

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2009
Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: President Steve Sunderland, Vice President & South Central Area 6 Director Dr. Kathryn Kelly, West Central Area 2 Director Ralph Peterson, Northeast Area 3 Director Kurt Beckstrom, Metro Area 4 Director Mark Zabel, Southwest Area 5 Director Ian Cunningham, Southeast Area 7 Director Bob Borchert, staff LeAnn Buck, Sheila Vanney. Absent: North West Area 1 Director Ross Aigner, North Central Area 8 Director Tom Schulz.

1. Sunderland called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Motion by Peterson, seconded by Borchert, to approve agenda. Motion carried.
2. Sunderland welcomed new board members - Northeast Area 3 Director Kurt Beckstrom and Southwest Area 5 Director Ian Cunningham.
3. Election of MASWCD Secretary/Treasurer – Each year, the MASWCD Board of Directors elects a Secretary/Treasurer from among the board members, to serve through the upcoming year. Bob Borchert nominated Tom Schulz. Dr. Kathryn Kelly nominated Ian Cunningham. Sunderland called for further nominations; hearing none, nominations ceased. A vote was conducted; Tom Schulz will serve as the Secretary/Treasurer for 2010.
4. Board members discussed delegate and alternate to NACD. Motion by Cunningham, seconded by Borchert, that the MASWCD President serve as delegate to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and MASWCD Vice President serve as alternate to NACD. Motion carried.
5. NACD North Central Meeting will be held in Chicago on January 7 and 8, and the NACD annual meeting will be held Jan. 31-Feb. 3 in Orlando, Florida. Motion by Zabel, seconded by Peterson, that for NACD events, MASWCD will cover expenses only for our voting delegate, the alternate, and the executive director, if they choose to attend. Motion carried.
6. January board meeting and/or retreat – Consensus of the board was that an annual retreat will be held approximately noon January 12 to noon January 13 in the Alexandria or St. Cloud area and that a board meeting will be held immediately following the retreat.
7. Legislative Committee update and Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol – Buck reported that the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol is set for February 17-18 at the Embassy Suites in Downtown St. Paul. A board meeting will be held prior to the briefing on the 17th. The legislative committee will be providing a legislative platform for the board to act on at a future board meeting.
8. BWSR Board Appointments – Sunderland reported that there is an SWCD supervisor position on the Board of Water and Soil Resources which is up for appointment. Members of BWSR are appointed by the governor. MASWCD may provide recommendations to the Governor (Minn. Stat. 103B.101 Board of Water and Soil Resources, Subdivision 2 Voting Members). Paul Langseth, Nobles SWCD Supervisor, currently holds the position. This item will be discussed further and action will be taken at the January board meeting.
9. Other – Sunderland informed the board that Greg Roiger, Brown SWCD Supervisor, has stepped down from the drainage work group facilitated by BWSR. Sunderland announced that Paul Krabbenhoft, Clay SWCD Supervisor, has agreed to step in as the MASWCD representative. Board members voiced no objections.
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next board of directors meeting will be held January 13, exact location to be announced.