

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 June 3, 2010

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, June 3, 2010 in the Farm Service Center conference room, Madison, Minnesota. Board Supervisors present: Jeff Johnson, Ed Radermacher and LeRoy Schuelke. SWCD Staff present: Curtis Nordaune, Terry Wittnebel, Les Kvidera and Deborah Hoffman. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. There were no guests present. Radermacher called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

Minutes:

Johnson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the May 6, 2010 board meeting. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report:

Schuelke made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, with the addition of the annual renewal of the District's Quickbooks subscription, subject to audit. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Review Agenda:

There were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Old Business:

- Supervisor Vacancy: Johnson made motion to appoint Paul Schwendemann to fill the Supervisor Vacancy in District III. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 2010 Resolutions: Wittnebel reminded the Supervisors that 2010 Resolutions will be reviewed at the Area V Meeting on June 17. Copies of two resolutions that will be presented by Yellow Medicine and Lincoln SWCDs were passed out.

New Business:

- Proposed Base Grants for FY11: Wittnebel shared information on proposed funding for 2011, including Natural Resources Block Grants, WCA, General Services, Easement Services, and Cost Share Base Grant. She noted that the overall reports indicate a reduction in all funding areas.
- Progress Report: This report is under review by the staff, and will be presented at the July meeting.
- Review District Policy: Copies of the District Policy were distributed, to be discussed in July. Wittnebel stated that she saw no major changes, but felt that a review was still needed.
- Review District Programs: Wittnebel, Hoffman, and Kvidera all gave overviews of the programs they work with.
- Fair Booth Theme: Wittnebel announced that she welcomed any ideas for District's booth at the Lac qui Parle County Fair. Two themes under consideration include the Anniversary of our District, in conjunction with the NRCS Anniversary, and the People's Garden.

- Outstanding Conservationist: Wittnebel encouraged Supervisors to bring recommendations to the next meeting
- Farm Bill Tech Grant Application: Wittnebel stated that the application for 2011 was completed and submitted, with the exception of the board signature page, as instructed by BWSR due to the short turn-around time. She also stated that the level of funding requested was 50%, as opposed to 75% for the previous year. Johnson made a motion to approve and sign the application. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Cost Share:
 - State Cost-Share: Schuelke made a motion to approve the following State Cost-Share Applications. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Priority Watershed</u>
CS 16 (08-09)	PKF Farms	638	\$5,625	25125
CS 17 (08-09)	Gale Torstenson	638	\$5,781	24025
- Water Plan:
 - Well Sealing: Johnson made a motion to approve payment for the following well sealing cost-share contract. Schuelke seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:

<u>Contract #:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
WS 10-07	Madison Bottling (Tim Roth)	\$500.00
- Personnel: Schuelke made a motion that the appropriate staff and supervisors attend the events listed below. Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:
 - SWMACDE (employees) meeting, June 10
 - SWMASWCD (Area v) meeting, June 17
 - Water Management Summit for Local Governments, St. Cloud, July 12

Reports:

- District Manager Report:
 - Wittnebel stated that she had been invited to participate in a committee to promote the County Park.
 - Wittnebel talked about the future of the District's internet service, and possible options.
- Technical Report:
 - Kvidera informed the Board that all tree plantings had been completed on time. He also stated that he and his assistant had completed three fabric projects, and that there were 24 more to go.
 - Kvidera introduced Stephen Enger, his summer assistant, to the board.
 - Kvidera gave updates for the following:
 - Granite Outcrops
 - GPS Training on Wednesday, June 9
 - He helped with the Dawson Riverbank Restoration project, along with Dawson 8th Graders, and Sentence to Serve
 - On behalf of the District, trees were donated for the Dawson walking trail on Arbor Day
- Outreach /Education 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:

- Thanks:
 - Letter from Don Baloun, NRCS State Conservationist, was read
- Emails Forwarded to Supervisors Beginning April 1, 1010:
 - Area II Quarterly Board of directors Meeting, April 1, 2010
 - eNotes – May 11, 2010
 - NACD Legislative Conference Announcement
 - MASWCD Session Update – May 18, 2010
 - eNotes – May 18, 2010

- eNotes – May 25, 2010
- In Supervisors' Folders:
 - Area V meeting, Canby, Jun3 17, 2010
 - SWMACDE (employees) meeting, June 9, 2010
 - LqP SWCD monthly meeting, July 1, 2010

Adjourn:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am.

