

Aitkin County SWCD
307 2nd Street NW, Room #216
Aitkin, MN 56431

Minutes of the Aitkin County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at the Aitkin County Government Center, 3rd floor. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Those attending were:

Those absent were:

Bob Janzen, Chair
Tom Fasteland, Vice Chair
Bob Roseberg, Treasurer
Frank Turnock, Secretary
Roger Vogt, Reporter
Steve Hughes, District Manager
Lori Nelson, District Secretary

Additions to the agenda:

-Area III Resolutions meeting date e-mail

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Frank Turnock to approve the agenda with an addition. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve the January 19, 2021 minutes. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Tom Fasteland and seconded by Frank Turnock to accept the January financial statement. Approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Bob Roseberg to accept the February financial statement. Approved unanimously.

CHECKS WRITTEN

A motion was made by Frank Turnock and seconded by Tom Fastland to approve checks written. Approved unanimously.

AIS UPDATE

Steve handed out an AIS report Sept. 2014-present that was presented to the County Board earlier in the month. There will be an AIS Committee on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Aitkin County Government Center, 3rd floor County Board room.

WRAPS UPDATE/BRAINERD

The WRAPS Update Brainerd is included in Janet's District Technician report.

RUM RIVER 1W1P JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Discussion.

NRCS/SWCD CIVIL RIGHTS AGREEMENT

This was tabled until Tom Gervais, NRCS arrives.

SWCD TRUCK 2021 FORD 150

The new 2021 SWCD truck arrived. Discussion.

QUINSTAR PROPOSED WETLAND BANK

Steve updated the SWCD Board on the Quinstar proposed wetland bank. Discussion.

COST-SHARE APPLICATION/AITKIN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/\$1997.25

A motion was made by Tom Fastland and seconded by Bob Roseberg to approve cost-share application for Aitkin Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$1997.25 not to exceed 75%. Approved unanimously.

AREA III RESOLUTION MEETING

Discussion re: offering the McGregor Community Center for the Area III Resolution meeting, more capacity for a meeting. Frank will talk to Russ, Area III Director.

SNAKE RIVER REPORT (Bob Roseberg)

No Snake River meetings for the last couple of months.

Kyle attends the Snake River 1W1P meetings.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

- Ditch project with the Aitkin County Land Dept.
- Discussion re: Sam Seybold as a full-time SWCD employee in the next few months. Steve suggested a Personnel Committee meeting in the next few months to discuss staffing. The SWCD Board suggested the first Personnel Committee meeting after the regular April SWCD Board meeting.
- Decontamination unit to be purchased and put at the Corp Dam. Steve had a discussion with Christopher Krolak, Big Sandy and the Army Corp.. They would help take care of the decontamination unit. Steve checked with Diamond Industrial re: decontamination unit. A 400 gallon one is not available for 6-8 weeks, but they have a 200 gallon one available in April. Steve thinks this would work for Big Sandy. Steve will bring this to the AIS Committee on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. A motion was made by Bob Roseberg and seconded by Tom Fasteland to approve the purchase of the decontamination unit in the amount of \$11,506.76 if the AIS Committee agrees to the purchase of another one. Approved unanimously.

Discussion re: AIS signs at the landings. Steve will check into.

GREEN CORP. APPLICATION

A motion was made by Roger Vogt and seconded by Frank Turnock to move ahead with the Green Corp. application. Approved unanimously.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Janet didn't attend the meeting. A report was handed out.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST REPORT (Tom Gervais)

- Welcome Thomas Zimmerman, NRCS.
- Forage & Grassland Council-12 attended the workshop in McGregor.
- Annual Civil Rights Equal Opportunity reviewed. A motion was made by Tom Fastland and seconded by Frank Turnock to review and sign the agreement. Approved unanimously.

DISTRICT FORESTER/TECHNICIAN REPORT (Kyle)

No written report handed out.

- FSC Audit
- Snake River 1W1P
- Rum River Forestry Committee
- Ripplesippi Trails/Drone
- Forest to Tap forestry materials to hand out
- Stewardship Plans
- St. Croix Watershed
- Land Dept./Ski trails
- Land Dept./Planting trees

BUFFER SPECIALIST REPORT (Sam)

- Buffers
- Gravel Pit Noxious Weed Certificate-added three more since last year.
- Ordering herbicide for tansy
- Entering data for Noxious Weeds
- Shamrock Culvert Inventory data
- Rivers & Lakes Fair cancelled for this year.
- Planning & Zoning land alteration permits and violations
- Rum River 1W1P
- Training with Ryan Clark MN Ag Water Certificate process.

CHRIS PENCE/MN BWSR REPORT

- Teleworking required at least through June
- Budget forecast
- BWSR Spring Training/March 30, 2021
- BWSR Academy/Oct. 26-28, 2021
- Webinars

The next SWCD Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Aitkin County Government Center 3rd floor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Franklin Turnock
Secretary