

MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 17, 2019  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation District, P.O. Box 74, Warren, Minnesota, December 17, 2019.

Chairman Bengtson called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman, Wallace Bengtson  
Vice-Chairman, Carl Green  
Secretary, Stuart Nordling  
Treasurer, Duane Potucek  
Public Relations, Brad Berg

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Technical Manager, Danny Thorstad  
Programs Manager, Darren Carlson  
Administrative Assistant, Janelle Kollin  
Board Conservationist, Matt Fischer  
Soil Conservation Technician, Thane Espe

Minutes - Motion by Potucek, seconded by Green to accept the minutes as mailed from the November 20, 2019 board meeting.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Motion by Berg, seconded by Nordling to accept and approve the Treasurer's Report.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

BWSR Report – Matt Fischer reported on the following: Clean water funds request for proposal go to BWSR board in January; Thief River 1W1P will receive \$540,000 for projects is waiting for plan to be reviewed and approved; Lawns to legumes program which turn lawns into pollinator habitat for bees; Capacity 2020 and 2021 dollars increased; State Cost Share Policy – flat rate payment for pre-construction cover to be able to get projects completed but will need to plant a temporary cover to be able to get project completed.

Middle/Snake/Tamarac Watershed District project – This item was tabled from the last meeting. This project is for side water inlets along state ditch 3 in Bloomer township, sections 3 and 4. The current 3 SWI are failing and need to be taken out and replaced. Cost estimate is \$29,413.60 with 75% cost share \$22,068.20. The Watershed will pay for the engineering cost and flap gates. Motion by Nordling, seconded by Potucek to approve and proceed working with the Watershed District on this project.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

NRCS Report – Espe reported on the following: CRP general sign up is going on right now and rates are depending on soil type. Cost share rate has been changed to 50%. No other current program signups right now; CSP and EQIP payments are trying to get paid by year end.

One Watershed One Plan MOA – an agreement outlining the specific goals and implementing them. Discussion that the coordinator role would be in Marshall County and the fiscal agent would be the Red Lake Watershed District. Discussion also about hiring an employee with funding from WCA, Technical assistance from Capacity and Buffer program. Staff will put together a job description for the January board meeting. Motion by Potucek, seconded by Green to sign Memorandum of Cooperative Agreement Thief River Planning Group.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek

Abstained: Berg

Motion carried.

2020 Local Capacity – The potential for new technician needs to be addressed in the work plan. Work plan items as follows: AgBMP T/A; Engineering Assistance; Well Sealings cost share; project cost share, computer for new employee.

Red Lake Watershed District – Carlson met with the Watershed District and they will be giving us \$12,500 to help with engineering practices in the District for 2019.

Audit – Kollin informed the SWCD will be having an audit for year ending December 2019.

Kollin passed out the buffer article that was sent statewide from BWSR.

AIS – Thorstad reported he attended the yearly AIS workshop and the SWCD has met all obligations.

Thorstad noted that supervisors should be receiving letter from Campaign Finance shortly.

Disaster Declaration – FSA, NRCS and SWCD signed and sent in information.

Staff Reviews – Staff were asked to leave so supervisors could discuss and also wages. Wages were tabled until January 2020 board meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the SWCD office.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55a.m.

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Secretary