

Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District



122 8th Ave. S. #1
Madison MN 56256
320-598-7321, Ex. 3

The mission of the Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District is to take available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user to help him/her protect Lac qui Parle's natural resources.

Minutes January 14, 2010

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors postponed their January 07, 2010 meeting, due to hazardous weather and no travel advised, and rescheduled it to January 14, 2010, in the Farm Service Center conference room, Madison, Minnesota. Board Supervisors present: Bob Ludvigson, Ed Radermacher, and Jeff Johnson. LeRoy Schuelke and John Rebehn were absent. Staff present: Les Kvidera, Curtis Nordaune, Terry Wittnebel and Deborah Hoffman. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. Guests present: County Commissioner, Graylen Carlson. Radermacher called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

Minutes:

Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the December 3, 2009 board meeting. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report:

Ludvigson made a motion to approve the Financial Report as presented, subject to audit. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Review Agenda:

Johnson made a motion to approve the Agenda with additions. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- NACD Dues Johnson made a motion to pay the NACD Dues at \$775. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Madison Infrastructure Replacement Assessment: Wittnebel shared that the total assessment could be paid in a lump sum, or broken down into payments, which would be included on the annual property tax statements. A discussion followed concerning taxes and the best payment option, but no action was taken.
- Grant Application Update: Wittnebel informed the Supervisors that an application had been submitted with Lincoln and Yellow Medicine SWCDs for Clean Water Legacy Funds. She briefed them on the proposed projects, and noted that Yellow Medicine SWCD will be the fiscal agent.
- SWCS Membership: No action was taken, resulting in non-renewal of the membership.
- Great Western MN Get-Together: Johnson made a motion to approve participation and payment of the \$95 Booth Fee. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Van: The reliability of the District van was discussed. Kvidera was asked to conduct a general inspection and overview of the van, and to renew the vehicle registration if he had a favorable report.
- Acknowledgement of Section 1619 Compliance: Following a discussion on Section 1619 Compliance, Johnson made a motion to approve and sign the Acknowledgement of the Section 1619 Compliance, as presented by Hendrickson. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

- Reorganization of Board:
 - Officers: Ludvigson nominated Radermacher as Chairman. Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor, motion carried. Ludvigson nominated Johnson as Vice-Chairman. Radermacher seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Johnson made a motion that the remaining offices be filled as follows: Secretary: Schuelke; Treasurer: Ludvigson; and PR&I: Rebehn. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. In summary, the offices for 2010 are as follows:
 - Chairman: Ed Radermacher

- Vice-Chairman: Jeff Johnson
 - Secretary: LeRoy Schuelke
 - Treasurer: Bob Ludvigson
 - PR&I: John Rebehn
- Meeting Dates and Times: Johnson made a motion that the meetings be the first Thursday of the month, with a start time of 10:00 am. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Committee/representation Assignments: Johnson made a motion that the committees remain the same. It was noted that the Resource Commission was dissolved for 2010. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Committees are as follows:
 - Budget: Ludvigson & Rebehn
 - Planning: Johnson and Rebehn
 - Personnel: Radermacher & Schuelke
 - Legislative: Ludvigson & Schuelke
 - Resource Commission: No Representation for 2010
 - SW Prairie Technical Service Area: Johnson & Rebehn
- Authorizations: Johnson made a motion to approve the Authorizations as recommended. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Authorizations are as follows:
 - Designated Depositories: KleinBank; United Prairie Bank, MinnWest Bank, and State Bank of Bellingham
 - Depository Authorization Designees: Ludvigson & Hoffman
 - Data Practices Responsible Authority: Wittnebel
 - DPRA Back-up and Compliance Official: Hoffman
- Technical Approval Authority: Ludvigson made a motion to approve the Technical Approval Authorities as recommended. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Technical Approval Authorities are as follows:
 - CREP, RIM, CRP, CCRP, EQIP: Kvidera & Wittnebel
 - Ecological Practices: Kvidera
 - Engineering Authority: Nordaune “with NRCS approval”
 - Ag BMP Authorized Representative: Wittnebel
- Per Diem: Ludvigson made a motion to leave the per diem rate at \$75 per meeting. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- IRS Mileage Rate: Since the board has established that mileage be paid at the current IRS rate, no action was taken. The IRS rate for 2010, effective 01.01.2010, is \$.50 per mile.
- 60th Anniversary of the LqP Soil and Water Conservation District in 2010: The board discussed various ways to commemorate the event. Ideas included an Open House, in conjunction with the NRCS (75th Anniversary) Boy Scouts (100th Anniversary), and Nordaune’s 45 Years of Service in Conservation. No action was taken, but additional ideas were encouraged.
- Review Annual Plan: The Annual Plan will be presented at a later date.
- Dues and Memberships: Johnson made a motion to approve the following dues and memberships. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Approved as follows:
 - MASWCD \$1850.00
 - Arbor Day Foundation \$ 25.00
 - Pheasants Forever \$ 275.00 (Ludvigson will represent the SWCD)
- Cost Share:
 - New Applications: Johnson made a motion to approve the following new Cost Share Applications. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Amount</u> <small>(not to exceed 75%)</small>	<u>Priority</u> <u>Watershed</u>
▪ CS 11 (08-09)	Jeff Rheingans	Windbreak	\$ 695.00	22015
▪ CS 12 (08-09)	Gale Torstenson	638	\$1,950.00	24059
 - Presented for Payment: Ludvigson made a motion to approve payments for the following Cost Share Projects. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Amount</u> <small>(not to exceed 75%)</small>	<u>Priority</u> <u>Watershed</u>
▪ CS 7 (07-08)	Craig Kanstrup	Terrace	\$ 3,397.00	24028
▪ CS 11 (07-08)	Steve Stamp	638	\$ 2,144.00	24044
- Water Plan Well Sealing: No Action

