

POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING Minutes
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am November 17, 2015

**Meeting site: USDA Service Center,
1680 N. Franklin Avenue
Glenwood, MN 56334**

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, Randy Pederson, D. Gary Reents, Mike Billehus, Kelly Erickson, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Nicole Zimmerman, Dan Langseth (MDA), Holly Kovarik and Jessica Oldakowski was absent.

Meeting Minutes:

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle at 7:00 a.m.
2. The agenda was approved by general consent with a couple of additions.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President
 - a) **October 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**
 - b) **Resolutions-NONE**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
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c) **Contract/Applications for Approval**

<u>Number/Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Application \$\$</u>
2016 Buffer Law	Funding for buffer law compliance	\$25,000
2016 MAWQCP	Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program	\$6,000
2016 Multipurpose Drainage Grant	North Fork Crow River WD grant application	\$90,443.75
2016 Conservation Apprentice application	Intern for assistance for work in 2016	
2016 Cooperative Weed Management Grant	For terrestrial invasive work intern	\$15,000

d) **Appropriations/Payments-None**

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.	Peterson Co Ltd	Audit 2014	\$2,025.00	General fund

e) **Grant Payment/Project Approvals-**

<u>Contract Code</u>	<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>	<u>Project Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment</u>
CWF04+14	2014 Minnewaska Subwatershed	Mike Billehus	638	WBL 36	\$38,620.80	\$38,620.80
WS01+15	Well Sealing	Dennis Lange	Well sealing	BW 18	\$500.00	

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Pederson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde

- Landuse ordinance will be revised. The county has hired a consultant for this process.
- Attended a Minnesota River Basin Congress meeting.
- Attended a Bonanza Valley Groundwater Management Area Meeting
- Did talk to David Green at the County Planning and Zoning office about Aquatic Invasive Species prevention aid and the Lake Monitoring concerns brought forth by the SWCD Board at the October board meeting. Mr. Green was reluctant to convene the committee yet as he was waiting to see other counties perspectives as they implement this effort.
- He shared that the County has been discussing the Coordinators position.
- He talked about the ordinance update was budgeted for prior to our current zoning administrator so the funding is there to move forward with a revision. Gerde provided an example with a cell tower where there would be benefit in a revision.
- There was additional dialogue about permitting in general for projects through the County both for this falls construction and for in the future.

5. Old Business

6. New Business

a) **Minnesota Department of Ag new research area with U of M Extension Josh Stamper/2015 Rosholt Follow up-Dan Langseth MDA**

- Dan presented the MDA Rosholt sampling results. See Attached Report.
- Langseth shared that an intern will be hired again to assist with sampling.
- Concern was expressed by the board and staff regarding costs associated with removal of the equipment after the grant expires.

Gary Reents moved to approve the Minnesota Department of Ag additional research suggested and directed staff to coordinate with UofM and MDA. Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

b) **Agreement with DNR for WLI administration**

Gary Reents moved to approve Kovarik working with the DNR to finalize an agreement for WLI administration. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

c) **CD at Glenwood State Bank**

- The CD will be withdrawn and placed into savings.

Keith Nygaard moved to approve placing the CD into savings. Mike Billehus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d) **Permitting**

Permitting was discussed.

7. Reports

a) **Treasurer Report**

- i. Monthly Checking Account Report #11247
- ii. Monthly Savings Account Report #870903
- iii. Treasurer Report (3 year comparison)

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- 2016 EQIP deadline was November 20th. There are 25 EQIP applications.
- Currently 1WRP/RIM project.
- A DC meeting was attended in Fergus.

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson attended a public meeting in Buffalo. It was online for live webstream.
- There is an RFP for selection proposal.
- Advisor/Policy committee meeting will be held in a couple of weeks.
- Glacial Ridge Trail did not hold a meeting.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
12-15-15	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

10. FYI Items

- MASWCD convention registrations are done. All staff and Nygaard and Pederson will attend.
- Reimbursement for Rosholt submitted \$9,943.71
- Newsletter went out.
- Sales Program order form was updated.
- BWSR Academy was attended by all staff. Training was very good.
- Working on grant reimbursements for 2014 Cooperative Weed Management, 2014 Pope Co Subwatershed Project, 2013 AIG Lake Minnewaska, 2015 Lake Emily AIG.
- Submitted reimbursement for MDA Targeted Township project \$228.48.
- Dorrich Dairy named as Area II finalist for State Outstanding Conservationist of the Year.
- Inspections being completed for projects in year 1, 5 and 9 of their contracts we had 24 we have about 5 left.

11. Adjourn

At 9:10 a.m. Gary Reents moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Billehus seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was unanimously passed.



12-15-15



12-15-15

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Mike Billehus moved to approve the treasurer's report. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

c) Holly Kovarik, Manager

1. Project updates

- Updates were given on the Peterson RIM project, Tangen project and that the dikes have been seeded. Kovarik will bring forth to the board reimbursement requests once as built and final certifications are complete.
- 2. Clean Water Council Meeting updates
- 3. MASWCD Convention
- 4. 2016 Budget
- 5. Christmas gathering discussion
- The Christmas gathering will take place in January.
- 6. Outstanding Conservationist
- Gary and Jane Reents asked to be registered for the MASWCD State Convention.

d) Kelly Erickson, Technician

1. Wetland Conservation Act

- Has been dealing mainly with whistleblower WCA complaints.
- Completed site reviews.
- Attended BWSR Academy in October.

e) Nicole Zimmerman, Farmbill Technician

- Completing CRP site checks for 2016 expiring enrollments.

f) Jessica Oldakowski, District Technician

- No Report- Absent

g) Grant Herfindahl, FSA

- Interviewing CED on November 24 in Alexandria. There are five offices open.
- Sign up for general CRP #49 will begin December 1st it will be similar to previous sign ups.
- 2016 expiring CRP's will be addressed. 2016 expiring, if they qualify, can only sign up 6 months ahead of time. CP37- duck habitat may be a good option for expiring CRP.
- Many CREP has expiring CRP.
- NRCS roles are limited until accepted for bids.
- November 20 was the last day to bid on CRP grasslands.

h) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS

- There are 14 compliance 1026's; 23 at the area office.
- Checks were filed for CRP
- CSP sent out for payment. There are 29 active contracts and 14 applications for 2016.
- EQIP has ongoing construction.
- Certify pasture project.
- Cihlar projects has 12 wascobs and a terrace. Johnsrud has 14 wascobs and Femrite has 3 wascobs.