



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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Minutes of the August 20, 2020 Carver SWCD Board meeting Conducted via video teleconference due to COVID-19 concerns.

Board Members Present:

Chair, Mark Zabel (present via video teleconference)
Vice Chair, Stanley Wendland (present via video teleconference)
Member, Robert Burandt (present in SWCD office)
Member, Marcus Zbinden (present via video teleconference)

Board Member Absent:

Secretary/Treasurer, Jeffrey Sons

SWCD Staff Present:

District Manager, Mike Wanous (present in SWCD office)
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff (present in SWCD office)
Resource Conservation Technician, Seth Ristow (present via video conference)

Other Attendees:

Carver County Planning & Water Management, Paul Moline (present via video teleconference)
NRCS Le Sueur County District Conservationist, Steve Breaker (present via video teleconference)

1. Call to Order

Chair Zabel called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Chair Zabel requested roll call. Supervisors Burandt, Wendland, Zabel, and Zbinden were present. Supervisor Sons informed Mike he would be absent from this meeting.

3. Agenda review and adoption

Wendland moved, Zbinden seconded to approve the August 20 Agenda as presented. On roll call vote Burandt, Wendland, Zabel, Zbinden all voted aye; Sons, absent. Motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda.

Burandt moved, Zbinden seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- a. Approval of July 16, 2020 meeting Minutes
- b. Acceptance of the July Treasurer's Report
- c. Approve FY 2021 CREP Outreach Grant Agreement
- d. Karen Zellner Pollinator Cost-Share Payment - \$585 total
- e. Environmental Center Pollinator Cost-Share Project Approval – cost-share not to exceed \$5,000
- f. Dulaine Farms Cover Crop Contract Approval – cost-share and incentive not to exceed \$1,935

On roll call vote Burandt, Wendland, Zabel, Zbinden all voted aye; Sons, absent. Motion carried.

5. Carver County Report

Paul reported that budget hearings were held last week. There were some questions about the Watertown wetland bank project that the SWCD assisted the County with, Paul reported it was a positive discussion. Dave Hemze, County Administrator is recommending moving forwards with a 0% increase for all departments. The preliminary levy will be set on September 15.

The WMO Advisory committee will hold a virtual meeting on Tuesday, August 25, that will include some videos that will be in place of the tour. Due to time constraints, videos will be a part of the September meeting as well.

Paul also reported the latest COVID update from Dave Hemze, is that staff will continue to work from home through the end of the year. Paul will continue to work with the SWCD staff for technology needs to be able to work from home.

6. NRCS Report

Steve Breaker reported the position announcement for the Waconia field office had gone out, and a panel was put together, but it was turned down at the State office level. He stated the position would need to be re-advertised and shared again. Steve is continuing to assist Carver County producers with EQIP, CSP, CREP, and CRP.

7. SWCD Monthly Report

Staff reports were discussed at this time.

8. Update on District Technician Vacancy

Mike reported that the position closed last Friday. He's received some good applications and plans to conduct phone interviews next week to narrow the applicants down to a few.

9. Board of Supervisors Announcements

- a. MASWCD is seeking nominations for President and Vice President. Chair Zabel reported that he is on the nominating committee.
- b. Chair Zabel also reported that the Minnesota Stormwater Research Council is conducting webinars. There is one this morning at 10:00 AM, discussing community engagement on stormwater management. Supervisor Wendland asked that the meeting information be forwarded to him.

10. Adjourn

Zbinden moved, Wendland seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 a.m. On roll call vote Burandt, Wendland, Zabel, Zbinden all voted aye; Sons, absent. Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 8:00 AM
Tentative Location: Public Works Headquarters, Conference Room 1
11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN 55322

Approved:  Secretary/Treasurer

Date signed: 9-30-2020
SWCD Board Approval Date: September 17, 2020

Under Minnesota Statutes 13D.021 the Carver SWCD Board has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic and an emergency has been declared under chapter 12. The physical meeting location (Carver County Public Works Conference Room 3) is closed because it is not feasible to be open due to the health pandemic. This meeting was conducted via video teleconference due to COVID-19 concerns.