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Kittson County*



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**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on June 9th, 2011**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 9th, 2011, at the Kittson Farm Service Agency office located in Hallock, Minnesota.

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

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Darren Carlson; Administrative Clerk, Virginia Olson; Program Coordinator, Shane Olson; and Program Analyst, James Schwab.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Klein. Chairmen Klein notified the Board that this will be his final meeting. He said he has enjoyed serving on the Board and had mentioned to employees that he would be resigning as soon as we got a new staff person replacing Joanne Quiner who retired.

The minutes of the May 10th, 2011, meeting was approved, upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Wilebski, and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote the treasurer's report was approved as presented by Olson. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson, and unanimous vote, for check #3091 through #3122 for the amount of \$20,797.23 for the month of May was approved as presented by Olson.

Accounts receivable: Olson reported that Shane Olson and Lowell Younggren have accounts receivable for 2010.

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

Temp: The Board discussed hiring Joanne Quiner as a TEMP for reporting purposes.

Bank signatures: Olson handed out a form for bank signatures.

Available Funds: The balances listed below are as of May 31st, unless otherwise noted: LWMP, \$0 County, \$717.29 SWCD; CLWP Dedicated Fund \$24,160; WCA, \$0 County, \$3,122.45 SWCD; Shoreland, \$0 County, \$409.97 SWCD; Feedlot, \$0 County, \$892.99 SWCD; SSTS, \$0 County, \$857.33 SWCD; Brillion \$1,225.01 SWCD; and Beaver \$1,740. Carlson said FY 2010 funds need to be spent by June 30th. Funds remaining to be spent Feedlot (30 hours), SSTS (30 hours) and DNR Shoreland (15 hours). These will be used up by end of June 1 to 15 pay period.

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

Meetings/Trainings Attended: Carlson attended Total Station and Survey Training on April 19th. He attended a Two Rivers Watershed District Meeting on May 4th to give an update about the Clean Water Funding for the Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction Project; an Administrator's meeting on June 2nd; and NRCS meeting about CRP Status Reviews on June 7th and a Dam Inspection Meeting June 8th.

Letter from Don Baloun: Carlson received a letter from NRCS State Conservationist Don Baloun saying Thank You for his visit up here last year.

DNR Ob Well: The FY 2011 observations have come to an end and Carlson sent DNR an invoice June 6th, for 8 observations at \$15 per observation totaling \$120.00.

MDA Nitrate Clinic: Carlson said the schedule for setup and demonstration by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture will take place on June 27th at our office. The testing clinic will run from June 28 - 30th at our office. Advertising will be done in the Area Newspapers June 13 - 17th and maybe KTRF radio.

Clean Water Funds (CWF) Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff Reduction: Carlson submitted the local Work Plan for the Lake Bronson Watershed Runoff reduction project. He said so far there have been applications for \$49,000 of the \$100,000 of funds. He is currently waiting for official maps with official acres from FSA. Once he receives them he will be able to do official worksheets and get applicants in here to sign up. Areas will be planted to an approved NRCS cover in spring of 2012. All funding needs to be spent by December 31, 2012.

FY-12 Clean Water Funds: The application period runs from August 1st to September 15th. Carlson said Kelly Bengston called about applying for a CWF grant for County Ditches 26, 28 and 29 in Hill and St. Vincent Townships. A meeting is scheduled for June 9th. The grant would be very similar to the Lake Bronson application. Estimate amounts for above ditches are 11 miles X 100 foot = 130 acres. Average CCRP payment for that area is about \$70. To get up to the \$150 per acre like Lake Bronson Area CWF grant amount would be about \$100,000.

Brillion Seeder and Tree Planter: Carlson talked about the estimated acres applicants will be seeding, however due to recent rains, the Brillion is being used very little right now. Hopefully June will be quite busy transporting and setting up for landowner's use. Klein and Carlson went to see Leon Olson use the drill on May 26th. It is currently being used by Allen Converse south of John Deere by Donaldson.

