

Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District



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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
May 6, 2010

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, May 6, 2010 in the Farm Service Center conference room, Madison, Minnesota. Board Supervisors present: Bob Ludvigson, Jeff Johnson, Ed Radermacher and LeRoy Schuelke. SWCD Staff present: Curtis Nordaune, Terry Wittnebel and Deborah Hoffman. NRCS Staff present: Gary Hoffman. There were no guests present. Radermacher called the meeting to order at 8:06 am.

Minutes:

Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the April 1, 2010 board meeting. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report:

Following a discussion of the 2010 Farm Bill Grant, and other funding and financial issues, Schuelke made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented, subject to audit. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Review Agenda:

Schuelke made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, with no additions or corrections. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- New Copier/Printer: The Sharp MX-200D machine was delivered and set up by Ed Davis Business Machines.
- Audit: Kinner & Company LTD Certified Public Accountants came to the office on April 28, and conducted an audit of the 2009 Financials. Wittnebel and Hoffman both felt that the audit went well, and are eager to see the final report.
- Supervisor Vacancy: No one has come forward to fill the District III vacancy, left by John Rebehn. Several names were brought up as possible appointees, but no action was taken. Supervisors were reminded that the filing dates for the fall election, are from May 18 – June 1.
- 60th Anniversary: Wittnebel conveyed her thoughts, that the Anniversary Celebration was a success, with 55 attendees. A Thank-you note from Curtis Nordaune was passed around for all to view. Wittnebel suggested that to commemorate the event, she would like to plant a tree or two on the property close to the District office. Ludvigson made a motion to approve the purchase of two trees from the City of Madison at their promotional rate of \$25 each. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

- Office Visit by NRCS State Conservationist: Don Baloun, the new NRCS State Conservationist, visited the District office on Tuesday, May 2. Wittnebel shared that Baloun expressed his appreciation to the District Staff, for all they do. He stressed the importance of working together and noted that should there be concerns, NRCS and SWCD Staff should feel free to contact him, or share ideas
- Charges for Services: Wittnebel presented a proposal from neighboring SWCDs to charge for technical services provided to watershed districts. Following a lengthy discussion, Johnson made a motion to approve Option 1 in which the fee is a percentage based on project cost share. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The approved charges are as follows:

- Charges for installation of structural practices (terraces, 638's, grassed waterways, rain gardens, etc.)
 - Charge 15% of the cost share amount
- Charges for enrolling acres into a filter strip utilizing incentive payments
 - Charge 10% of the cost share amount
- Charges for signing up landowners to install alternative intakes utilizing incentive payments
 - Charge 10% of the cost share amount
- 2010 Resolutions: Wittnebel shared a list of resolutions scheduled to sunset in December of this year. She noted that Supervisors have from now until the regular June meeting, to prepare resolutions for presentation.
- LSP Membership: Ludvigson made a motion to approve 2010 Land Stewardship Program Membership for \$35. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- NACD Strategic Planning Webinar: Wittnebel distributed copies of preparatory questions for an upcoming NACD Strategic Planning Webinar. She encouraged Supervisors and staff to look through the material, and to consider some of the questions for upcoming local planning.
- Cost Share
 - State Cost Share-Amendment: Schuelke made a motion to approve the following State Cost-Share Amendment, to utilize ~~2009~~ 2010 (*amended 07.01.10*) Cost-Share Funds. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - Amended

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(Additional)</u>	<u>Priority</u> <u>Watershed</u>
CS9 (07-08)A	Marlin Jerpseth	638	\$3240.71	24040
 - State Cost Share Completion Date Extensions: Johnson made a motion to approve extending the following State Cost-Share Contracts from 06/30/2010 to 11/30/2010. The projects were delayed because of wet weather. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - Extended

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>
CS 5 (07-08)	Harold Kittelson	638
CS10 (07-08)	Paul Volkenant	638
 - Native Buffer: Ludvigson made a motion to approve the following new Native Buffer Application. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - New Applications:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(Not to exceed 75%)</u>	<u>Priority</u> <u>Watershed</u>
Pending	Steve Tucholke	643 Critical Habitat	\$ 295	22008
- Water Plan:
 - Well Sealing: Johnson made a motion to approve payment of the following well sealing cost share applications. Ludvigson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - Contract #: Name: Amount:
 - WS 10-01 Johnsrud Family Trust \$ 500.00
 - WS 10-02 Donn Larson \$ 500.00
 - WS 10-03 John Perry Peterson \$ 182.00
 - WS 10-04 Delores Erickson \$ 257.00
 - WS 10-05 Carol Asche \$ 257.00
 - WS 10-06 Kenneth Tollakson \$ 257.00
 - Well Sealing: Ludvigson made a motion to approve the following new well-sealing applications, following priorities previously set by the Resource Commission. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - Contract # Name: Amount:
 - Pending Pearl Pederson \$ 500.00
 - Pending City of Bellingham \$ 500.00
 - Pending Dick Ohm \$ 500.00

Pending	Tim Roth	\$ 500.00
Pending	Dominic Fernholz	\$ 412.50
Pending	Zach Johnson	\$ 500.00
Pending	Corey Nelson	\$ 500.00
Pending	Corey Nelson	\$ 500.00
Pending	Rolland Moen	\$ 500.00
Pending	Rolland Moen	\$ 500.00

- Point of Interest: Wittnebel noted that there have been several inquiries for Ag BMP Loans for septic systems.
- Personnel: Wittnebel stated that there will be no MASWCD Employee Training session this summer. BWSR is planning to host a Training Academy at the end of October, which the SWCD Employees will be encouraged to attend.

Reports:

- District Manager Report:
 - The City of Dawson planted trees along their hiking trail along the LqP River on Earth Day. The District donated 25 trees for the event.
 - BWSR must track District Compliance using PRAP. The standards for compliance are basically the same for 2010 as they were in 2009, and the District continues to meet those standards.
- Technical Report:
 - To view Kvidera's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*
- 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.*
 - G.Hoffman gave a brief project update.
- Meeting/Training Report:
 - Nordaune reported on the RC&D Convention which he recently attended in Ohio. He stated that he was the only SWCD Employee in attendance from the State of Minnesota, and was therefore considered the State Representative. Nordaune noted that the \$100 approved by the board for traveling expenses was not needed.

Correspondence:

- Thank-you Notes:
 - Thank you from MASWCD for dues payment
 - Thank you from John Rebehn family
 - Thank you from Curtis Nordaune
- Emails forwarded to supervisors beginning April 1, 2010:
 - eNotes - March 30, 2010
 - January 13 and February 17 meetings of the MASWCD Board of Directors are now posted
 - 25 webinars development of NACD's strategic direction and plan
 - eNotes - April 6, 2010
 - MASWCD "Bits of Tidbits"
 - AREA II MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING March 4, 2010
 - Water Survey by the U of M Water Resources Center reminder
 - eNotes - April 13, 2010
 - MASWCD Legislative Update – April 16, 2010
 - Congressional News of Note – April 20, 2010
 - eNotes - April 20, 2010
 - eNotes - April 27, 2010
- In Supervisors' Folders:
 - Area V Minutes – March 18, 2010
 - eNotes - May 4, 2010
 - updated Affiliates list
- Available for Review:

- Prairie Country RC&D 2009 Annual Report & 2010 Work
- Upcoming:
 - LqP SWCD Monthly Meeting, June 3
 - Area V meeting, Canby, June 17

Adjourn:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 am

LeRoy Schuelke

June 3, 2010

Approved

Date

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

Technical Report

May 2010

Leslie Kvidera

Trees

Tree planting is in full swing with eight plantings completed and 16 more to go. Eight of the other projects have been scheduled and still waiting to hear from the last four. I will go back and install the fabric mulch as soon as all the trees are in the ground as the trees need to be in by June 1st with no time table on when the fabric has to be installed. Maintenance issues included a new battery for the tree planter and some welding on the fabric machine and both are now in good working condition.

LCCMR Granite Outcrop Grants

Work continues on the outcrop easements with a little more progress every month. One of the easements is nearing completion and the second easement will be out soon for notarized signatures.

Vegetative Management Dollars

BWSR has made money available for improving native grass stands on RIM and CREP acres. I have applied for three areas which have been approved. These areas will be burned, replanted and sprayed to reestablish local native grasses and forbs.

Most of my time is concentrated on trees with planting and planning taking up most of my time, I have resumed checking the DNR wells last month which will continue once a month until the last measurement in November.

activities during

April 2010

Terry Wittnebel

Education/Promotion Report

I did classroom presentations on Soil Formation for 3 sections of **LqPV 5th grade**. The teacher loves this activity (I've done it many years for her). Again have comments of recognition from children in the grocery store, etc, & I ask them if they liked the activity – they say “yes!, it was really fun!”

Resumed **radio program** April 21 mostly promoting the Anniversary. Maynard does a really great job interacting with us on air, & references to us & our programs at other times. Definitely worth the time & money! The 2nd week was Stewardship Week & promoting the Recycle the Rain workshop.

I met with **Riverfest** committee again, & I think we have some good activities planned. I booked the Raptor Center. Visited 4H Leaders council as a source of volunteers for a couple of activities – I have a tentative commitment for the help we need.

I prepared 4 **news releases** on our SWCD history, Environmental Education week, National Volunteer Week, and Stewardship week. Each invited people to our open house celebrating conservation. We had 55 people attend **Anniversary Celebration** Open House. Everyone received a door prize by spinning the wheel – we gave away 6 to 8 cookbooks (from 50th anniversary), 6 t-shirts (contest prizes), 6 watering cans provided by Water Plan, 10 packets of blackeyed susan seeds, and bare root trees. We had awards for volunteers, and presented Curt with his plaque.

April 29 from 6:30-8:00 I did a **workshop for women** with Mary called Recycle the Rain. I was able to get it included in the LqP Valley Community Ed newsletter. I presented info on environmental benefits of rain barrels, and how to make your own rain barrel (volunteer Brad put one together at the workshop), and Mary talked about rain gardens. We gave away a completed rain barrel. Many compliments on the event.

So far the only thing I've done for the **ECFE 4 year olds** workshop in May is make the decision to do something about trees (bark/leaf rubbings, looking at leaves, trees as habitats, etc) since it seems most presentations center around water. It's a good thing I prepared (to reuse) so many activities over the years!

DC Report
May 6, 2010
Burton Hendrickson

FSA Update –

CSP signup – We have put out some news releases and indicated that there is still time to sign up for the 2010 CSP program. An application cutoff may be announced sometime in the future and we are hoping that more people will have applied by then.

1026's – Have been able to process and mail out 64 separate 1026/026E responses in the past month. Trying to find time to complete field work on few more certified wetlands also. Several new 1026's have come in in the past week also.

EQIP – Have been working on getting the EQIP late rates down also. We are down to a couple people that are not current with the payment, but contact with them has indicated that they should be able to get their paper work for allowing payment into the office very soon now. Several of our late rates involved people with nutrient management that needed to hire a new TSP when their original one did not complete the 3 year cycle. Unfortunately several hired a new replacement who never seemed to get the work done, and they finally have taken on a third person, who is getting the work done. We have not heard anything about any more of our current applicants getting funded. This could happen into the summer if more funds become available to Minnesota because other states don't obligate all the funds allocated to them. Gary and I have also been trying to get some plans and designs completed so tile projects can get installed for earthwork later this year. Gary has been getting introduced to a lot of stuff in a short period of time.

GPS – We now have a new Trimble GPS device to use for locating and marking positions in the field. Gary and I have had 2 days training in Marshall on how to use it, and we both completed our first assignment and actually used it in the field. It will take some repetition to get used to the process and steps needed to get and save points etc. It can be very accurate when reading information off several satellites, but the accuracy can change at different times of the day, and in different locations.

Administrative Items –

Open House and Anniversary – I would like to express my appreciation for the work that the SWCD did in putting together and pulling off the open house on April 22. I thought it went very well, and a lot more people stopped in then I was guessing would. I have suggested to Terry that we could maybe plant a tree to commemorate the event. The city may have some very nice trees available through their program for \$25. Our landlord has ok'd us to plant a tree on the lot if we want to.

State Conservationist – Don Baloun, our new State Conservationist paid us a visit on Tuesday. He was very personable and spent a quite a bit of time discussing and asking how he could possibly help SWCD's and NRCS maintain their strong working relationship through some very difficult budget times. Terry will be able to fill you in on the discussion.

Upcoming Items – I am attending a seasonal high tunnel field day at the Lamberton experiment station today. Sorry I missed the board meeting.