

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on January 9, 2019.

Meeting was called to order by Randy Smith, Board Chairman.

Supervisors Present: Jim Gebhardt
Jon Erichson
Randy Smith
Jim Kellogg
Micah Peterson

Staff Present: Justin Hanson, District Manager
Jeanne Crump, Administrative Assistant

NRCS Staff Present: Teddy Sanchez Moreno, Soil Conservationist

Others Present: Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner
Kevin Kruize, Land O Lakes Sustain

Oath of Office:

Hanson gave the Oath of Office to Smith, Kellogg and Peterson.

Agenda:

Erichson made a motion to approve the January agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Election of Offices:

Hanson led the election of offices, offices included: Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer/Secretary.

Kellogg nominated Smith for Chairman of the Board. Gebhardt made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Smith as Chairman. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Abstained: Smith

Gebhardt nominated Peterson for Vice Chairman. Kellogg made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Peterson as Vice Chairman. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Abstained: Peterson

Kellogg nominated Erichson for Secretary/Treasurer. Gebhardt made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Erichson as Treasurer/Secretary. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None
Abstained: Erichson

The 2019 office holders are:
Chairman: Randy Smith
Vice Chairman: Micah Peterson
Treasurer/Secretary: Jon Erichson

Committee Appointments:
The board discussed the SWCD committees.

The 2019 Committee Appointments:

Personnel:	Jim Gebhardt & Randy Smith
Finance:	Jon Erichson & Jim Gebhardt
Water Planning:	Jon Erichson
Joint Powers:	Jim Gebhardt, Randy Smith alternate
Legislative Committee:	Jim Gebhardt, Jon Erichson alternate
Feedlot Committee:	Randy Smith, Jim Kellogg alternate
Watershed District Liaison:	Jon Erichson
Root River Policy Committee:	Jim Kellogg, Micah Peterson alternate
Cedar River Wtrshd. Policy Com:	Randy Smith, Jon Erichson alternate

Secretary Report:
Gebhardt made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018 board meeting. Erichson seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:
Checks Payable:
The payables report was reviewed with the board. Erichson made a motion to approve the payables report, January payroll and to transfer money as needed. Peterson second the motion.
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson
Opposed: None

NRCS Report:
Moreno updated the board on NRCS Programs, to include; EQIP, State Conservationist visit and the government shutdown.

Commissioner Report:
Polly Glynn gave a report on County programs, to include: the new Mower County Administrator, committee appointments, and violation letters sent to county residents.

Action Items:
Legal Paper:
Discussion was held on the legal paper for the District. Gebhardt made a motion to designate the Austin Daily Herald as the official legal paper of the District in 2019. Kellogg second the motion.
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson
Opposed: None

Bank of Depository:

Gebhardt made a motion to continue with the current banks, US bank as the bank of depository for checking, First State Bank of MN in LeRoy for the District savings, and United Farmers State Bank in Adams for CD's. Kellogg second the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

SWCD Board Meeting Time/Place:

Discussion was held on the time of the board meeting. Gebhardt made a motion to keep the SWCD monthly board meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the District office at 1408 21st Ave NW in Austin at 8:00am, to include that the board Chair has the option to change meeting time as needed. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

2019 Fees:

A list of the 2019 Fees was discussed with the board. Erichson made a motion to approve the 2019 Fee schedule. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

2017 Audit:

Peterson made a motion to approve the 2017 Audit as completed by Peterson Company. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

5 Year Equipment Replacement Schedule:

The board discussed the updated 5 year equipment replacement schedule.

Peterson made a motion to approve the 2019 schedule as included in the budget.

Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Ag Partnerships – Kevin Kruize:

Kruize attended the board meeting to inform and discuss the Ag Partnership. The Mower SWCD is the applicant for the grant. The board talked about the upcoming Cedar River Partners Event scheduled for January 16, 2019. The board held discussion.

Discussion Items:

2019 Direction and Goals:

The board talked about the current direction and goals of the District.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

Nothing added.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Closed Session:

Erichson made a motion to close the board meeting due to Minnesota Statute 13d.05 of the Open Meeting Law to get an update on threatened litigation by former employee, Willis Goll. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

The board meeting was closed.

Erichson made a motion to conclude the closed session and open the board meeting.

Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be February 13, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____