CRP Status Review Service: Carlson and Olson met with FSA and NRCS in field on June 7th to go over a typical status review and what to look for and document. Also discussed CRP re-enrollments with Hydric and Non Hydric soils, areas with trees/no trees, desired grass cover/non desired grass cover. Carlson will send out a brochure to all CRP participants talking about the status review services. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote to charge \$30 per hour for CRP Status reviews and also \$0.50 per mile.

Plotmaster: The spring mailing yielded 15 emails, phone calls and stop-ins saying they would be interested in using the Plotmaster. Upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Dagen and unanimous vote to purchase the Plotmaster 400 from CLWP dedicated funds.

WCA/Swampbuster Agreement with NRCS: Carlson sent out a copy of an email sent out in the Board Packets. There is a potential to partner with NRCS on WCA and "Swampbuster" rules and regulations. The District could receive to a 3 year agreement period for approximately \$20,000 annually. After discussions with Schwab and Kajewski, District Managers will need to oversee implementation and sign off on the work the SWCD does. SWCD District Managers would need to take the 5 Day Basic Wetland Delineation workshop in Little Falls July 25 to 29th. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote to send Carlson to the Basic Wetland Delineation workshop.

Area I Meeting: The next Area I Meeting will be in Ada on June 23rd. Carlson and Virginia Olson will attend.

Well sealing: Carlson has been mailing letters and aerial photos out to landowners with potential abandoned wells and letting them know about our 75% cost share assistance.

State Cost share: Olson said while they were on the topic. He presented applications for well sealing. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote to encumber cost share applications for: well sealing FY10-02 for \$212.50 from State Cost Share and \$106.25 from CLWP; well sealing FY10-03 for \$200 from State Cost Share and \$100 from CLWP; well sealing FY10-04 for \$175 from State Cost Share and \$87.50 from CLWP; well sealing FY10-05 for \$150 from State Cost Share and \$75 from CLWP; well sealing FY10-06 for \$287.50 from State Cost Share and \$143.75 from CLWP; well sealing FY10-07 for \$300 from State Cost Share and \$150 from CLWP; and streambank stabilization for FY10-08 for a rip rap project, for \$5,666.40 from State Cost Share.

Ratzlaff SWI: Olson said Jim Hest has yet to provide Mike Ratzlaff's design for his Side Water Inlets (SWI's), so we need to grant an extension to State Cost Share contract FY08-09. His original application included a field windbreak, matting and SWI's and the field windbreak and matting is completed, so the starting date of the original application is fine. The completion date is June 30, 2011. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Peterson and unanimous vote to grant an extension for State Cost contract FY08-09's completion date until December 1, 2012.

James Schwab gave the NRCS Program Analyst's report as follows:

Streambank Stabilization: Schwab talked about Brian Dahl's streambank stabilization.

CSP: Schwab said the NRCS State Office notified him that an additional CSP application was funded.

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

Staff meeting: A staff meeting was held on May 25th.

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), Darwyn Anderson (Chisel Plow), NRR Farms (chisel plow), Brian Dahl (Air seeder, not eligible until next payment has been made); CJ Peterson (16 row conservation planter); and Matt Nelson (chisel plow).

CAI General Notice: The CAI General Notice was sent to newspapers.

CAI testing: Two CHS employees recently took Commercial applicator exams A and C; an employee from Carlson Air Spraying of Lake Bronson tested for A, B, C and L; an employee from Two Rivers Air Spray tested A and C; and an employee for the city of Warroad took re-certification tests for A and L.

2011 CAI Shortcourse: The 2011 CAI Shortcourse will be held at the Sportsman's Lodge in Baudette on July 25-27th. Many sites will be attended on tour, such as a grass seed facility, a seed potato farm and several others as well.

Springbrook RIM/PL566: Olson reported 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. Olson was out with State NRCS on May 10-11th working on wetland delineation.

WCA Hatch violation: Olson was out and looked at the Hatch violation and he has remedied his violation, so Olson sent a Certificate of Satisfactory completion to Traci Hanson, DNR Wetland Enforcement.

