

**MINUTES OF THE WADENA SWCD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
April 18, 2011**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marvin Runyan at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisors present: Marvin Runyan, Chairman
 Tom Schulz, Vice Chairman
 Ken Berg, Secretary
 Nancy Benson, Treasurer
 Melvin Kinnunen, Public Relations & Information

Staff present: Malinda Dexter, District Manager
Others present: Steve Lutes, NRCS District Conservationist
 Ralph Miller, County Commissioner

Motion by Tom Schulz to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2011 board meeting with corrections.
Motion seconded by Melvin Kinnunen, motion passed.

Malinda Dexter did not have the March Treasurer's Report on hand. It will be presented at the next meeting.

Melvin Kinnunen reported on the Water Plan meeting held at the courthouse on April 4. The Central Sands Project was discussed.

Melvin Kinnunen reported on the WesMin RC&D Council meeting in Alexandria on April 13. RC&Ds funding has been zeroed out. RC&D Coordinators and assistants will not be allowed to continue working on RC&D projects, including our Trees for Wadena project. Dean Schmidt and Chuck Rose will be assigned other duties in NRCS. The council paid all outstanding bills. The council members will continue to meet and work on projects for the WesMin RC&D area.

Nancy Benson reported on the Trees for Wadena meeting held in the office on April 14. There are around \$64,000 in donations received so far. Staff is busy setting up group leaders and city is augering holes for the boulevards. There are 150-180 boy scouts arriving on April 29 for the planting day April 30. They are camping at Sunnybrook Park in Wadena. Rotary and Lions clubs will also be helping to plant trees. Ann Pate and a crew from the Cyber Café are organizing lunches for that day. We received \$850 from the Boy Scouts of America for food and the grant from WalMart for food and supplies came through. The city police will patrol Sunnybrook Park on Friday night as the boy scouts will be camping there.

Tom Schulz reported on the MFRC meeting in New York Mills on April 15. Calder Hibbard gave a presentation on a Forestland Retention Study. They also discussed research priorities, connections between forest and water quality, a future oak symposium, and proposed legislative elimination of SFIA funding.

Malinda Dexter and Nancy Benson discussed the First National Bank fees, they will be charging starting May 1st. Melvin Kinnunen made a motion to transfer funds to the Mid Central Federal Savings Bank. Ken Berg seconded the motion. Malinda will check on FDIC coverage and print out of checks for reviewing, before transferring. Motion passed.

Malinda Dexter discussed a letter received from a Wadena Township landowner, who requested more funding for buckthorn removal costs. He was funded for the cost of his chemical at \$149.00, he is requesting labor costs of over \$1,100. The rules of the grant project were, we would pay for the chemical if the landowner would do the work of spraying their property. He received funding from the 2008 CWMA grant and at that time we did pay for half of both the labor and chemical costs. With the 2010 CWMA grant we wanted to get funding to more landowners and therefore set the funding for chemical only. The board requested Malinda to send letter to the landowner along with a brochure of program guidelines.

The North Central Joint Powers Board hired Terrance W. Vander Eyk, PE. Tim Nolte has expressed concerns about the timeline of his project.

Steve Lutes, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that EQIP had 26 applications for \$1 million. 8 were funded with \$257,449. CSP had 33 applications for \$331,164. 27 were pre-approved for \$308,697. WHIP had 9 applications with \$18,000. 2 were funded for \$10,394.

Malinda Dexter reported on the Conservation Corps of Minnesota Apprenticeship Program. They will be offering Ryan Bart of Staples the Wadena SWCD placement. He will start on May 23 with a week-long training and then begins in our office on May 31. He will be shadowing what our office does for Wadena County.

New Business:

Cost Share to be Encumbered:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 10-397 Justin Rogge, Leaf River Twp, Sec 10, Field Windbreak | \$ 585.00 |
| 10-398 Dave Klos, Wadena Twp, Sec 6, Field Windbreak | <u>510.00</u> |
| Total encumbered | \$1,095.00 |

Ken Berg made a motion to encumber the above listed contracts. Nancy Benson 2nd, motion passed.

Balance of cost share funds remaining to encumber: \$200.81.

Discussed the audit required for FY2010. Malinda Dexter needs to send out bids to three auditors.

Tom Schulz discussed resolutions that are due to MASWCD by July 21. Levy authority, redirecting ethanol subsidy funds to BWSR cost share program, and protecting water quality through the proper use of off road vehicles are resolutions being submitted.

Meetings or Training Sessions:

May 4 MN Ground Water Assn, Toward Sustainable Water Use in MN, U of MN St. Paul – Kari cost is \$120 + travel.

Melvin Kinnunen made a motion to approve Kari's attendance at the meeting listed. Ken Berg seconded, motion passed.

Nancy Benson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ken Berg seconded, motion passed.

Marvin Runyan adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Minutes by Secretary
Ken Berg