

Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Avenue S.
Madison MN 56256
320-598-7321 Ext. 3
FAX 320-598-3432



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.

Meeting Notes October 7, 2010

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was scheduled to hold their October meeting on Thursday, October 7, 2010, in the Farm Service Center conference room, in Madison, Minnesota. There was no quorum present, although two Supervisors were in attendance: Ed Radermacher and Jeff Johnson. Staff present: Terry Wittnebel, Deborah Hoffman, and Les Kvidera. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. Although no business could be conducted, agenda items were discussed.

Minutes

Financial Report

- Bills: Due to the nature of the monthly bills, and their status of usual and ordinary, Hoffman was instructed to proceed with payments as presented.

Review Agenda

Old Business

2011 District Tree Prices

- Kvidera felt prices could remain the same

Local Recognition of 2010 Outstanding Conservationist

- 2010 Outstanding Conservationist Recognition: Plans are underway for a local recognition of the 2010 Outstanding Conservationists, to be held in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary of the Lac qui Parle Yellow Bank Clean Water Partnership, sometime early in 2011.

EQIP Local Work Group

- EQIP Meeting: Was held on September 23.

2011 Budget

- Budget Committee: With the anticipation of the same funding from the County in 2011 as it was in 2010, and an idea of funding from the State, Wittnebel will be scheduling a 2011 Budget Meeting, and a meeting to revise the 2010 Budget.
- CD up for Renewal: One of the District's Certificates of Deposit has come due. Wittnebel stated that she felt that the finances of the District are currently stable, and she anticipates little change in the revenue budgeted for 2011. She recommended that the District roll the CD over, and leave it in the bank, where it will continue to generate interest. The general consensus of those in attendance was favorable to her recommendation.

City Assessment for Sewer Repair

- Included in the bills was one to the City of Madison to pay off the Utility and Street Assessment. The assessment had been discussed at a previous board meeting with verbal decision to pay in October. Radermacher and Johnson directed staff to pay the assessment.

Holding payment until board action could take place would result in significant financial charges, which could otherwise be avoided.

New Business

County Use of SWCD Grass Drill

- The drill was provided for County use to seed the landfill for expansion.

CRP Contribution Agreement

- CRP Contribution Agreement: NRCS has contacted us to see if we are interested assisting with writing CRP Contracts if funding is available.

Farm Bill Assistant FY 2011

- Farm Bill Assistant FY2011: Wittnebel stated that a contract for the Farm Bill Assistant FY2011 Grant will need action at the next meeting.

RIM Corrective Action

- Will be discussed at the next meeting.

MASWCD Annual Business Meeting & Convention

- Convention: The State MASWCD Convention is scheduled from December 6-8 this year. Information was mailed and also included in supervisor folders.
- Resolutions: Supervisors were asked to vote on MASWCD Resolutions, and return them to the District office. Remaining supervisors' signatures will be obtained individually.

“Thank You for Protecting Resources”

- Protecting Resources: Thank you cards will be sent out to various program participants, thanking them for protecting our natural resources.

Cost Share

State Cost Share

- One application will be presented for approval at next meeting.

Water Plan

Ag BMP Loan Program: Wittnebel shared that out of state banks may participate in the Loan Program

Well Sealing

- Two Cost-share payments will be presented for payment at next meeting.

Personnel

Reports

District Manager Report - *See attachment at end of meeting notes*

Technical Report – *See attachment at end of meeting notes*

Education/Outreach Report - *See attachment at end of meeting notes*

District Conservationist Report – *See attachment at end of meeting notes*

Meeting/Training Report

Prairie Country RC&D, Prairie Woods ELC, September 8

SWPrairie TSA, September 8

Lac qui Parle County Fair, September 9-12

SW MN Environmental Fair, Murray County Fairgrounds, September 21-22

Three staff helped with the first day of the fair.

Microsoft Office 2007 training, October 5

Correspondence

Available for review

NACD 2011 Annual Meeting registration information

Email forwarded to supervisors beginning September 2, 2010

- eNotes - September 8, 2010
- eNotes - September 14, 2010
- eNotes - September 21, 2010
- draft minutes of Sept Area V mtg

- eNotes - September 28, 2010
- eNotes - October 5, 2010

In supervisors' folders

Convention Registration information

Upcoming

LqP SWCD monthly meeting, November 4

BWSR Academy, October 26-28

NACD 2011 Annual Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee, January 30-February 2, 2011

Adjourn

LeRoy Schuelke

November 4, 2010

Acknowledged

Date

October 7, 2010
District Manager's Report

We should have reviewed plan progress at this meeting, but I've been working on employee policy & forgot to update progress. Actually, we are supposed to review progress quarterly...

