



**SERVING CARVER
COUNTY SINCE 1946**

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*Mission Statement: Providing high
quality assistance to the land managers
and citizens of Carver County for the
protection of land and water resources.*

CHAIR

Mark Zabel

8464 Pine Ct.
Victoria, MN 55386
District III

Minutes of the March 28, 2019 Board Meeting for the Carver Soil & Water Conservation District Held at the Public Works Facility in Cologne, MN

VICE CHAIR

Stan Wendland

8040 Dakota Ln.
Chanhassen, MN 55317
District I

Meeting was called to order by Chair Zabel at 8:00 AM.

Members Present: Chair, Mark Zabel
Vice Chair, Stanley Wendland
Secretary/Treasurer, Jeffrey Sons
Member, Marcus Zbinden

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jeff Sons

17180 County Rd. 51
NYA, MN 55368
District V

Members Absent: Member, Robert Burandt

SWCD Staff Present: District Manager, Mike Wanous
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff

SUPERVISOR

Bob Burandt

1340 Waconia Pkwy. S
Waconia, MN 55387
District IV

Other Attendees: Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt., Paul Moline

Motion was made by Zbinden, seconded by Wendland to approve the Revised March Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

SUPERVISOR

Marcus Zbinden

6460 Bretton Way
Chanhassen, MN 55317
District II

Motion was made by Wendland, seconded by Chair Zabel to approve the February 28, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

The February 2019 Treasurer's Report was reviewed and accepted, subject to audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Personnel Committee (Sons, Zbinden) – Mike reported that he had emailed the Personnel Committee the job description for the Seasonal Conservation Intern. A few changes were made, and the final copy was included in the packet. This would be a temporary 3-4-month position, depending on when the applicant could start. Motion was made by Zbinden, seconded by Wendland to approve the Seasonal Conservation Intern position description, with the compensation rate of \$15 per hour. Motion carried unanimously. Staff will post the position with MACDE, as well as Universities in the area.

2. Metro Conservation District's (MCD) Committee (Zabel primary; Zbinden alt.) – The next Board meeting will be held in May. Mike reported he was unable to attend the Manager's meeting last week but reviewed the Agenda with the Board. The legislative outreach that MACD was planning for March 22 was canceled.
3. Education & Outreach Committee (Sons, Wendland) – Wendland reported he talked to Madeline about a possible meeting soon with her and the SWCD Education Committee.

Zbinden mentioned he had a discussion with staff from the City of Chanhassen, about a water conservation contest, stating that more education should be done on using and conserving water. Chair Zabel explained a project that the Vermillion River Watershed District had piloted in the City of Lakeville with homeowners' associations. A consultant was hired to come out and audit homes in the homeowner association.

8:30 AM – Paul Moline arrived at this time.

Mike reported that Seth is going to be working with the Chaska recreation center, on the campus groundwater audit. He also felt that water conservation programs for individual Cities, should be coordinated by City staff. This type of program would best fit under the Carver County Groundwater Plan. Zbinden expressed interest in introducing a resolution for MASWCD to come up with a water use/reduce recommendation. Paul commented that Madeline recently purchased 100 water sensors, in coordination with Cities, and funding from the WMO. These sensors should monitor and help reduce the excess use of water. Madeline will be attending the SWCD's April Board meeting and can give an update at that time. Zbinden will do some research into the state statutes, and possibly start writing up a resolution for adoption.

4. Budget Committee (Burandt, Sons) – The 2020 budget process will most likely start to be discussed in April.
5. CCWMO Advisory Committee (Wendland primary; Zbinden alt.) – Paul reported there wasn't a quorum at the March 26th meeting, but staff reported on the various programs. The stream monitoring report showed that some sub-watersheds seem to be going in the wrong direction with pollutants; while others are moving in the right direction. Bevens Creek seems to be the worst, with total suspended solids (TSS), phosphorus and nitrogen being the highest pollutants. Mike asked if there appeared to be any trends with the SSTS program. Paul stated they appear to have gotten better, some of the watersheds don't have any more direct discharge septic systems. The WMO used to allocate \$50,000 per year towards septic system replacements, with each homeowner eligible to receive \$2,000. The recommendation from the committee is to change that to \$70,000 per year, with a \$3,500 incentive.