- **Personnel:**
 - Johnson made a motion to approve the appropriate staff and Supervisors to attend the events listed below. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - MASWCD Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol, February 17-18
 - 3rd Annual MN Wetland Conference
 - RC&D Annual Meeting
 - Clean Water Listening Sessions
 - Area V Meeting
 - Johnson made a motion to approve staff participation at the Nutrient Management Conference in Mankato on February 18th, and to offer a \$50 incentive (with proof of participation) for the first six LqP County Producers who attend the Conference. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Kvidera noted that he will be taking the District pick-up to the session, and he would welcome two additional passengers.

Reports:

District Manager Report:

- The Recognition Dinner in December, recognizing the Patzer Family, went well.
- Plans are in the works to organize a Listening Session and Local Work Group for EQIP.
- Mention of native grass planting fits guidelines as USDA People's Garden
- Note of Rural Preserves Property Tax Program

Water Plan Management Report:

- To view Wittnebel's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*

Technical Report:

- To view Kvidera's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*
- Kvidera noted that he is considering becoming a Wetland Delineator

Education/Outreach Report:

- To view Wittnebel's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*

District Conservationist Report:

- To view Hendrickson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*

Correspondence:

- Emails forwarded to supervisors beginning December 3, 2009
 - eNotes - December 7, 2009
 - eNotes – December 15, 2009
 - Area II Monthly Board of Directors Meeting, November 5, 2009
- Emails forwarded to supervisors beginning January 7, 2010 (following postponed meeting)
 - MASWCD Board of Directors Agenda, January 13, 2010
 - eNotes – Special Edition – January 7, 2010
 - U of M Water Resources Listening Sessions and Online Survey
 - eNotes – January 12, 2010
- Available for review:
 - Thank you from MaryJo Patzer, member of the Patzer Family
- In Supervisors' Folders:
 - MASWCD Accomplishments & Annual Report
 - Clean Water Listening Sessions, MN Water Sustainability Framework Survey
 - SW Prairie TSA Minutes – September 9, 2009
- Upcoming:
 - LqP SWCD monthly meeting, February 4, 2010 at 10:00 am
 - NACD Annual Convention, January 31-February 2, 2010 in Orlando, Florida
 - Clean Water Listening Sessions, St. Cloud – January 19, or Marshall – February 16, 2010
 - MASWCD Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol – February 17-18, 2010

Adjourn:

Ludvigson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Robert Ludvigson

02/04/2010

Approved

Date

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

Water Plan Report

Terry Wittnebel

I met with Jenny, Trudy, & Mary to prepare a list of recommended 2010 Resource Commission members for County Commissioners. Following discussion regarding well-rounded (variety of interests) representation, we talked about the purpose of the Resource Commission & how the group meets the needs of the Environmental Office, Watershed, SWCD, & Water Plan. For the near future the Watershed needs a diverse group based on geography, and the Resource Commission doesn't fit. Planning processes have changed for

the Environmental Office, and currently additional local input isn't needed. Water Plan already uses the SWCD Board to approve expenditures, and the Board could serve for other decision-making when needed. The Resource Commission served as a core group for EQIP purposes, but the public must also be invited to participate. It didn't seem fiscally sound to ask that a Resource Commission be appointed for 2010. I wrote a letter to the County Commissioners (January 5 meeting) recommending the Resource Commission be disbanded for the time being, & will reevaluate need annually.