LeRoy Schuelke

July 1, 2010

Approved

Date

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

activities during
May 2010

Terry Wittnebel

Education/Promotion Report

Once again the [newsletter](#) was put together in a hurry, but I think I got the important information into it.

Burt introduced our Peoples Garden on the [radio program](#), & Debbie prepared the office display. We post new information weekly in the office and on the website – will occasionally do something in the newspaper, radio, etc.

I met with [Riverfest](#) committee again, & one of the student volunteers. Preparations are on track.

No families showed up for the [ECFE workshop for 4 year olds](#). There were 5 teachers there in addition to myself – they didn't have pre-registration, the day was one of the first nice weather days; the teachers appreciated the opportunity to connect with each other, & included me in that.

I presented Maple Seed Mixup at [Chippewa's 5th grade field day](#). It was a 2 day event, & I had to ask Mary to substitute for me the 2nd day. Both LqPValley & Stevens Elementary were included. They had a grant to compensate the schools for bussing, including ours.

[Kindergarten](#) students asked good questions when I presented them their [native species](#) – this year Red (Norway) Pine - & how to plant information.

2 trees were planted on the west side of the building, and an article sent to newspapers about our [Arbor Month](#) activities: our own tree planting, kindergarten trees, 5th grade spruce trees at the field day (provided this year by Chippewa SWCD) & [baby trees](#) (6 families claimed trees).

DC Report
June 3, 2010
Burton Hendrickson

FSA Update –

CSP – The 2010-2 period to get an application signed ends on June 11. I have been on the radio with this, we have sent couple news releases to the local papers, and I have noticed articles on it, in the major Ag papers. We had some training on it yesterday, but the final rule is still not out. Expected today and an announcement from the Secretary of Ag. At this time we only need a 1200 form filled out and signed in order to be considered a pending application. The other stuff that will be needed will be allowed to be gathered after the June 11 date. I have 5 or 6 applications so far.

EQIP – We have nearly finished the field checks for potential tillage payments for this spring. I have to get several 1245's certified for signatures so people can get paid. Les got all the scheduled EQIP tree plantings in but still have fabric to do before we will do 1245's for those projects. We even have an earthwork project completed this spring, as Gary and I were able to check out a 638 yesterday.

Wetlands/1026's – We completed 23 1026's since the last board meeting, and issued some preliminary wetland determinations. I have received 2 requests for reconsideration from the preliminary determination, so will have to spend some time on those very soon.

CRP – Still no formal announcement on a general signup from FSA, other then they say there will be one. We have several continuous offers to work on and develop for contracts when time permits. The SAFE acres that were allotted to the state are dwindling quickly.

Projects – Gary has been working with me, and having Steve Schemel come over to get acclimated to some of the projects we have in the works, and a couple of applications for projects. He has also gone to Big Stone and Yellow Medicine when Steve has something going there so he can get more exposure and repetition on the procedures for survey and design of different practices. It has been very busy trying to keep up or ahead of things.

Administrative Items –

People's Garden USDA – The LQP Farm Service Center has launched their version of the People's Garden. This initiative from Washington urged all Service Centers to try and do some sort of "garden". The garden could be vegetables grown and donated to a local food shelf, but it also could be any number of other things that would be educational and of benefit to the community. We decided to promote and use the native planting at the tree building to educate people on the possibilities of natives in the landscape. We will follow and identify the many different plants that appear and flower during the growing season with weekly updates in the office and occasional radio or paper updates during the summer.

Upcoming Items -