

**DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES**

Monday, February 8, 2016 – 4:00 P.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the USDA Service Center on Monday, February 8, 2016. Vice- Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Rutten, Schneider and Wolf. Members absent: Thoennes. Also in attendance were: Commissioner Johnson, Douglas, MN Department of Ag Dan Langseth, County Lake Association Board Member, Jan Beliveau, Haggemiller, Dybdal and Arceneau.

Pledge was recited

Minutes of the regular January 11, 2016, 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.

Reports

- A. MN Department of Ag – Dan Langseth** - reviewed recommended changes to the Township Nitrate Testing Joint Powers Agreement. Motion by Schneider to amend the Joint Powers Agreement as recommended, seconded by Rutten, Motion carried.
- B. Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- C. Pomme De Terre-** No Report Given. Meeting on February 12, 2016
- D. Douglas County Commissioner Report-** Commissioner Johnson reviewed the Lake Ida project grant due March 9th. The Park Board has put an offer on a piece of property on Lake Brophy.
- E. Douglas County Feedlot Officer – Mae Patron** – A personal invitation to the Members to attend the tools to improve farm profitability through cost sharing, cover crops and gazing native grasslands meeting on February 24 at the Forada Supper Club.

Old Business

- A. Convention Technician Position**–Andrew Rice started on February 1st.
- B. Annual Plan of Work Update** – A copy was handed out for the Members to review and bring any recommendations back to the March meeting.
- C. Water Plan Technician Position** – Advertisement for the position will go out in March.
- D. District Technician Position** – Ben Branson has accepted the position. Haggemiller recommended purchasing a new computer for Branson. Motion by Wolf to purchase computer, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- E. Tree Open House** – Is Thursday, February 18, 2016.

New Business

- A. **Field Office Update**—Dybdal reported that they received four drainage requests requiring wetland determination, two appeals, nineteen EQIP application screening deadline is February 12, CSP signup is March 31st, and Meissner is working on CRP signups that are due the end of February. The Soil Health Summit is scheduled for February 17-18 at Arrowwood.
- B. **Buffer Law changes on Private Ditches** – On January 29th the Governor clarified the new law that all private ditches are not included in the buffer law.
- C. **MASWCD Legislative Briefing and Day at Capital** – Registration due by March 11th.
- D. **State Cost Share Payment Les Anderson Sed Blk Total Cost \$13,450 Payment \$5,059.72**– Motion by Rutten to approve Les Anderson \$5,059.72 payment, seconded by Wolf. Motion Carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of February, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #8083-8059 for a total of \$\$42,702.35 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Rutten to pay the bills, seconded by Wolf. Motion carried.

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

Secretary,

Jon Schneider, Secretary