, MN

Present: President Ken Pederson, Vice President Steve Sunderland, Area 1 Director Russ Severson, Area 2 Director Ross Aigner, Area 3 Director Merrill Loy, Area 4 Director Mark Zabel, Secretary/Treasurer and Area 5 Director Clark Lingbeek, Area 6 Director Kathryn Kelly, Area 7 Director Rudie Spitzer, Area 8 Director Tom Schulz and MASWCD Executive Director LeAnn Buck. Also in attendance: BWSR Assistant Director Julie Klocker, Crow Wing SWCD Supervisor Bob Albrecht and Koochiching District Coordinator Pam Tomevi.

1. President Pederson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Pederson welcomed guests.
2. Motion by Spitzer, seconded by Lingbeek, to approve today's agenda. Motion carried. Motion by Kelly, seconded by Loy, to approve the May 20, 2008 meeting minutes. Motion carried.
3. President's Report – Ken Pederson, MASWCD President
 - a. Pederson updated the board on the executive committee meeting held on June 11, 2008.
 - b. Pederson, Sunderland and Buck will serve as the MASWCD representatives to the National Association of Conservation District's (NACD's) Legislative Conference in July. The event will be in Washington D.C. Julie Klocker, BWSR, and Pam Tomevi, MACDE, will also be attending the event. MASWCD will be scheduling meetings with members of Minnesota's Congressional delegation to discuss federal conservation issues of interest to SWCDs. Pederson and Sunderland, serve as MASWCD's representatives to the NACD Board and will be attending the NACD Board meeting and North Central regional meeting held in conjunction with the conference.
 - c. Pederson will be appointing members to a MASWCD Watershed Management Task Force to discuss various water management issues including MPCA's and the Clean Water Council's proposals for future TMDL implementation; Rep. Lanning's proposed bill related to nine watershed basins; and SWCD activities related to watershed work. The task force will report to the MASWCD Board of Directors. Board members may contact Pederson with names of possible task force members.
 - d. Pederson has appointed Carol Berg, MASWCD Past President, to serve on the MASWCD nominating committee chair. He will be appointing additional members to the nominating committee in the next week. The terms of President and the Vice President, expire at the end of this year. Elections will be held to fill these offices at the annual convention, December 7-9, 2008. MASWCD will be sending a "call for nominations" to the membership during the first part of July.
 - e. Pederson reported that two members resigned from the Education Committee. Pederson appointed Felicia Brockoff, Carver SWCD, to replace Jody Worm, Scott SWCD, as the Area 4 representative. Pederson appointed Susan Humble, Chisago SWCD, to replace Carol Hauck, Carlton SWCD, as the Area 3 representative. The members will serve on the committee until the next committee appointment process (December 31, 2008).
4. Finance Report – Clark Lingbeek, MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer
 - a. Lingbeek presented the monthly financial report. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Loy, to accept the May, 2008 financial report, subject to annual review. Motion carried.
 - b. Lingbeek updated the board on dues payments.

5. Executive Director's Report – LeAnn Buck
Buck reported on the board priority issue regarding SWCD Election Awareness. Motion by Zabel, seconded by Lingbeek, to use up to \$2,000 from the newsletter account for MASWCD to hire a summer communications intern to work on SWCD election awareness. Motion carried. Approve: Aigner, Loy, Zabel, Lingbeek, Kelly, Spitzer, and Schultz. Opposed: Severson. Buck updated the board on the MASWCD Awards, Finance, Policy, Education, Legislative and Convention Planning Committees. Approximately 60 members of the Association will be meeting in the several months to address MASWCD activities, resolutions and convention training opportunities. Buck updated the board on the MASWCD Legislative Committee meeting that was held June 17, 2008. Buck provided information related to the current leadership program participants that will be graduating in August. Following the completion of the program, members will be presenting information to the board related to various topics identified by the board last fall. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Schulz, for the MASCD to have a representative serve on the Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee. Motion carried. MASWCD will work with the Forestry Association on this topic and Pederson will appoint.

7. Conservation Technical Assistance Committee and & Non Point Engineering Program – Julie Klocker, BWSR Assistant Director.
Klocker presented an overview of the Conservation Technical Assistance Committee's (CTAC) work related to the future of the Non Point Engineering Program and the proposed restructuring of the 11 Technical Service Areas. The BWSR Board will be addressing the CTAC proposal in August. Klocker presented a Memorandum of Agreement pertaining to co-alignment of SWCD Technical Service Areas and MASWCD area boundaries. Discussion included support for the local resolution process. Motion by Loy, seconded by Lingbeek, to adopt the MOA agreement between BWSR and MASWCD with the changes to include "if approved by the membership via the resolution process at the annual meeting." Approve: Loy, Zabel, Lingbeek, Kelly, Spitzer, and Schulz, Oppose: Severson and Aigner. Motion Carried.

8. The next MASWCD Board of Directors meeting will take place August, 26 at Association's office, St. Paul, Minnesota. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.