TECHNICAL REPORT

1/7/2010

Leslie Kvidera, LqP SWCD Tech.

Granite Outcrop Easement

I am still going through the easement process and getting all the correct documentation and names in place. Kristie Mack, BWSR easement specialist, has been very helpful and patient with all my questions she has been a pleasure to work with. I hope to have the two easements that have been approved completed soon but it seems just when I have everything they need something more comes up.

WCA

As part of the TEP panel we look at new WCA related issues from the LGU. The radio station in Montevideo will be constructing a new building next to their existing building in Camp Release sec 24. A wetland boundary was delineated by Houston Engineering and plans for the new building were designed to not affect the nearby wetland. After reviewing I do not have a problem with plans as presented.

Trees

Two tree mailings went out last month, one for replacements for last year plantings and one for sales to landowners who regularly purchase trees. Current plans for spring plantings is at nineteen with current total tree sales nearing 6,000 and 54,000 feet of fabric tree mulch.

LqP YB Clean Water Partnership

I have been working with Mary Homan, CWP, and Chris Domier, DNR, on the Dawson Dam replacement project. We will order trees and shrubs for the project which will be paid for by a grant that Mary is working on. We hope to get Sentence to Serve or high school students to help with the planting in the spring that way we only have to provide instructions and guidance. The replacement rapids, fishing area and steam bank restoration will be a nice improvement over the old dam.

Education/Promotion Report

Terry Wittnebel

January 5, 2010

Rep. Andrew Falk seemed to enjoy his conservation practice tour. I sent him a note thanking him for his interest and the opportunity to show him our concerns as well as how we protect our resources with tax dollars! News release following Falk tour and Kubly visit... sent copy to MASWCD.

It took more time than I thought to prepare for the Recognition Dinner. Oh well, it was a nice change of pace. ☺

I was asked to serve on the MN Water Sustainability Framework Education Technical Work Team, but felt I had to decline. I didn't feel I could do justice to the meeting schedule (between November & March in St. Paul), & also the reports and plans that are required here during the same time frame.

DC Report
January 14, 2010
Burton Hendrickson

FSA Update –

EQIP – We are getting going on the 2010 EQIP signup. Our scoring period cutoff date is February 26, 2010. All new contracts are to be obligated by April 1. We have scheduled the local work group meeting for January 21 in Madison. We have not received this year's payment rate schedule yet. We hear there will be a training session on this year's "docket" near the end of the month. So signup is in progress. We have been working very hard to catch up on some payments that are due also. Several 1245's have been developed and signed, and we are working on catching up with some late rate issues. A quarterly audit is being conducted at this time also, which we are starting to get used to.

CSP – We have now received information on the pre-approved applications from our CSP signup. The applicants received a letter mailed out last Friday with the payment level they would receive. We are to have plans written and obligated by the end of the month, if they decide to proceed. Payment per acre on cropland is coming up higher for us than expected. Appear to be in the upper 20's/ac for a 5 year period. This year's signup for this program will probably be announced in the near future also.

CRP – FSA is doing a lot of modifications of contracts due to changes in names, reconstitutions, and mid-contract management changes. Fortunately this mostly involves us having to sign them

1026's – There is a trickle of these even in the winter which are to be completed as time allows. Mostly just paperwork.

Administrative Items –

Acknowledgement of Section 1619 Compliance – We have received these new forms which are to replace the Attachment C which we had you all sign last year. This form will basically be an addendum to the existing memorandum of understanding that the District has with NRCS. I was asked to get 3 copies signed by the SWCD. Thank you.

Soil Conservation Technician – The opening in the Madison Field Office is currently open and taking applications. Applications will be taken until January 22. If you know anyone that might be interested please let them know about this opportunity.

Upcoming Items –

LWG – January 21, Madison City Hall, 9:00 AM
EQIP Training – late January