

## **Minutes from the September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Monthly Board Meeting**

The Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Wadena SWCD Meeting Room at 4 Alfred Street N.E., Wadena, MN.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marvin Runyan at 7:34 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Chairperson – Marvin Runyan  
Vice Chairperson – Tom Schulz  
Secretary – Ken Berg  
Treasurer – Nancy Benson  
Public Relations – Melvin Kinnunen

### **Other Members Present:**

District Conservationist – Steve Lutes  
County Commissioner – Ralph Miller  
District Manager – Darren Newville  
Office Manager – Deb Werner

### **Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Kinnunen to adopt the agenda with the addition of 18) Trees for Wadena.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

### **Approve August Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Kinnunen, seconded by Berg to approve the August Board Meeting Minutes with the Bensons' opposed to motion correction.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Benson, seconded by Berg to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented subject to audit.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources has released the dollar amounts the Wadena SWCD will be receiving: \$18,710.00 for the General Services and \$13,184.00 for the Cost Share allocation for 2012. The Natural Resources Block grant amount for 2012 will be \$46,247.00. The District will request to BWSR for the Cost Share allocation to be used for Technical and Administrative.

### **Bills Paid and Bills Payable: Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Kinnunen to approve the bills paid and payable as presented.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

### **Cost Share: Cooperative Weed Management Area Cost Share: Motion made by Benson, seconded by Berg to approve contract 44-CWMA-2010, Flanagan, James; authorization to approve cost share for buckthorn control with a cost estimate of \$600.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$300.00 or 50% which ever is less (amount of chemical purchase) in Orton Township, section 32.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Motion made by Benson, seconded by Kinnunen to approve cost share contract 46-CWMA-2010, Hunter, Gary; authorization to approve cost share for buckthorn control with a cost estimate of \$500.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$250.00 or 50% which ever is less (amount of chemical purchase) in Wing River Township, section 5.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Kinnunen to approve cost share contract 47-CWMA-2010, Olson, Mike; authorization to approve cost share for buckthorn control with a cost estimate of \$1,000.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$500.00 or 50% which ever is less (amount of chemical purchase) in Rockwood Township, section 9.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Kinnunen to approve cost share contract 59-CWMA-2010, Malone, Eugene; authorization to approve cost share for wormwood control with a cost estimate of \$300.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$150.00 or 50% which ever is less (amount of the chemical purchase) in Rockwood Township, section 34.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Motion made by Kinnunen, seconded by Schulz to approve cost share contract 60-CWMA-2010, Johnson, Gordon; authorization to approve cost share for thistle control with a cost estimate of \$300.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$150.00 or 50% which ever is less (amount of chemical purchase) in Red Eye Township, section 34, provided there is funding left over after the other primary weed control contracts have been paid.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**District Manager's Report:** As attached.

**District Conservationist's Report:** Lutes reported on the NRCS Contribution Agreement for \$8,986.21 with the District for bringing about the conservation and wise use of land, water, wildlife and related resources through USDA conservation programs administered by the NRCS.

On the first Wednesday of the month a conference call will be held. Dollars are available for forestry through EQIP.

NRCS is releasing a buyout for some employees on Wednesday.

There is a possibility of combining NRCS and FSA offices in the future.

Conservation Days was held Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Every School in Wadena County attended this year.

**County Commissioner's Report:** There is no tax levy increase this year for the Wadena County. But due to the Homestead Tax Credit being taken away and a Market Value Credit used there may be a raise in some property taxes. Less valued homes will be taxed at a lesser amount and higher valued homes will be taxed at a higher amount. The State Legislature voted this in.

There was discussion on the financial situation of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District.

**WesMin RC & D:** The next meeting will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Kinnunen will not be able to attend. Any other supervisor may attend in his place. A retirement party was held for Dean Schmidt. Currently about \$1,900.00 is left to spend down. Pope and Douglas County will be using up the balance on the Tastefully Simple dollars for projects in their respective communities. It will take about 90 days to disband the WesMin RC & D.

**JPB Report:** No report.

**Audit Update:** The audit was held on August 16<sup>th</sup> by CPA James Maiser. A draft of the audit was reviewed with the board. Final audit will be sent out once approved by the State Auditor.

**Board Meeting Time:** There was discussion on the SWCD Board Meeting time. Currently the meetings are held April thru October evenings at 7:30 and November thru March are held at 1:00 p.m. The board requests to revisit these times again in the spring.

**Meetings and Trainings for Approval: Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Kinnunen to approve Anne Oldakowski to attend the Ecological Classification System Courses on September 28<sup>th</sup> & October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with a cost of \$65.00 per session to total \$130.00.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Clean Water Grant Application:** The Wadena District submitted 3 Grant Applications.

- 1) Ground Water Protection Grant for \$91,305.00 with \$77,000.00 for project dollars and 75% cost share not to exceed EQIP standards.
- 2) Accelerated Implementation Grant for work with GIS Forest Resource Council
- 3) Community Partners Conservation Program for \$78,000.00 - \$9,000.00 Technical and Administrative Dollars with a \$20,000.00 match. This grant is for Non Profit Organizations (ex: Ag Society, Lake Assn's or Rotary) to come to us with their applications for projects such as Rain Gardens.

Once the Grant has been approved a Work Plan needs to be approved by BWSR. The dollars are from the 3/8 percent of sales tax.

**Motion made by Kinnunen, seconded by Benson to approve any supervisor to sign the BWSR Grant Agreements once approved to expedite the Grant Agreements.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Contribution Agreement with NRCS: Motion made by Schulz, seconded by Benson to approve signing the NRCS Contribution Agreement for \$8,986.21.**

Affirmative: Runyan, Schulz, Berg, Benson & Kinnunen.

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**Trees for Wadena:** Benson reported that the Trees for Wadena Committee won the MASWCD Area VIII award. The Committee will be a candidate for the State award to be announced at the MASWCD State Convention held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, to be held in Bloomington, MN.

#### **MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS ATTENDED:**

Invasive Species Traveling Workshop, Detroit Lakes – August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Molly Costin attended)

Source Water Protection Grant Meeting, Wadena – September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attended)

Crow Wing Watershed Meeting, Brainerd – September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attended)

Trees For Wadena, Wadena – September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attended)

MN Forestry Ass's Meeting, McGregor – September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Tom Schulz & Anne Oldakowski attended)

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TRAININGS:**

Area VII Meeting, Walker – September 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 (Tom Schulz, Melvin Kinnunen, Nancy Benson & Darren Newville attending)

Central Sands Meeting, Staples – September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

Crow Wing Water shed Meeting, Staples – September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

Ecological Classification System Certificate Session 5, Grand Rapids – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

Water Plan Meeting, Wadena – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

Ecological Classification System Certificate Session 6, St. Johns College – October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

Minnesota Association of Feedlot Officers Meeting, Winona, MN – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Molly Costin attending)

BWSR Academy, Breezy Point – October 25<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

MN Shade Tree Advisory Committee Meeting, Minneapolis – October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (Anne Oldakowski attending)

MASWCD State Convention, Bloomington – December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Marvin Runyan adjourned meeting at 9:57 p.m.**

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**Secretary**

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**Date**

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