



**WASECA**

## **SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

105 22nd Avenue N.E.  
Waseca, MN 56093  
Phone (507) 835-4800

### **Approved Minutes**

The meeting of the Waseca County SWCD Board of Supervisors was held at the Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District's meeting room on October 8, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Wayne Cords.

#### **Members Present**

Larry Hagen  
Jessie Shaffer, Secretary  
Wayne Cords, Chairman

#### **Staff Present**

Eric Gulbransen, District Manager  
Adrienne Justman, Administrative Assistant  
Tyler Polster, District Technician

#### **Others Present**

Jenny Mocol-Johnson, BWSR Board Conservationist

The agenda was reviewed and no changes were required. Motion was made by Shaffer, second by Hagen, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried. All yes

Minutes of the September Board Meeting were distributed to the supervisors prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Hagen, seconded by Shaffer, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried. All yes.

Cash flow worksheet was reviewed. The treasurer's report dated September 2015 was presented to the Board for review. Motion was made by Hagen, second by Shaffer, to approve the Treasurers Report. Motion carried. All yes.

Bills: (See Attached) Motion was made by Shaffer, second by Hagen, to approve payment for the presented invoices that total \$7,217.97. Motion carried. All yes.

### **Old Business**

1. Meeting Reports – Jessie Shaffer reported on the September 11 GBERBA meeting. They discussed the MPCA 319 grants and Cost Share on drainage systems. GBERBA is going to be administering the Ag Certainty program. They will be hiring 3 technicians for this. They have funding available for SWCD staff that want to take the training to be able to complete farm certifications. There was also discussion of grants that they plan to pursue.

Shaffer also reported on the Governance 101 training in St. Cloud. There were several speakers covering topics including the history of the SWCD and working toward goals both personally and as a group within the District. There was training on grants and other funding concerns. MCIT covered a wide range of topic including open meeting regulations and a variety of "what if" scenarios.

LeSeuer River Watershed Network Steering Committee – Shaffer reported that they have begun building on a grant application from 2014. They are also looking for speakers for the upcoming meeting.

Shaffer attended the Freeborn Soil Health field day in Clarks Grove. She reported that they had good demonstrations. The local farmer who was speaking reported having good success with the cover crop mix that he is using. He stated that he has seen a high return on his investment, which is \$30-40 per acre including aerial seeding.

### Old Business

1. Continued – Wayne Cords attended the Task Force meeting for the Waseca Water Plan. He requested that another Board member take his position as the SWCD representative as his work position is creating a conflict of interest in this situation. Jessie Shaffer volunteered.

### New Business

1. Blue Earth County CRP Plan Approval – Eric Gulbransen requested that the Board authorize Blue Earth County SWCD to sign Waseca CRP plans that are administered by the Blue Earth FSA. Motion was made by Hagen, seconded by Shaffer, to approve this. Motion carried by voice vote. All yes.
2. GBERBA – Ag Certainty Program – Gulbransen received the official information about the program. There was some discussion about ways to spread the information about the program to landowners. He also said that GBERBA is looking for SWCD's who would be interested in hosting one of the technicians.
3. 2016 Calendar – Justman presented the information regarding the 2016 Calendar options. The options for the mailing list included either using the active producer list that was already available or doing a more broad mailing to all rural route addresses. After discussion it was decided that the Board would like to pursue the rural route avenue. Motion was made by Shaffer, seconded by Hagen, to begin work on the calendar. Motion carried by voice vote. All yes.
4. 2015 Resolutions – 2015 Resolution packets were distributed to the supervisors. Justman requested that they have their votes returned to her by Friday October 23.
5. Tyler's Probationary Period, Review, and Time Off request – Tyler Polster's probationary period is coming to an end. It was decided that his probationary review and his annual review would be done together in November. The Personnel Committee will schedule a meeting before the November board meeting. Polster requested to utilize a small amount of his leave before the end of his probation. Motion was made by Hagen, seconded by Shaffer, to approve the leave and combining the probationary and annual reviews. Motion carried by voice vote. All yes.
6. NRCS Staff Update – Gulbransen gave a brief update on the NRCS staffing. There will be an administrative staff coming shortly. This individual is coming through Altima and will be contracted with NRCS. It has also been stated that the Waseca will be receiving a Soil Conservationist. This is someone who could move into the District Conservationist position in the future. There is no timeline for when this person will be hired.

### Agency Reports:

Jenny Mocol-Johnson is the new BWSR Board Conservationist for Waseca SWCD. She is based in the Mankato office. She introduced herself and gave the Board a brief history. She stated that she is available if we ever have questions.

Staff Reports:

Polster reported on a site visit that he made to evaluate if it would be suitable for a future event showcasing buffers.

Justman reported that the 2014 Audit is in progress and there have been no concerns at the present time

Eric Gulbransen attended the Governance 101 training. He has also been attending the water plan meetings. He reported on current WCA activity including a possible wetland bank.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 10.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Hagen, seconded by Shaffer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

## October Bills

Steele Co. SWCD	Hours		3768.92
	Expenses/Mileage		262.78
Clemons Properties	October Rent		665.00
Sportsman Stop	Gas		49.46
Jared J Dufault	Accounting		125.00
Waseca County	Copies of Deeds	RIM Ownership Changes	47.00
Supervisors	Per Diem		1325.20
Supervisors	Expenses		974.61
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7217.97</b>