

**DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES**

Monday, January 12, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the USDA Service Center on Monday, January 15, 2015. Chairman Thoennes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members attending were: Thoennes, Barsness, Rutten, Schneider and Wolf. Also in attendance were: Commissioner Johnson, Haggemiller, Dybdal and Arceneau.

Pledge was recited

Re-Organization of the Board of Supervisors. Motion by Wolf to keep all Officers the same as 2015, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.

Minutes of the regular December 10, 2014, **meeting** was discussed. Motion by Barsness to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.

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

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. State Convention Reports-** Thoennes, Barsness, Rutten, Wolf, Haggemiller and Arceneau reported on the sessions they attended at the Convention.
- C. Douglas County Commissioner Report-** Commissioner Johnson reviewed the new re-organization of the Commissioners. Johnson mentioned that a new Feedlot Officer and Parks Director should be hired soon and that the remodeling of the Court Rooms are going very well.
- D. Department of Ag-**Dan Langseth reviewed the new Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan that is the state's blueprint for minimizing groundwater impacts from the use of nitrogen fertilizer.

Old Business

- A. Convention Reimbursement**–There was discussion on compensation of Supervisors for the Sunday prior to the convention. The Supervisor's agreed that no compensation will be taken for the Sunday prior to the Convention.

New Business

- A. **Field Office Update**—Dybdal reported that they received four drainage requests requiring wetland determination, five certified wetland determination, EQIP contracts are being reviewed for eligibility. Dybdal introduced Nicole Zimmerman the new Administrative Assistant.
- B. **Set Supervisors Compensation.** Motion by Wolf to leave the compensation the same as 2014, seconded by Barsness. Motion carried.
- C. **Set Mileage Rate** – Motion by Wolf to follow the Federal Mileage Rate of 57.5¢/mile for 2015, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
- D. **Designate Depositories** – Motion by Barsness to designate Wells Fargo and Viking Savings as the Douglas SWCD depositories and Haggemiller, Arceneau, Wolf and Thoennes as Signers for 2014, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.
- E. **Set 2013 Meeting Schedule** – Motion by Rutten to approve the 2015 meeting schedule, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.
- F. **Assign Committees**
 - 1. **Chippewa River Watershed Group** - Thoennes
 - 2. **Pomme de Terre Watershed Group** - Barsness
 - 3. **Sauk River Watershed Group** – Rutten
 - 4. **West Central Area II Joint Powers** – Wolf, Thoennes
 - 5. **Long Prairie Watershed Group** – Rutten
 - 6. **Water Plan** – Schneider, Thoennes
 - 7. **EQIP Local Work Group** – Thoennes, Barsness
- G. **Dues**
 - 1. **National Association of Conservation Districts Dues**- \$775.00 (Gold) – Motion by Wolf to approve, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.
 - 2. **MN Association of Conservation Districts Dues** - \$2866.50 –Motion by Barsness to approve, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
- H. **Tree Open House**-will be the last week of February either the 25 Or 26.
- I. **Annual Plan of Work Update** Haggemiller will have a draft at the February meeting for the Supervisors to review.
- J. **BWSR 2014-2015 Easement Implementation Grant Agreement**– \$2,000 - Motion by Barsness to sign the BWSR 2014-2015 Easement Implementation

Grant Agreement, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.

- K. **Area II Envirothon Donation Request \$150**-Motion by Wolf to approve the Envirothon Donation, seconded by Schneider. Motion carried.
- L. **MASWCD Legislative Day** – Scheduled for January 26-27, 2015. Supervisor’s let the staff know if attending.
- M. **St. Agnes School** – Thank You card was reviewed
- N. **RIM Wetland Signup** – Haggenmiller mentioned the signup will go thru January 31st.
- O. **Mentoring Request** – Haggenmiller was asked to be a mentor for Aaron Janz from the Department of Ag in Glenwood. Haggenmiller will mentor Janz for 14 weeks on strengthening his skills for planning and implementing water restoration and protection strategies.

- P. **Pomme De Tarre Watershed Project**- Barsness reviewed the December 12 meeting he attended. They discussed the Grants with Pete Waller, TEC update, BWSR Board has an opening and the Wetland Easement signup. The next meeting will be held on February 15.
- Q. **Water Plan Update** –Henry gave his yearly report. Henry requested, if considered, he would like permission to be a member on the City of Alexandria’s Stormwater Committee. Motion by Barsness to allow Henry to sit on the City of Alexandria’s Stormwater Committee, if considered, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of January, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #7561-7594 for a total of \$31,121.53 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Barsness to pay the bills, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Barsness to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Secretary,

Jon Schneider, Secretary