There was also a presentation on BMP monitoring. Older stormwater ponds that have been put in upwards of 15-years ago are starting to fail. In the early days when they were built, it appears they either weren't installed properly, or they weren't maintained.

6. Carver County Leaders (CCL) Committee (Burandt primary; Zbinden alt.) – Nothing to report.

Carver County Report – Paul reported the Water Plan will be brought to the County Board on April 16th, where they will release it for the 60-day comment period. He is hopeful that they will be going back to the board in August or September for final adoption.

They opened the public hearing for the Comprehensive Plan at the recent planning commission meeting. It was voted to keep the public hearing open until the April meeting. Solar sites were the only issues brought up,

which have been very controversial. The Comprehensive Plan is supposed to be sent to the Metropolitan Council after the April meeting.

He also reported that the Carver County WMO has sent requests out to the Cities, to send in their capital projects they would like funding for in 2020. So far, only 3-4 projects have been received. Paul reported it's been tough getting smaller Cities to submit projects, because they are unable to provide financial or staff support. He also reported on the proposed AIS program for 2019.

Paul reported the west Chaska Creek remeander bids are due tomorrow. They plan to straighten a ditch to remeander the creek. He also stated that Diane Sander from the Crow River Organization of Water (C.R.O.W.) has resigned. This has triggered the discussion about dissolving the C.R.O.W.

NRCS Report – Katundra submitted a written report earlier this week, which was reviewed at this time. EQIP applications are due April 19. She has asked Mike holding about the local work group meeting as well. Zabel recommended after the April Board meeting, the SWCD Board would convene as the local work group.

Monthly progress report and construction projects list presented for:

SWCD Staff: District Manager, Mike Wanous
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff
Conservation Technician, Chip Hentges
Resource Conservationist, Terry Meiller
District Technician, Aaron Finke
Resource Conservation Technician, Seth Ristow
Farm Bill Technician, Ben Datres

CORRESPONDENCE:

MASWCD has sent out legislative updates. The bill for levying authority for SWCD's is still in committee, and the District Capacity funding is ahead of the levying bill. At a recent Dakota County Board meeting, the Commissioners adopted a resolution to not support levying authority for SWCD's. Mike reported on the meetings with the Carver County legislators.

Chair Zabel reminded Supervisors to fill out the PRAP survey received from Dale Krytosek at BWSR.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the January Board meeting, the official Board meeting date and time was changed. However, there seems to be conflicts with that selected date. Wendland moved, Sons seconded to change the official Board meeting for the Carver SWCD to the THIRD Thursday of each month, starting at 8:00 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next MACD meeting will be Wednesday, April 3 at Cabela's in Rogers. Any Supervisor wishing to go to the meeting and carpooling, should be at the SWCD office by 8:30 AM.

David Lerseth had signed up for cost-share assistance under the District Capacity funding, to put in a native buffer near Wasserman Lake. The Board previously approved a 10% reimbursement, based on the total cost estimate of \$3,925. The project has been completed, and David is requesting the reimbursement. The total project cost came in at \$4,175. Wendland moved, Zbinden seconded to approve payment of \$392.50 to David Lerseth, based on the original cost-estimate. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER:

Mike reported that the SWCD staff has been getting more involved with vegetation maintenance, and asked the Board about obtaining pesticide applicator licenses for staff. The cost for a non-commercial pesticide applicator license is \$10, and at least two staff members have expressed interest in obtaining the license. Zbinden moved, Wendland seconded, to allow interested staff to seek the non-commercial pesticide applicator license, related to their positions with the SWCD. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike also mentioned that the Carver County planning and water management department has contacted the SWCD about jointly purchasing a drone. Discussions have included the SWCD purchasing the drone and assigning an SWCD staff member to get their remote pilot's license. To start with, the purchase would just be the drone and a camera, with the possibility of adding surveying software, if needed. Mike reported that just for the drone and camera, it would be approximately \$1,700, and there is money budgeted for capital purchases into the budget. Chair Zabel requested staff put together a proposal on what exactly the drone would be used for, and bring back to the Board for discussion/action.

Felicia reminded the Supervisors that March is the end of the third quarter, and compensation forms are due as soon as possible.

Wendland moved, Zbinden seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 8:00 AM
Public Works Headquarters, Conference Room 3
11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN 55322

Approved: _____



Secretary/Treasurer

Date: April 18, 2019