President Cleveland called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm and led the board in the pledge of allegiance. Motion by Krabbenhoft and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Welcome New Board members. As newly elected MASWCD President, elected by the membership earlier today, Cleveland welcomed new board members and led introductions. Cleveland noted this meeting serves as the Association’s annual organizational board meeting.

Election of MASWCD Secretary Treasurer. Part of the purpose of the Association’s annual organizational board meeting is to elect a Secretary Treasurer from among its ranks. Board members discussed. Motion by Krabbenhoft to nominated Lingbeek to serve as the Association’s Secretary Treasurer for the coming year. Lingbeek indicated interest and willingness to serve in this role. Motion by Schnobrich and seconded to close nominations and election by acclimation. Motion carried.

Legislative Committee Update. Lingbeek and Vanney briefed the board on the work of the legislative committee to prepare a recommended platform for the board, issues needing consideration, and that the December 18 board meeting will be focused on the board adopting a legislative platform for 2019.

Goff Public, Government Relations 2019 Contract. Buck presented for the board’s action a contract for working with Goff Public on Government Relations for 2019. Board members discussed. It was noted that the costs in the contract are included in the budget just approved by the membership earlier today. Motion by Lingbeek and seconded to enter into an agreement between MASWCD and Goff Public for a fee of $36,000 for lobbying services performed January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019 billed in monthly installments of $3,000. Motion carried.

Goff Public, Public Relations 2019 Contract. Buck presented for the board’s action a contract for working with Goff Public on Public Relations work for 2019. Board members discussed. It was noted that the costs in the contract are included in the budget just approved by the membership earlier today. Motion by Laporte and seconded to enter into an agreement between MASWCD and Goff Public for public relations services at a rate of $2,500 a month from January 1 to December 31, 2019. Motion carried.

Selection of MASWCD Delegate and Alternate to National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). Motion by Lingbeek and seconded to appoint Kurt Beckstrom, immediate past-president, as MASWCD’s delegate to NACD, and Krabbenhoft as alternate. Motion carried. Upcoming NACD meetings include: NACD North Central Meeting, Racine WI (January 7-8); NACD Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX (February 2 - 6); Spring Fly-in Washington DC (March 13).

Schedule January Board Meeting and/or Retreat. Buck noted the board has traditionally held an annual retreat in January. Board members expressed support in continuing with that. Buck noted potential dates. Motion by Schoenecker and seconded to hold a board retreat and abbreviated board meeting January 23 and 24. Motion carried. The next MASWCD Board Meeting will be December 18 at the MASWCD Office in St. Paul. Meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm.