

MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 29, 2019
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Marshall County Soil and Water Conservation District, P.O. Box 74, Warren, Minnesota, January 29, 2019.

Chairman Bengtson called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman, Wallace Bengtson
Vice-Chairman, Carl Green
Secretary, Stuart Nordling
Treasurer, Duane Potucek
Public Relations, Brad Berg

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Technical Manager, Danny Thorstad
Programs Manager, Darren Carlson
Administrative Assistant, Janelle Kollin
District Conservationist, Matt Waterworth

Re-Organization – Motion by Berg, seconded by Nordling to keep chair and rest of the offices the same.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Minutes - Motion by Nordling, seconded by Potucek to accept the minutes as mailed from the December 18, 2018 board meeting.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Motion by Berg, seconded by Nordling to accept and approve the Treasurer's Report.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

There was discussion on how the programs we offer are doing, if we are making money or breaking even, or if we need to charge more.

Pheasant's Forever – see attached report

NRCS Report – Waterworth informed on the following: completed CSP payments for 2018, processed 53 EQIP applications that couldn't be completed during the shutdown; Nico is back in the Warren field office; deadline for EQIP is April 14th.

State Ditch 3 – Darren reviewed the information mailed out to the supervisors.

2019 Wages – Tabled until the end of the meeting.

Designation of bank – Motion by Potucek, seconded by Nordling to designate Bremer Bank as the official bank.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Supervisor Compensation and Mileage – Motion by Green, seconded by Berg to keep compensation at \$75/meeting and use the IRS mileage rate at .58.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Well Sealing/Buffer Cost Share Verification – Motion by Nordling, seconded by Potucek to allow staff to sign off on contracts up to \$1000.00

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Engineering Technician Position – Carlson informed the board he had talked to the Engineering Technician in the Pennington office and Zach said he would be able to complete 25-30 side water inlets/year for Marshall County. Motion by Berg, seconded by Green to sign working agreement for services between the Red River Valley Conservation Service Area and the Marshall SWCD.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

AgBMP – Carlson informed the board the amount has been increased to \$200,000/loan. These loans are for up to 10 years at a rate of 3% or less. The loans are to improve water quality.

One Watershed One Plan – Staff and supervisors met with the Commissioners on January 15th. Discussion as follows: having the Marshall County local water plan housed in the SWCD office; hire a coordinator for the Thief River Watershed in the Red Lake Water District. The Marshall SWCD and County Commissioners have shown interest and approves housing coordinator out of the Marshall SWCD office.

ATV – Thorstad presented the following quotes:

Polaris Ranger 570 - \$9,387
Polaris Ranger 900 - \$11,084
John Deere - \$15,150

There was much discussion about purchasing an ATV and/or pickup. Motion by Nordling, seconded by Green to go with the \$30,250 quote from Dahlstrom's for a 2018 Chevy pickup at that price or less.

Affirmative: Green, Nordling, Potucek and Berg

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

The board also asked to negotiate on the wheeler with John Deere. The ATV item was tabled.

Pay Equity – Kollin informed the board we are scheduled to complete the pay equity reports for 2018. This is done every three years.

Audit for 2018 – The SWCD will need an audit completed for 2018 as the SWCD has reached the revenue threshold. A request has been made to Peterson Company out of Waconia, Minnesota. They will mail the required paperwork.

2019 Wages – Motion by Green, seconded by Nordling to keep the 2019 wages the same as 2018. There will be no more comp time. Program and Field Manager positions will now be salary employees with Administrative Assistant hourly. The board asked to look into the salary status.

The board asked that the 2019 budget be mailed out to the supervisors.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 26th, 2019 but depending on agenda items it may be scheduled for March 12th at 8:00 a.m. at the SWCD office.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Secretary