

*Helping Producers Implement
Best Management Practices
for Conservation Purposes in
Kittson County*



410 South 5th Street - Suite 106 - Hallock MN 56728 - Phone (218) 843 2619 - Fax (218) 843-2772 -
nwmnswcd.org

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on August 11th, 2011**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, August 11th, 2011, at the Farm Service Agency meeting room located in Hallock, Minnesota.

Members present at the meeting included Chairman, Greg Peterson; Treasurer, Joe Wilebski; and Public Relations, Ron Anderson. Absent: Secretary, Justin Dagen. Vacant: Vice Chairman.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; Administrative Clerk, Virginia Olson; Program Coordinator, Shane Olson; and Technician, Mark Larson.

The minutes of the July 14th, 2011, meeting was approved, upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson, and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote the treasurer's report was approved as presented by V. Olson. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson, and unanimous vote, for check #3159 through #3182 for the amount of \$11,559.24 for the month of July was approved as presented by V. Olson.

Accounts receivable: Olson reported that Shane Olson has accounts receivable for 2010.

Virginia Olson gave the Administrative Clerk's report as follows:

Federal Mileage rate: Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote to increase the Federal mileage rate from \$0.48 retroactive to July 1st.

Check signatures: V. Olson reminded the Board that a new bank Signature card needs to be filled out. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote to revoke Scott Klein's check signing privileges and to add Virginia Olson, Darren Carlson and Greg Peterson to the new signature card.

Trees: Former District Clerk Joanne Quiner submitted a voucher for hours spent watering trees on weekends. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote to pay Joanne Quiner for watering trees.

SWCD Boot Camp: Carlson would like V. Olson to attend the upcoming SWCD Boot Camp on September 12-13th and also BWSR Academy in October. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote to send V. Olson to SWCD Boot Camp.

Available Funds: The balances listed below are as of July 31st, unless otherwise noted: LWMP, \$0 County, \$9,536.98 SWCD; CLWP Dedicated Fund \$24,160; WCA, \$0 County, \$6,195.44 SWCD; Shoreland, \$0 County, \$1,324.97 SWCD; Feedlot, \$0 County, \$4,992.99 SWCD; SSTS, \$0 County, \$4,912.33 SWCD; Brillion \$1,225.01 SWCD; and Beaver \$1,340.

Darren Carlson gave the District Manager's report as follows:

WCA/Swampbuster Agreement with NRCS: Carlson said there was a Wetland Contribution Agreement training meeting on August 2nd at Thief River Falls. There was an additional conference call on August 9th. He says they discussed that Certified Wetland Determinations will be needed for any drainage/tile work, hence NRCS will see a much bigger workload. BWSR has rescheduled the basic delineation class and certification exam for October 10 to 14th. Carlson will not be able to attend due to sugar beet harvest. Carlson said applications are due to NRCS by August 19th, and in his proposed application he applied to NRCS for \$15,000. A Waiver Letter is necessary to get more than 50%. Organizations interested in entering into a contribution agreement that cannot provide a 50% contribution towards the accomplishment of the project objectives must submit the following waiver letter with their application package and also need Matrix signed. Official contracts/work potentially could start after Labor Day. The next Wetland Agreement Teleconferences are on August 16 - 17th.

County Budget: Carlson met with the County Commissioners on July 19th to go over the budget and county funding. Carlson said his meeting went very well. S. Olson also met with them on August 2nd to discuss the County Ag Inspector's budget, since he was unavailable on July 19th. S. Olson figured his meeting went good as well.

Kittson SWCD Brillion Rental Program: Carlson mentioned that he delivered the Brillion Drill to Shawn Lyberg's on August 10th. Other than that he says few other people have shown interest in planting a cover crop with it this fall.

FY 2012 CWF: Carlson listened in on a teleconference on August 10th. He says there is more than \$21 million available to be spent by December 31, 2014. The application period is from August 8, 2011 to September 20, 2011. To have a valid application the Web Link needs to be up to date and eLINK reporting needs to be up to date as well. Carlson will be writing CWF applications for additional funding for the Lake Bronson Watershed Project; County ditches in Hill and St Vincent Townships; Culvert resizing in St Joseph and McKinley Townships; and Brian Dahl Streambank Stabilization and potential CRP ARC MAP Layer Update.