WCA MNDOT/CD16: On May 12th, the Corps of Engineers held a field practicum for delineation of wetlands in the valley soils, specifically Northcote and another soil type. Attending were Dale Krystosek and Steve Hofstad from BWSR; MNDOT; Kelly Bengtson and Keith Klegstad from KCHD; Mark Aanenson from Houston Engineering; a wetland consultant from Widseth, Smith and Nolting; and several USCOE staff. Previously the MNDOT/CD 16 project was approved by Olson and BWSR's Dale Krystosek. Barbara Walthiers of the COE contended there were wetland areas involved. Several holes were dug along the project and the field practicum vindicated Dale and my decision of no loss of wetlands taking place. Although it was proved at that meeting on May 12th that there were no wetlands being lost, it took until June 2nd to issue KCHD a permit.

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 Ehlen violation: Charles Ehlen telephoned on June 2nd. He has spoken to Boonestro Consulting. He is hoping to prepare an after the fact application, which Olson notified Dale Krystosek of. Ron Anderson will meet in place of Charles Ehlen with BWSR's Dale Krystosek about the violation on June 23rd and see what they could possibly do for an after the fact application.

WCA Truscinski violation/Outdoor classroom: Olson prepared a restoration order for Alan Truscinski on May 10th. DNR CO Ben Huener issued it to Truscinski on May 20th. Truscinski has a couple of dates he has to follow...until June 10th to apply for a replacement plan, no loss and so forth; which he is not eligible for under WCA. And he also has a June 19th deadline to appeal to BWSR state office. Dale Krystosek, Scott Johnson and Olson met on site June 6th. Krystosek said we have to wait until his June 19th date to see if those dates lapse. Meanwhile, Traci Hanson DNR Enforcement is going to fly to take aerial photos of the violation so Krystosek and Johnson can get a better perspective of the violations occurred separately from the violation he created on the Mooney property and if he did anything on SWCD property further North. Olson received a copy of the USDA/FWS Easement from Dane Ryden at FSA which has very stringent regulations regarding wetlands. However, Ron Mooney the actual landowner who has the violation called and he is going to bulldoze the ditch back in because he is currently out of compliance with FSA as of June 15th if it's not restored.

WCA Lund violation: Olson previously sent a restoration order for Don Lund to Conservation Officer Jeremy Woinarowicz back on July 27, 2010 and he never issued it to him. Olson sent a revised one to Woinarowicz on June 2nd. Lund will have 21 days from the time he receives the restoration order. He has a drop-dead date of December 1st on the restoration order or face DNR Enforcement action. If you remember this was one of the very outspoken persons involved with the Peterson-Sollund case, so stay tuned.

WCA CO Traci Hanson: DNR Wetland Conservation Officer Traci Hanson was here to review cases with me on May 27th and we went over all of the above and in addition to the following. She stated the restoration order expiration date of Dan Elieff's violation was December 31, 2007, and the DNR's statute of limitations has ran out and we can do nothing to him for his violation in Klondike 19. However we can still issue him a restoration order for his violation in Percy 21. The same goes for Pete Jones as his expiration date was November 15, 2006, the DNR's statute of limitations has ran out and we can do nothing to him for his violation.


WCA re-classification: Olson gave Board members copies of letters BWSR sent out last June spelling out what would occur if our county was re-classified. No one ever contacted Olson about any re-classification work to be done. In short, the letter from BWSR's John Jaschke sent basically stated that de minimis exemption would be the only change if re-classified.

Trees: Olson said the only trees left are 25 of Jason Cadieux's and about 400 of Mark Larson and Lowell Younggren's. If Board members want some of the left-over's, stop by the tree shed after the Board meeting.

Chairmen farewell: Again Chairman Scott Klein wished the Board well and gave a couple suggestions of young operators from his area that might be good candidates to serve out his position.

July Board meeting: The next regular scheduled Board meeting is June 14th at 7:15 AM. Carlson mentioned that maybe the Board should meet somewhere next Board meeting and then look at several projects after the meeting. Last year the July meeting was held at the Lakeside Sporting Goods.

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


Justin Dagen, Secretary