



**SERVING CARVER
COUNTY SINCE 1946**

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

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CHAIR

Mark Zabel

8464 Pine Ct.

Victoria, MN 55386

District III

Minutes of the April 18, 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 8:07 AM.

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jeff Sons

17180 County Rd. 51

NYA, MN 55368

District V

SWCD Staff Present: District Manager, Mike Wanous
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff
Resource Conservation Technician, Terry Meiller (arrived 9:25 AM)

SUPERVISOR

Bob Burandt

1340 Waconia Pkwy. S

Waconia, MN 55387

District IV

Other Attendees: Carver County Planning & Water Mgmt., Paul Moline (arrived 9:17 AM)
Carver County Education, Madeline Seveland (arrived 9:08 AM)
NRCS District Conservationist, Katundra Shears (arrived 9:17 AM)

SUPERVISOR

Marcus Zbinden

6460 Bretton Way

Chanhassen, MN 55317

District II

Motion was made by Wendland, seconded by Zbinden to approve the April Agenda as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Sons, seconded by Burandt to approve the March 28, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Personnel Committee (Sons, Zbinden) – Mike reported almost 30 applications have been received for the Seasonal Conservation Intern. The position closes April 19.
2. Metro Conservation District's (MCD) Committee (Zabel primary; Zbinden alt.) – The managers will meet on April 30.
3. Education & Outreach Committee (Sons, Wendland) – Nothing to report.

4. Budget Committee (Burandt, Sons) – Mike reported Paul attended a preliminary meeting yesterday, to discuss 2020 projections.
5. CCWMO Advisory Committee (Wendland primary; Zbinden alt.) – The next meeting is April 30.
6. Carver County Leaders (CCL) Committee (Burandt primary; Zbinden alt.) – Nothing to report.

Chair Zabel asked for an update on the MACD meeting held on April 3, since he couldn't attend. Watershed-based funding was discussed, it had good background information, but no recommendations at this point. The previous Education Committee has been suspended, which might be renamed to an outreach committee, however no new members were appointed. The next MACD meeting will be on June 27th in Ramsey County.

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

Carver County Report – Madeline mentioned a video the Carver County WMO posted on Facebook yesterday, that showed hundreds of goldfish in a pond near Big Woods Lake in Chaska. The video has received a lot of publicity, she just had a phone interview with a newspaper about it. She stated an 'Earth Day in May' program will be held at Benton Lake in Cologne on Saturday, May 18. Various activities are planned, including canoeing on the lake, tours of the rain garden near the lake, as well as a clean-up event around the lake.

Another workshop Madeline is planning is a sustainable lawn workshop. There will be two workshops held, one in Chanhasen on May 21, and in Bloomington on June 21. The workshops will focus on how to convert traditional lawns to a more sustainable area by planting native fescues and plants, or converting it to a pollinator-friendly lawn.

The WMO will host their annual tour on June 25th. It will be a bus tour, site visits may include a solar site where native prairies have been established, and the West Chaska Creek re-meander project. An intern has been hired to assist Madeline over the summer with public outreach.

An irrigation efficiency cost-share program will be piloted in Chaska over the summer. The program aims to conserve groundwater and prevent water runoff by improving the efficiency of irrigation systems. The Carver County WMO has purchased 75 irrigation controllers, that will be available to Chaska residents for \$20 (an approximate \$105 savings). After residents pick up their controller, they are required to install them within two weeks. The target area is currently zone 4 of the City of Chaska. Zbinden asked if she was aware of the water conservation contest that Chanhasen did a couple years ago. Madeline was vaguely familiar, but interested if contestants were still conserving water after the contest.

Paul reported that the County Board did approve releasing the draft Water Management Plan for the 60-day comment period. The next step will be reviewing the comments received, and he's hoping to go

back to the Board by September for final adoption. He reported there have been about \$400,000 in project requests for the WMO, and about \$200,000 of funding available. Paul reported there are still an estimated 300 direct discharge septic systems in Carver County. The County Board recently approved targeting another watershed and continue to offer a \$2,000 incentive for landowners that upgrade. The Crow River Joint Powers Board did vote to dissolve, so by the end of the year they will disband.

NRCS Report – Katundra reported there have been no updates on CRP. There are 50-60 landowners with expiring CRP contracts, she plans to be proactive by sending out postcards to these landowners informing them of their options. There were 6 EQIP applications received that included high tunnel systems, an Ag waste system, and a honey bee pollinator. She also commented she is currently managing the Carver and Scott County offices, she’s been relieved of her past McLeod County duties. Staffing continues to be an issue, she is hoping a technician will be hired in each of her offices soon.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MASWCD has sent out legislative updates.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mike has asked Aaron to put together a step by step process, as well as drone specifications. The Board reviewed and discussed Aaron’s report. Zbinden made a motion to proceed with purchasing the DJI Phantom 4, if available. Seconded by Wendland. After more discussion, Zbinden amended the motion to approve purchasing a drone, letting staff decide which model to purchase, not to exceed \$2,000. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

MASWCD has sent out a call for resolutions. Chair Zabel handed out a resolution that he introduced in 2015, but is set to sunset in 2019. The Board discussed the resolution, Chair Zabel will make some revisions, and bring the resolution back to the board next month for approval.

Feltmann Dairy has applied for an Ag Best Management Practice (AgBMP) loan to purchase a new manure spreader that has vertical beaters, which does a better job of spreading manure evenly. The total purchase cost was \$38,750. Motion was made by Wendland, seconded by Zbinden to approve Feltmann Dairy’s AgBMP loan application, for \$38,750. Motion carried unanimously.

Hiram Grimm has applied for cost-share to install six inlets along County Ditch #6. Terry explained there are currently nine mini gullies along the ditch. The project is estimated to reduce 10.5 tons of sediment per year. The total project cost estimate is \$39,839.52; \$23,579.64 funding to be used from the CD6 grant, and \$6,300 used from the buffer grant, which makes up for 75% of the total cost. Wendland moved, Burandt seconded to approve Grimm’s cost-share contracts CD6-04 (\$23,579.64) and buffer grant (\$6,300). Motion carried unanimously.

Ron Olson has applied for cost-share to finish the series of grassed waterways that drain to County Ditch #6. Terry explained this is Phase II of Ron's previous waterway project. The total cost estimate of Phase II is \$40,660, with \$30,495 in funding from the CD6 grant. Wendland moved, Zbinden seconded to approve Ron Olson's CD6-05 at a 75% cost-share reimbursement, not to exceed \$30,495. Motion carried unanimously.

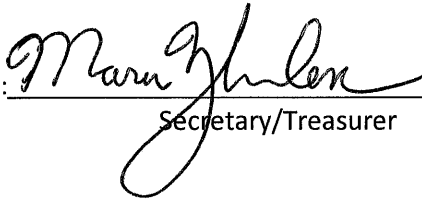
The NRCS Local Work Group meeting will convene immediately following the SWCD Board meeting.

OTHER:

Burandt moved, Zbinden seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:38 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

***Next Board Meeting:* Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 8:00 AM
Public Works Headquarters, Conference Room 3
11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN 55322**

Approved: _____



Secretary/Treasurer

Date: May 16, 2019