

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



“Helping bring YOU clean water”

Redwood SWCD

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PR & I
Brian Timm
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Staff

Marilyn
Bernhardson
District
Administrator

Kari Clouse
Office Assistant

Kristy Zajac
Conservation
Specialist

Kurt Mathiowetz
Water Quality
Technician

Brian Pfarr
Resource
Specialist

MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 14, 2018 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 8:40 a.m. by chair Jeff Potter. The meeting was held in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Potter – Chair
Ed Carter – Vice-Chair
Brian Timm – PR&I

STAFF: Marilyn Bernhardson – District Administrator

COUNTY COMMISSIONER - Dennis Groebner

ABSENT: Kris Tauer

ADOPT AGENDA: Motion by Carter, second by Timm to adopt the agenda as sent.
Motion carried

MINUTES: Motion by Timm, second by Carter to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2018 board meeting as sent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COST SHARE: Motion by Timm, second by Carter to approve payment of the buffer strips that have been planted:

3-Buffer	Dan Petersen	Partial Payment 1.03 Acres	\$ 93.40
4-Buffer	Dan Petersen	.52 Acres	\$ 47.21
5-Buffer	Dan Petersen	.55 Acres	\$ 49.93
6-Buffer	Dan Petersen	1.66 Acres	\$150.46
14-Buffer	Richard Wenisch	2.79 Acres	\$521.50
15-Bufer	Richard Wenisch	2.91 Acres	\$480.50

Motion carried.

Copy of Buffer Cost Share Application spreadsheet was provided to supervisors.

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BILLS PAYABLE: Motion by Carter, second by Timm to approve payment of the bills for February 14, 2018 totaling \$2,751.68. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Kristy Zajac entered the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

Conservation Specialist – Zajac – 1) Developing maps for individuals who have requested buffer cost share. Ninety five percent of public waters are in compliance and approximately 50% of ditches are in compliance. A few individuals have qualified for alternative practices. 2) Walk-in Access sign up is being held right now. 3) CREP sign-ups are going well, however it has slowed down. Have several who are waiting for October 1st start date. 4) Have one individual who is interested in restoring a wetland for the state wetland bank. 5) Progress has been made with wetland violation; however, issue still has not been resolved.

Kristy Zajac left the meeting and Kurt Mathiowetz entered the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Water Quality Technician - Mathiowetz 1) Spending a lot of time on the water quality certification program. Have completed about 30 assessments and have about 17 certified. 2) Working with Brian on best management practices. Hope that EQIP funding will come through.

Mathiowetz left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

District Administrator – Bernhardson 1) Submitted Ag BMP Loan Annual Report. 2) Processing new CREP applications. 3) Submitted Pay Equity Report. 4) Processing new buffer cost share applications and payments. 5) Attended WRAPS meeting. 6) Working on Annual Report. 7) Met with staff to revise Cost Share Policy, which will be presented for board approval at the March meeting. 8) Renewed rent lease for one year.

RCRCA: - Carter reported on the February 1, 2018 meeting.

County Commissioner – Groebner 1) Looking at what to do with the courthouse. It has many of the rooms occupied, however it needs a lot of work, including a new furnace. 2) Looking at the county highway shop/office, as it is very old and has several areas of concern. 3) Six or seven new ditches have been approved for redetermination.

Shannon Gegner entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

NRCS DC – See attached report.

Gegner left the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

DISTRICT AWARD: Redwood SWCD received the the Brood Booster Award at the Minnesota Pheasants Forever meeting on January 20, 2018 in Willmar, MN. Jeff Potter, Brian Pfarr, Kristy Zajac and Marilyn Bernhardson attended to receive the award.

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LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING: Dates for the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capital are March 12-13 at Embassy Suites in downtown St. Paul. Potter, Timm and Bernhardson will attend.

VEHICLE UPDATE: An application has been submitted for the district to purchase a vehicle through the state Cooperative Purchasing Venture. We are waiting to receive our permit number for secure access to the system. Other options to secure a different vehicle will be explored. Vehicle will be placed on the March agenda.

Joe Plaetz entered the meeting 10:10 a.m.

LOCAL WORK GROUP: It is time once again to hold a Local Work Group Meeting. We have scheduled it for April 11, 2018. We have increased our membership to the Water Management Task force and who will serve as our main body for the Local Work Group. We will plan to have our regular board meeting on April 11, 2018 in the Commissioners Meeting room with the Local Work Group meeting to start at 10:00 in the same room.

AREA V MEETING: Area V Meeting will be held Thursday, February 15, 2018 at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in Marshall, MN. No supervisors will be attending.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular board meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District will be held on March 14, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Ag Service Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Timm, second by Carter to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Supervisor