FY 2011 CWF: Carlson is still waiting on Roseau County for official maps, acres and soil rental rates for the Lake Bronson Project through Clean Water Legacy Funds. Carlson said one landowner does not qualify for CRP, so that contract will be cancelled.

CRP Status Reviews: Carlson said 45 CRP participants asked the SWCD to do a status review on their contracts. Dion Turgeon has worked 40 hours for this program. He does the site visit while, Carlson writes the letter and creates the map to go to the landowner. V. Olson then creates an invoice with how many hours and miles it took to complete each participant's contracts.

CRP CWA: Carlson said a meeting was held with the FSA and NRCS to go over the CRP Contribution Work Agreements on July 20th. Kittson SWCD is scheduled for 80 of these plans. 12 Continuous CRP plans in Kittson County, 40 General CRP in Kittson County and 28 General CRP from Marshall County in the Strandquist area. For completing the 80 plans, \$38,400 will be received. The General CRP Plans would need a site visit just like the Kittson SWCD CRP Status Reviews. Marshall County is completed and still has about 2 days of status reviews in Kittson County. Carlson hopes to have all site visits and plans completed by August 19th and sent to the CRP participants by that time. That will allow them close to 2 weeks to call with any questions or to sign and return their signature page to us. The 80 plans will need to be completed and signed by participant by September 2nd. As of right now there is no contract signed with NRCS. Marshall FSA and Kittson FSA have different requirements for their CRP conservation plans.

Stork report: Carlson's wife Sam's due date is September 10th.

Newsletter: A newsletter will be coming up in a couple weeks.

Clean Water Fund meeting: A Clean Water Fund Meeting with Kelly Bengtson of KCHD, Kelly Turgeon of FSA, Schwab and Carlson pertaining to County Ditches in Hill and St. Vincent Township.

Mark Larson gave the NRCS report as follows:

CRP & EQIP: Larson said most of the workload right now is CRP and EQIP.

ARC: Larson mentioned that Eric Anderson has been named as the new Area Resource Conservationist, filling the position left by Al Gustafson's retirement.

Shane Olson gave the Program Coordinator's report as follows:

AgBMP applications: The current loan applications are as follows: Sevrin Anderson (Air Seeder, however not eligible due to amount of funds on loan in program), NRR Farms (chisel plow), Brian Dahl (Air seeder, not eligible until next payment has been made); CJ Peterson (16 row conservation planter); Matt Nelson (chisel plow); Jerod Hanson (Air Seeder) and Jon Langen (no-till air seeder).

Staff meeting: A staff meeting was held on August 1st.

State Cost share: Olson said he has received well sealing applications from Joel Lindegard, Bruce Weleski and Cheryl Sjodin, however Bruce Gunderson has not provided estimates as of it.

Springbrook RIM/PL566: Olson reported there is nothing new with the Springbrook PL566 project, as landowners will not proceed further without final engineering report stating where dike locations will be. Olson received title work for easement # (35-01-09-08) from Nycklemoe Law Office in Fergus Falls to begin Easement work recently.

RIM Site Inspections: Olson performed in 6 of the 7 RIM site inspections for the old RIM contracts. Tim Fredbo from BWSR said that this year we didn't have any on the inspection list, so he was surprised to see them.

CAI weed letters: Olson has sent 90 weed letters out and also 4 individual notices. Currently, a lot of clipping has begun do to CRP haying, which started August 2nd.

CAI testing: A Non-commercial applicator exam J was taken recently.

CAI seed: Jeff Siira will be coming up on a seed issue on August 18th in the Lancaster area.

2011 Shortcourse: The 2011 CAI Shortcourse was held at the Sportsman's Lodge in Baudette on July 25-27th. Over 40 of 87 counties attended this year's event. Currently the only two counties who do not fund the County Ag inspector's position are Olmstead and Lac Qui Parle. Tours included an EQIP grazing system by Graceton; a Wild Rice farm South of Baudette; the grass seed plant in Williams and some grass seed plots. The seed potato farmer had something come up and wasn't available for his tour. Other Shortcourse events, Jim Johnson, Vice President of Northstar Agri-business spoke about the Canola Crushing facility, which was very interesting. Two custom agents spoke about the Warroad and Baudette customs locations. They had a Shorelunch style banquet on Tuesday evening. They gave Duane Munter an award for his years of service since he recently retired. Next year's events will be in the Northeast, most likely in Duluth.

