

**KOOCHICHING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
COURTHOUSE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM  
715 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET \* INTERNATIONAL FALLS \* MN \* 56649  
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Ralph Lewis</b>	<b>District I</b>
	<b>Wayne Meyers</b>	<b>District II</b>
	<b>Eldon Voigt</b>	<b>District III</b>
	<b>Bernie Uran</b>	<b>District IV</b>
	<b>Al Linder</b>	<b>District V</b>

**Members Absent:** none

**Also Present: Pam Tomevi, District Coordinator; Justin Berg, District Technician; Krystina Meyers, Program Assistant; Kevin Adee, County Commissioner; Kelly Voigt, NRCS District Conservationist; Chad Severts, BWSR Board Conservationist**

Chair Linder called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm

**2009/4-1 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Uran to approve the agenda as presented.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**Absent: Voigt**

**2009/4-2 Motion by Uran, seconded by Lewis to approve the minutes dated March 2, 2009.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**Absent: Voigt**

**2009/4-3 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Voigt to approve the Treasures Reports ending February 28, 2009 with corrections.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**Absent: Voigt**

**2009/4-4 Motion by Uran, seconded by Lewis to approve for payment, Accounts Payable totaling \$1447.66.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**Absent: Voigt**

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

Board Conservationist Chad Severts spoke to the Board regarding

- orientation for SWCD Supervisors;
- how SWCDs were formed;
- partners that work with the SWCD;
- responsibilities of a Supervisor and their staff;
- powers and duties of SWCDs and their supervisors;
- general information about BWSR and the importance of a District's relationship with their County Board;
- and things to think about when making decisions. Questions and discussion followed.

**REPORTS:**

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## **NRCS District Conservationist**

District Conservationist Kelly Voigt reported on

- her visit to Washington DC;
- the new rules regarding the Freedom of Information Act through the new Farm Bill;
- the opportunity for a contribution agreement for checking projects with EQIP;
- and the upcoming High Tunnel expo in Mentor, MN at their Community Center.

## **Supervisor Reports:**

- Supervisor Uran attended the Area VIII meeting in Bemidji where discussion was held regarding the Forestry panel as well as a presentation given by Art Norton.
- Supervisor Linder attended the Area VIII meeting in Bemidji and the RC&D meeting where the discussion included gasification project.
- Supervisor Voigt reported on the forestry meeting he attended, the reuse of ash and tamarack to make palisade which is a real wood used for flooring now, discussion also included the forestland working group which is made of 23 counties working together to gather the money from current bills passed.

## **District Coordinator Report:**

The coordinator provided a verbal activity report that included Elink, year end reporting, meeting with Rod Otterness, 2009 wage and benefit report, sick leave use, tree program, home show, plaques, plat book, envirothon donation, and the LCMR backhoe grant money that has been reassigned and will need to be returned to BWSR.

**2009/4-5 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Meyers to donate \$225.00 from the education budget to the Area VIII Envirothon .**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Voigt, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**2009/4-6 Motion by Uran, seconded by Voigt recognizing that the LCMR grant money received in 2007 for backhoe work in the county was not utilized by the Soil Survey and must now be returned to BWSR for reallocation.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Voigt, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

## **District Technician Report:**

The technician provided a verbal activity report that included the Water Quality Forum, Rainy River Basin meeting, Area VIII meeting, Woodland Advisor Grant, Forest Stewardship Grant, Woodland Advisor Classes, wetland impacts for the Hwy 77 project, meeting with a MN Dot Representative regarding the Living Snow Fence project, WCA training meeting, tree program, TAC meeting, MPCA water quality testing, Lydar photography, and assisting the MPCA on water quality testing.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Wood Ash**

Staff provided a program update including the issue regarding Site Permit Applications that have soil test report dates of over 3 years. These sites will no longer be eligible to receive wood ash until a new soil test report is received. No criteria for handling this issue was provided by either Boise or Mountain Environmental. The Board requested that the Wood Ash Committee schedule a meeting with Boise to discuss how to handle this change.

### **WCA**

The coordinator reported that Rod Otterness stopped by the office to discuss the possibility of the District providing wetland assistance to the City of International Falls as either a technical representative or as the LGU.

**2009/4-7 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Voigt authorizing the District Coordinator to submit a proposal to the City of International Falls to provide wetland technical services at a rate of \$50 per hour until December 31, 2009.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Voigt, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**2009/4-8 Motion by Voigt, seconded by Lewis authorizing the District Technician to attend the NRCD sponsored soils training in Cloquet April 7-8, 2009.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Voigt, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

**General Business**

Discussion included the 2009 North Star Expo, 2009 Woodland Advisor grant proposal, and 2009 Forest Stewardship grant proposal.

**Confirm Next Meeting Date:**

The next regular meeting of the Koochiching SWCD will be held on Monday, May 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the courthouse basement conference room.

**Adjourn Meeting:**

**2009/4-9 Motion by Voigt, seconded by Meyers to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm.**

**Voting yes: Lewis, Meyers, Voigt, Uran and Linder. Motion carried.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary Date

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chairman Date