

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES

Monday, April 14, 2014 – 4:00 P.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the USDA Service Center on Monday, April 14, 2014. Chairman Thoennes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members attending were: Rutten, Schneider, Thoennes and Wolf. Members absent: Barsness. Also in attendance were: Commissioner Olson, Haggenmiller, Dybdal and Arceneau.

Pledge was recited

Minutes of the regular April 14, 2014, meeting was discussed. Motion by Wolf to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Wolf to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Closed Regular meeting:

Public Hearing for Wetland Conservation Act Applications:

1. **City of Alexandria 50th Avenue Rebuilding**– Haggenmiller reviewed a power-point presentation of the application to fill 76,569 sq ft of wetland for rebuilding 50th Avenue. The project will rebuild 50th Avenue and widen the road to match 50th Avenue to the West. Replacement will be through wetland banking at 2.5:1 ratio. Recommendation by TEP is to approve the application. Questions from the Board included locations of the stormwater pond. Haggenmiller explained the ponds were in the DNR protected waters and DNR is working with the City to get a permit. Because of topography of area, Engineers stated ponds must be in this location.

Close Public Hearing

The Regular Meeting was re-opened

1. The Wetland Conservation Act Application is to fill 76,569 sq ft of wetland for rebuilding 50th Avenue and replace 2.5:1 ratio through wetland banking. Motion by Wolf to approve the Wetland Conservation Act Application to rebuild 50th Avenue & replace 2.5:1 ratio through wetland banking, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.

Reports

- A. **NRCS Report** – Mark Kulig, Assistant State Conservationist reported on the 2014 Budget deficit and the New Farm Bill and how it affects the NRCS programs.
- B. **Coordinator's Report** – Haggenmiller handed out his monthly report.
- C. **Pomme De Tarre Watershed Project**- No report was given.

- D. County Commissioner Report-** Commissioner Olson mentioned that the proposed feedlot was turned down. Olson reviewed the renovations of the new court rooms and that they are looking into a ½% Sales Tax increase which will rescind the wheelage tax at the end of 2014.

Old Business

- A. 2013 Annual Report** – Was handed out to the Supervisor’s for their review. Arceneau submitted the report to the State Auditor’s office. Haggemiller will present to the Commissioners on May 6th.
- B. MN Land Trust Easement Program** – Schneider moved to approve the contract for services with the MN Land Trust Easement Program, Rutten seconded it. Motion Carried.
- C. New Billing Rate** – Motion by Wolf to approve the new billing rate, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.
- D. Supervisor Election Filing** – Thoennes, Rutten and Barsness will need to file. Filing dates are from May 20th to June 6th.

New Business

- A. Field Office Update**–Dybdal reported that they received two drainage requests requiring wetland determination; seventeen EQIP applications, seven CSP applications, Honey Bee Initiative is a new program, Department of Ag held a workshop on Soil Health on March 13. Completing 2013 projects when fields are ready.
- B. Cost Share Application**- Rupert Krohnfeldt-low income septic Ida Twp. Section 10 Cost Share Flat Rate of \$3,000. Motion by Schneider to approve \$3,000 Flat Rate Cost Share for Rupert Krohnfeldt, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- C. Cost Share Payment** – Steve Brown- Vacationer’s Inn Partial Payment – Total Cost for Lake Shore Restoration \$1,099.22 with 75% Cost Share - \$824.41. Motion by Schneider to approve Cost Share Payment of \$824.41 for Brown, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- D. Clean Water Grant Agreement** – Motion by Schneider to approve Clean Water Grant Agreement, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.
- E. MASWCD Resolutions** – Due by June 18th Area II meeting.
- F. May Meeting Date** – Motion by Rutten to have the regular meeting on May 21st at 8pm, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.
- G. 60 Year Anniversary** – Arceneau reviewed several options to promote the District’s 60th Anniversary. Motion by Wolf to allocate \$2800 for a 60 Year Report to be inserted in the local paper, seconded by Schneider. Motion Carried.

- H. **No till Drill Hiring.** Motion by Wolf to hire a Drill Manager at \$10.50 per hour, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
- I. **Anderson Annual Review**–Thanked Anderson for 35 years of service. Motion by Wolf to increase Anderson’s wage by 3.5% effective current pay period, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of April, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #7224-7258 for a total of \$31,289.36 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Wolf to pay the bills, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Rutten to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Secretary,

Jon Schneider, Secretary