

**KOOCHICHING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
COURTHOUSE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
715 4TH STREET * INTERNATIONAL FALLS * MN * 56649
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008**

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

Also Present: Pam Tomevi, Krystina Meyers, Justin Berg, Kelly Voigt, Kevin Adee, and Richard Lehtinen

Chair Uran called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2008/10-1 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Promersberger to approve the agenda.

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

2008/10-2 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Linder to approve the minutes dated September 8, 2008 as presented.

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

2008/10-3 Motion by Promersberger, seconded by Voigt to approve for payment, Accounts Payable totaling \$5499.98 as presented.

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

2008/10-4 Motion by Voigt, seconded by Lewis to authorize program assistant Krystina Meyers and district technician Justin Berg be added as authorized users of the district credit card and be added as authorized signers on the district check signing card.

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

REPORTS:

Supervisor Reports:

- Supervisor Voigt reported that he thought the Area VIII tour went well and was well received. The biomass gasifier project is progressing. He is working on the draft complaint policy. Attended the Laurentian RC&D meeting in Willmar where they toured a turkey manure plant and an ethanol plant in Benson.
- Supervisor Lewis reported that while visiting with MN Title and Abstract it was suggested that the district look into doing a plat book revision as numerous requests continue to come in for new plat books.
- Supervisor Promersberger reported that the wood ash meeting with Boise on 9/26 went well with good idea sharing.
- Supervisor Linder reported that he attended the Laurentian RC&D meeting on 9/15 and passed around copies of the current project list. The executive committee met with Coronal to discuss the plasma gasification funding. The wood ash meeting went well.

District Coordinator Report:

Oct08 Minutes.doc

Discussion included WCA, wood ash, new staff orientation, and Area VIII tour recap.

District Technician Report:

Discussion included overview of work/education history, new employee orientation, WCA, wood ash, and cost-share.

NRCS District Conservationist Report:

The district conservationist reported:

- September 30th is the end of their fiscal year;
- Lake of the Woods and Koochiching Counties came in 1st in the state for application of grazing practices for Conservation Technical Assistance and 3rd for application of grazing practices under EQIP;
- Soil Conservation Technician Ryan Haspel has accepted a new position in Breckenridge so the job announcement notice for this vacancy will be posted until 10/24/08;
- Congress signed a continuous resolution effective until March 2009 for the USDA operating budget;
- The national office is working on an audit;
- Thirty million is available statewide for EQIP which is a four million dollar increase over 2007.

NEW BUSINESS:

Area VIII Tour:

The Board recapped various comments made by BWSR and MASWCD staff during the tour and meeting including how to hire and retain good staff, how to promote conservation, providing fiscal oversight, new rules governing closed meetings, and the constitutional amendment. The Board commented that, with regard to supervisor election boundaries, SWCDs are resource oriented, not population oriented.

2008/10-5 Motion by Lewis, seconded by Linder to adopt the following policy: As per recent changes to the open meeting law, all closed meetings will be audio taped and tapes will be stored in the county vault located in the Auditor/Treasurer office.

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

Cost-Share:

Staff reported that a preliminary site visit was done along the Littlefork River for a potential critical area stabilization project. Landowners have expressed interest in cost-share and may present their request to the Board in the next few months.

MASWCD Resolutions:

The Board read and voted on each 2008 MASWCD resolution.

Upcoming Meetings and Training:

2008/10-6 Motion by Promersberger, seconded by Lewis authorizing Voigt, Linder, Tomevi, and Berg to attend the MASWCD State Convention December 7-9, 2008 in St Paul.

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

Permits:

The Board reviewed permit 2009-0109 ATV/Foot Bridge along Willow River in Koochiching County.

General Business:

General business discussion included the MCIT bulletin and Commissioner Hanson's monthly activity report.

Confirm Next Meeting Date:

The next regular meeting of the Koochiching SWCD will be held on Monday, November 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the courthouse basement conference room.

Adjourn Meeting:

2008/10-7 Motion by Linder, seconded by Voigt to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

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

Submitted by: _____
Board Secretary Date

Approved: _____
Board Chairman Date