

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



Murray SWCD

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Supervisors

Chair

Gary Brinks
District II
(507) 763-3775

Vice Chair

Arland Moger
District IV
(507) 920-8433

Secretary

Shannon Cohrs
District III
(507)380-0997

Treasurer

Roger Steinman
District V
(507)371-2290

PR & I

Paul Posthuma
District I
(507) 879-3102

Staff

Howard Konkol District
Manager

Shelly Lewis
District Secretary

Craig Christensen
District Technician

Members Present:

Gary Brinks -Chairman
Shannon Cohrs -Secretary
Roger Steinman -Treasurer
Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Member Absent:

Arland Moger-Vice Chairman

Others Present:

Howard Konkol-District Manager
Shelly Lewis-District Secretary
Craig Christensen-District Technician
Brian Christiansen-District Conservationist
Bob Moline- County Commissioner
Lauren Michelsen-West Fork Des Moines River Coordinator

The Meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Steinman to approve the December 9, 2010 minutes.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

The monthly Statement of Treasurer was read and filed for audit.

A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Cohrs to approve Supervisor's vouchers, Murray SWCD salaries, and SWPTSA salaries for December, 2010.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

County Commissioner Report: Bob reported on the Budget that was trimmed down but still short by \$270,000.00, which was taken out of reserves. Bob voted against approving the budget. The County purchased a used blower from Iowa. The sheriff's addition will be coming before the Commissioners to be put out for bids. Bob was elected Chair for Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc.

District Conservationist Report:

ENGINEERING: There are some projects held over from last fall.

EQIP: The sign-up period for 2011 ends January 31, 2011. The scoring period is in the month of February with applications funded in March.

1026/spot-checks: Brian has received a couple 569s from FSA.

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP): There are limited dollars this year for WHIP. Applications are being accepted with scoring periods to be announced soon.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): We are in the process of making CSP payments. The third sign-up applications are being accepted until 1/21/2011. Appointments for interviews are being set up.

RC&D: The annual meeting will be held on January 19, 2011 in Slayton. It sounds like John Beckwith will attend and a presentation will be given by CERTs.

WRP/RIM: A Flood plain sign-up is going on until March 11, 2011. NRCS is anticipating a general WRP-RIM sign-up later this spring.

Office Review: The Slayton office appraisal was completed this week.

Meeting/Training: CSP teleconference 12/14/2010, DC teleconference 1/5/2011, RIM/WRP teleconference 1/5/2011, Slayton office appraisal 1/10/2011, EQIP/CSP training 1/12/2011, Community garden meeting 1/18/2011, RC&D meeting 1/19/2011, Winter Crop Day 1/24/2011, Winter Crop update 2/2/2011.

West Fork Des Moines River Coordinator: Lauren Michelsen introduced as the West Ford Des Moines River Coordinator. She is looking for future funding for West Fork Des Moines River. Lauren will be writing grants with each county. If there are any ideas for projects we need to let her know.

Oath of Office: Paul Posthuma and Gary Brinks took the Oath of Office and were sworn in as supervisors in Nomination District I and II.

Election of Officers: A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Steinman to approve the following slate of officers for 2011. Gary Brinks-Chairman, Arland Moger-Vice Chairman, Shannon Cohrs-Secretary, Roger Steinman-Treasurer, and Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2011 Committees: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Steinman to appoint the supervisors to the following 2011 committee assignments:

- Local Comprehensive Water Plan- Paul, Roger (alternate)*
- Heron Lake Watershed-Arland, Howard (alternate)*
- SW Prairie Joint Powers Organization-Arland, Paul (alternate)*
- State Revolving Fund-Arland, Howard (alternate)*
- Personnel Committee-Roger and Gary (alternates: Arland, Shannon, Paul)*
- Beaver Creek Clean Water Partnership: Gary, Roger (alternate)*
- Cottonwood River Clean Water Partnership-Shannon, Howard (alternate)*
- RC&D-Gary, Arland (alternate)*
- SW CREP-Gary, Arland (alternate)*
- RCRCA-Shannon, Paul (alternate)*

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Capitalization & Straight Line Depreciation: A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Brinks to set the Capitalization threshold at \$1,000.00 and use straight line depreciation.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2011 Per Diems & Mileage: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Cohrs to set the Supervisors 2011 Per Diems at \$75.00/meeting and mileage reimbursement to follow the IRS Federal Reimbursement Rate which is set at .51¢/mile.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2011 Financial Depository: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Steinman to keep the 2011 District Financial Depository as Minnwest Bank South in Slayton.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

FYI- Budgets: The Board reviewed the year end 2010 SWCD budget from January thru December and the approved 2011 SWCD budget..

MASWCD Legislative Briefing: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Cohrs to approve attendance for supervisors and staff at the MASWCD Legislative Briefing on February 28- March 1, 2011 in St. Paul.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Rock Intake Application: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Brinks to approve cost-share application from Harvey Larson for 10 alternative rock intakes in three different townships with 50% of the cost-share funds coming from Heron Lake Watershed District (\$2,000.00) and 25% of the cost-share funds coming from Murray SWCD's Blind Intake account (\$1,000.00) and the remainder 25% (\$1,000) being paid by the landowner.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Coteau Des Prairies Application: A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Steinman to approve signing the Coteau Des Prairie application from Murray County for additional campsites at Lake Sarah.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

FYI: The Murray SWCD received notification that they did not receive FY 2011 Clean Water Funding money for the Lake Sarah and Holly Projects.

Cost-Share Assistance for Lake Sarah: The SWCD has been asked if they would be willing to provide some kind of funding assistance towards the Lake Sarah section 31 Road project; this request will be tabled until the February meeting to give supervisors time to think about it.

Area II/RCRCA Legislative Gathering: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Brinks to approve attendance at the Area II/RCRCA Legislative gathering on January 15, 2011 at Jack Pot Junction.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

RC&D Meeting: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Steinman to approve attendance at the RC&D annual meeting in Slayton on January 19, 2011.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Office Rent Agreement: The office rent agreement is a 2 year agreement at \$15.00 per sq/ft for 850 sq ft. of office space.

SWCD 2011 Annual Plan: The SWCD 2011 Annual Plan will be reviewed at the February Board Meeting.

Bills: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Cohrs to pay 10 Murray SWCD bills in the amount of \$7,832.18 for January and 13 in the amount of \$241,861.02 from December and 6 SWPTSA bills in the amount of \$15,639.05 for January and 3 in the amount of 7,242.62 from December.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Murray SWCD Minutes January 13 | 2011

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Murray SWCD will be held on February 10, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the USDA Service Center, Slayton, Minnesota.

The meeting was closed at 3:40 p.m. for performance evaluations. The meeting reconvened at 4:45 p.m. Paul Posthuma reported that evaluations were conducted for Shelly Lewis, Craig Christensen, and Howard Konkol. All were given satisfactory performance reviews.

Motion by Cohrs seconded by Steinman approve the performance evaluation for the staff.

Chairman asked for any other business, hearing none, Chairman adjourned meeting.

Approve by Shannon Cohrs, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date