

**KOOCHICHING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING
COURTHOUSE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
715 4TH STREET * INTERNATIONAL FALLS * MN * 56649
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008**

Members Present:	Ralph Lewis	District I
	Troy Promersberger	District II
	Eldon Voigt	District III
	Bernie Uran	District IV
	Al Linder	District V

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Pam Tomevi, District Coordinator; Ryan Heinen, District Technician; Kevin Adee, County Commissioner; Kelly Voigt (via telephone)

Chair Uran called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

2008/2-1 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Linder to approve the agenda with corrections.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

2008/2-2 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Promersberger to approve the minutes dated January 7, 2008.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

2008/2-3 Motion by Linder, seconded by Lewis to approve the Treasurer's Report ending December 31, 2007.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

2008/2-4 Motion by Uran, seconded by Lewis to approve for payment, Accounts Payable totaling \$237.19

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

Supervisor Reports:

- Supervisor Voigt – attended the MN SWCD Forestry meeting in Grand Rapids; Discussion items included the retirement of a BWSR forester and the need to fill the position; legislative days at the capitol; cooperative efforts with Boise to purchase a biomass gasifier which could possibly replace 1/3 or more of the natural gas used at the mill; grant opportunities available through CERTS and RC&D; a request from county commissioners to meet with the SWCD to discuss programming. Chair Uran appointed Supervisors Lewis and Linder to represent the district and meet with county commissioners.
- Supervisor Linder –the North Central MN JPB has rescinded its request for funding at this time; JPB engineering services are still available although the JPB engineering services are no longer eligible to receive the 100% rate for TSP providers; discussion is still taking place on consolidating JPBs; Paul Sandstrom has replaced Steve Kluess as the Laurentian RC&D coordinator; if the farm bill is not signed my March 15th it will revert to the previous bill.
- Supervisor Lewis – the personnel committee met to review the program assistant job description.
- Supervisor Promersberger –while driving around the county, has noticed quite a few wood ash piles.

District Coordinator Report:

Discussion included finances, clerical, year end reporting, eLink, and annual planning.

District Technician Report:

Copy on file. Discussion included forest stewardship and WCA assistance.

NRCS Report:

Kelly Voigt (via telephone) reported that Ed Schafer, former governor of North Dakota, has been named the new Secretary of Agriculture; technical approval authority training is available for the district technician; confirmation is needed on what the district has decided to do with regards to district computers hooked up to the federal network; vacation leave February 20- March 5.

2008/2-05 Motion by Linder, seconded by Lewis to keep 3 computers on the federal USDA-NRCS network for an annual fee of \$3000, effective October 1, 2008, which will cover continued ITS software, network and hardware support to all three computer systems.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

NCMNJPB Request for Contribution:

As reported by Supervisor Linder, this request has been withdrawn and no longer requires board action.

PERA Exclusion Report:

2008/2-06 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Voigt to approve the 2007 PERA Exclusion Report and authorize Chair Uran's signature on the document.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

Personnel and Operational Policy Handbooks:

2008/2-07 Motion by Linder, seconded by Voigt to approve the Personnel Policy Handbook as corrected (copy on file).

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

No changes were presented for the Operational Policy Handbook at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 Recreation and Home Show:

2008/2-08 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Linder to rent a single booth at the 2008 Recreation and Home show April 18-19 for the purpose of education and tree sales.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

Cost Share:

The Board reviewed the status of incomplete drought disaster contracts. The coordinator reported that she had left messages for each contract holder to contact the district by December 31, 2007 if they completed or intended to complete their projects. With the exception of DD07-10, no response has been received to date. Due to the emergency nature of this funding, the recommendation was made to cancel the following contracts due to inactivity: DD07-3; DD07-6; DD07-7; DD07-13.

2008/2-09 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Voigt to cancel cost-share contracts DD07-3, DD07-6, DD07-7, and DD07-13 due to inactivity.

Voting yes: Lewis, Promersberger, Voigt, Uran, Linder. Motion carried.