I was right, the Ag Waste Water Quality grant didn't get submitted. The farmers involved didn't have enough time gather necessary information and make decisions. I requested the NRCS Area Engineer here to look at one site. Will continue working with Jenny & farmers and submit next year.

Mary & I have discussed a conservation practice tour this fall with candidates invited (a cross between the legislative forum & tours we've held in the past), & the possibility also recognizing our outstanding conservationists at that the event.

Our parking lot will have stripes repainted this weekend, so our government vehicles will be parked in the grass to the south, except the van which will be at the tree building.

The van door handle needs repair.

Technical Report
10/7/2010
Leslie Kvidera

Drill

The drill was used by the county highway department on approximately 2 acres which Terry said we would not bill them for. For using the drill the highway dept. did some maintenance on the drill including repairing the middle seed box and lubricating where it was needed. The drill does need the seals replaced in the hydraulic cylinder and will need to be done before it gets used too many times.

Trees

While going over State Cost Share rules to see if anything had changed since last year I noticed the wording in the cost-share rates and questioned Dave Sill, BWSR, about the payment rate. Dave agreed with me that the eligible costs that is referred to is the cost the District charges and that the State Cost Share payment is 75% of that cost. In the past we have paid 75% of the maximum rate which ends up being about 67% of the total cost. It would be more efficient to set a percentage rate for trees and fabric mulch as long as it does not exceed the maximum rate.

There are eight projects already lined up for spring planting, three WHIP, three EQIP and two state cost share.

Dawson River Restoration and Rain Garden, LqP-YB CWP

I helped Mary Homan design and plan a rain garden for the Dawson Riverbank Restoration rain garden. The plan included 30 dogwoods which I ordered and had delivered so they could be planted before the end of September but work on the county road has delayed the project until equipment get in to finish the dirt work. We hope to have the rain garden completed in the next week or two.

Wetlands Conservation Act

I went out on one WCA site with Trudy Hastad, there was no trouble identifying the wetland as it was completely under water. Trudy mostly needed help to determine the square feet of the effected to area to determine which form was needed.

Van

The passenger side door handle broke and needs replacement. Last year we replaced the driver's side door handle for \$143.

activities during
September 2010
Terry Wittnebel
Education/Promotion Report

The **fair booth** went up fairly quickly. The winner of the potted tree was from Marietta.

I did the **radio program** twice (EQIP input survey in the fair booth, and yesterday on assistance we have available to correct erosion problems) and Burt did it once concluding the **People's Garden** program. Deb & Les have helped Burt with the weekly updates for the display and website this summer.

Les, Debby & I all helped one day at the **Environmental Fair**.

I've been brainstorming with Mary on her **CWP 10th Anniversary celebration**. Ideas were shared with an earlier agenda item. We realized the fall tour idea we had earlier wasn't going to happen – we couldn't get it set up before harvest started.

DC Report
October 7, 2010
Burton Hendrickson

FSA Update –

EQIP – We can now process 1245 payments again after new fiscal year startup. Have a few to get at with bills having been presented. We had our Local Work Group meeting on September 23. I would like to again thank the SWCD for sponsoring this activity to gather input on how to prioritize ranking in EQIP within our local area. We were able to assemble the input into a format that was acceptable for the state level. This will be used when ranking applications during the 2011 scoring period. The dates for this have not been announced at this time.

1026's – There has been a rash of new proposals in the past few days. You would think the farmers wouldn't have time to get off the combines to do these but they are.

Fall construction – We have a couple projects going and several set to go for this fall. Gary Hoffman has been working hard to try and have things in order and ready to go when the landowner/contractors are ready. Weather now looks like we will be able to accomplish some things this fall. Two weeks ago it didn't look very promising.

Administrative Items –

Budget – We are operating under a continuing resolution again this fall. Congress took their recess for elections and did not pass any budget items before leaving.

ABC – This is the workload item that we were told to prepare for in October. The letters stand for Activity Based Costing, and we have the month of October to get the field office data entered. It isn't off to a flying start with some major glitches in the website, but we have been able to start.

Upcoming Items – Complete the ABC data entry this month.