CAI Purple Loosestrife: Mark Larson pointed out a couple Purple Loosestrife infestations. The new one is located near Owen Westerberg's in Hazelton Township and the other location is along CSAH 17 East of Jeff Deere's in Granville Township. Olson contacted Luke Skinner from MN DNR who deals with bio control agents for the plant. Skinner dealt with the site in Granville Township in the past.

MACFO: The quarterly MACFO meeting in Detroit Lakes postponed on July 19th due to the government shutdown has not been re-scheduled as of yet.

Feedlot inspections: Olson has two inspections to perform in the near future. The minimum requirement is 7% for each county. Since we have 20 feedlots, that requires 1.4 inspections.

Feedlot mid-year review: Olson says MPCA's Mike Sharp will be calling for mid-year review shortly.

Northstar Agri-business: Olson received word that the Canola Processing Facility will be submitting a permit application for a natural gas pipeline spur off of the existing line near Charlie Swanson's to the new facility.

WCA KCHD CSAH 6 & CSAH 30: Olson previously provided slides to Mark Aanenson of Houston Engineering to do wetland determinations for the CSAH 6 and CSAH 30 projects for wetland mitigation for BWSR and Corps mitigation. Olson says there is a TEP meeting being held for this project after the Board meeting.

WCA Don Lund: DNR CO Jeremy Woinarowicz finally issued the Cease and Desist to Don Lund recently. Lund says he was out and measured his site and he is most likely eligible for an after the fact permit application for the Wildlife exemption. Olson will be meeting him to go over measurements.

WCA WW Trails violation: WW Trails received their restoration order May 16th by certified mail. Robert Christensen is in charge for WW Trails and he sent a letter that he is working with TNC and DNR on the issue although it is very, very wet out there. They have a drop-dead date of November 10th on the restoration order or face DNR Enforcement action.

WCA Truscinski violation/Outdoor classroom: DNR Enforcement flew over to take aerial photos of the violation so Dale Krystosek, Scott Johnson and Olson can get a better perspective of the violations occurred separately from the violation he created on Ron Mooney's property. Further North, Truscinski has done excavation on our SWCD property. On June 22nd, Olson received additional aerial photos of wetland violations on property owned by Alan Truscinski South of CSAH 4 in Roseau County. Lawrence Puchalski, Dale Krystosek, Scott Johnson and Olson met on site with Truscinski on June 29th to decide if we send 1, 2 or 3 wetland restorations or collectively as 1. Krystosek and Puchalski asked Johnson to take the lead on this one and Johnson was going to GPS the site, before a joint restoration order takes place.

WCA Ehlen violation: Charles Ehlen is working with Boonestro Consulting and Ron Anderson who is preparing an after the fact permit application. BWSR's Dale Krystosek and Corps Larry Puchalski met on site of the violation on June 29th to see what they could possibly do for an after the fact application. Puchalski stated that this violation is past the statute of limitations for the Corps to have jurisdiction of.

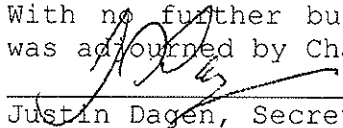
WCA CP Rail: AECOM is preparing a wetland mitigation plan for CP Rail who is extending the siding at Lake Bronson to 10,000 feet, as they are running 8,500 ft trains these days. BWSR's Dale Krystosek, Corps Larry Puchalski and Olson met on site with Railroad officials and AECOM employees. CP Rail will be purchasing wetland banking credits for the project and it is currently under review with BWSR and the Corps of Engineers.

Surveys: Olson did a survey for the city of Halma on the West side of town along CSAH 20, only to find out for anything to be done, the Highway Department has to do final survey data. Olson completed a survey for Richard Levenhagen. Olson also has one coming up for Merle Nelson, however Nelson says it's very wet and will call when he thinks that it's ready.

September Board meeting: The next regular scheduled Board meeting is September 8th at 7:15 AM.

SW Kittson County Board member area: Carlson mentioned that he has had no interest in the Board position vacancy left by the resignation of Scott Klein.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Peterson.



Justin Dagen, Secretary