



**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 August 15, 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.

Chanhausen, MN 55317

District I

Meeting was called to order by Chair Zabel at 8:16 AM.

Members Present: Chair, Mark Zabel
Member, Robert Burandt
Member, Marcus Zbinden

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jeff Sons

17180 County Rd. 51

NYA, MN 55368

District V

Members Absent: Vice Chair, Stanley Wendland
Secretary/Treasurer, Jeffrey Sons

SUPERVISOR

Bob Burandt

1340 Waconia Pkwy. S

Waconia, MN 55387

District IV

SWCD Staff Present: District Manager, Mike Wanous
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff
Resource Conservation Technician, Seth Ristow

Other Attendees: NRCS Team District Conservationist, Chris Schmidt
Carver County WMO, Paul Moline

SUPERVISOR

Marcus Zbinden

6460 Bretton Way

Chanhausen, MN 55317

District II

Zabel appointed Burandt to be the Secretary/Treasurer in Supervisor Sons absence. Zbinden moved the appointment, Zabel seconded. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Zbinden, seconded by Burandt to approve the Revised August Agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Burandt, seconded by Zbinden to approve the July 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as read. Motion carried.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Personnel Committee (Sons, Zbinden) – Mike reported that the summer intern, Tom Genelin has been a great asset to the SWCD office. Tom is currently applying for other positions, but Mike would like to extend Tom's time here with the SWCD. Zabel suggested Mike check with Carver County Employee Relations to make sure there are no complications with benefits. The consensus of the Board was to continue Tom's employment as the Seasonal Conservation Intern.

2. Metro Conservation District's (MCD) Committee (Zabel primary; Zbinden alt.) – August 28th is the next MCD meeting, at the Ramsey Conservation District at 4:00 PM. Mike reported the managers met at the end of July. The Children's Water Festival was discussed, to see if it was necessary to keep it under the MCD administration. Mike also reported that an MASWCD convention planning meeting was held yesterday, with discussions on how to better mingle the metro SWCD's with outstate SWCD's. Some discussions were to have a Legislative 101 session for all Supervisors.
3. Education & Outreach Committee (Sons, Wendland) – Hopkins High School did very well at the national Envirothon, placing 14th overall.
4. Budget Committee (Burandt, Sons) – Nothing to report.
5. CCWMO Advisory Committee (Wendland primary; Zbinden alt.) – Mike reported that there wasn't a quorum at the last meeting, but the Water Plan was discussed.
6. Carver County Leaders (CCL) Committee (Burandt primary; Zbinden alt.) – The next meeting is October 22.

NRCS Report – Chris Schmidt reported that the Area Engineer position has been closed, interviews will be held soon. NRCS hopes to have someone in the position by the end of September, they will be housed in Faribault. Katundra Shears has resigned her position with NRCS, her last day will be August 31. Chris will be filling in at the Carver and Scott County NRCS offices as much as he can. NRCS is still working on the EQIP obligations, Carver County has 3 contracts that have been obligated. NRCS is also working on the CSP program, and CRP plans for re-enrollments and new enrollments. On Monday, Katundra informed Chris there are approximately 50 CRP applications that will need to be completed by mid-September. He is meeting with Katundra after the Board meeting today, to see if she can do all the site visits before she leaves, as he can write the plans in his office. Chris also mentioned he spoke with Terry Meiller this morning, asking for assistance with site visits if needed.

Carver County Report – Paul Moline reported that the County Administrator's recommended budget did not affect Paul's department or the SWCD. The WMO levy will be seeking approval at the September 30 County Board meeting. The County Board has asked about water quality trends, Paul reported most have been stable or have slightly improved. He also stated they are working on a permanent no wake ordinance, rather than just temporary ones as needed. Paul will be discussing the revised Water Plan with the County Board on September 3 and is hoping to have it approved by the end of the year. WMO staff have recently met with MPCA staff to apply for a 319 Grant for projects around Lake Waconia, which would happen over the next 16 years. Steve Just, Zoning Administrator, is retiring from Carver County after 29 years.

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
 Seasonal Conservation Intern, Tom Genelin

CORRESPONDENCE:

MCIT has notified the SWCD that our 2019 dividend will be \$2,769, arriving in mid-November.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board discussed options for the Carver County 2019 Outstanding Conservationist, which is due to MASWCD by September 16. Zabel nominated Craig Eldred from the City of Waconia for the 2019 Outstanding Conservationist, Burandt seconded. Motion carried.

Seth explained Beth Hoiseth's native pollinator planting project, which was tabled from last month's meeting. Seth is hoping that with this project, that landowners around Burandt Lake will do shoreline projects. Prairie Restorations has designed, and will do the maintenance on the project, for several years making sure it stays in natives. He explained what invasive species are currently located on the site and felt this would be a good use of the designated pollinator funds. Zbinden moved, Burandt seconded to approve Beth Hoiseth's native buffer request, total cost estimate of \$5,940, with cost-sharing not to exceed \$1,000. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The MASWCD Governance 101 Conference is scheduled for September 12-13.

Jeff Sons has signed up for the soil health program on 20.4 acres. The total seed costs were \$600 (reimbursable up to 75%), with an incentive payment of \$75 per acre. The seed reimbursement would be paid now, with the incentive payment being disbursed this fall. Motion was made by Zbinden, seconded by Zabel to approve a total payment of \$1,980 (\$450 seed reimbursement to be paid now; \$1,530 incentive payment to be paid in fall) for Jeff Sons' soil health program contract. Motion carried.

BWSR has sent the grant agreement for fiscal year 2020-2021 Conservation Delivery and State-Cost Share funding. Zbinden moved, Burandt seconded approval of the grant agreement, and authorized Chair Zabel to sign. Motion carried.

The City of Chaska is looking to partner with the WMO and the SWCD on a wetland enhancement at Harvest West City Park. Paul reported that in addition to putting in a park, they would also like to do the wetland enhancement. This project would correlate with the pollinator program, fitting in with the public portion of our plan. Staff is recommending a \$5,000 cost-share towards the project, put in a pollinator planting around the wetland while it's enhancing the wetland. Mike reported that we have district capacity funds set aside under water storage treatment category. Zbinden moved to approve seed and plant costs for the enhancement of the wetland project, not to exceed \$5,000. Seconded by Burandt. Discussion on maintenance of the project. It was suggested the SWCD develop a maintenance contract with the City of Chaska for the wetland and buffer portion of the project. Zabel suggested including a 3-year establishment agreement, with the SWCD inspecting it annually to ensure it's established. Paul also mentioned the WMO could help with signage for the education component of the project. Motion carried.

OTHER:

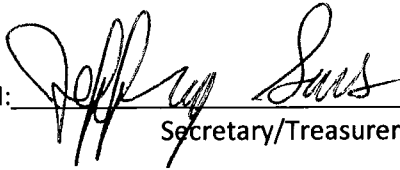
Zbinden mentioned his pollinator project was featured on the front page of the Chanhassen Villager. Seth stated there were a couple calls to the office after the story was published.

The SWCD Board members and staff will be touring the Crow River Streambank Restoration site immediately following the Board meeting. Mike showed an aerial photo of the project location where it is washing out a little bit. He explained that the site has been underwater for 3-4 months this spring. Mike would like the Board to see it, and discuss it at the September Board meeting, if more funds should be put towards this project.

Burandt moved, Zbinden seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 AM. Motion carried.

**Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 8:00 AM
Public Works Headquarters, Conference Room 3
11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN 55322**

Approved: _____



Secretary/Treasurer

Date: September 19, 2019