

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors
Held on February 12th, 2009**

The Board of Supervisors of the Kittson Soil & Water Conservation District held its regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 12th, 2009, at the Kittson County Farm Service Agency meeting room located in Hallock, Minnesota.

Oath of office: Kittson County Auditor Marilyn Gustafson swore in Scott Klein who was recently re-elected.

Members present at the meeting included Chairman, Scott Klein; Vice Chairman, Greg Peterson; Secretary, Justin Dagen; Treasurer, Joe Wilebski and Public Relations, Ron Anderson.
Absent: None.

Others present at the meeting were District Manager, Holly Anderson; District Clerk, Charles Dziengel; Program Coordinator, Shane Olson; Program Analyst, James Schwab; Technician, Mark Larson and RC & D Coordinator, Shawnn Balstad.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Klein. The minutes of the January 8th, 2009, meeting were approved, upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson, and unanimous vote of the supervisors.

Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson and unanimous vote the treasurer's report was approved as presented by Dziengel. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Anderson, and unanimous vote, for check #2284 through #2306 for the amount of \$14,174.65 for the month of January was approved as presented by Dziengel.

Dziengel reported the 2006 accounts receivable for \$43.73.

Dziengel reported the 2007 accounts receivable for \$60.46.

Dziengel reported the 2008 accounts receivable for \$534.36.

Charles Dziengel gave the District Clerk's report as follows:

Quiner's service: Dziengel presented Joanne Quiner with a complementary clock as a gift of appreciation for 30 years of service.

Crop Improvement Day: Crop Improvement Day was held on January 22nd.

W2's: Wilebski asked Dziengel for a W2 as he misplaced his.

Web soil survey: Dziengel mentioned there will be a web soil survey training held here on March 19th to demonstrate the updated soil survey.

Computer: Dziengel said his computer crashed and Dan Lindquist is up here working on it.

Shawn Balstad presented the RC & D report as follows:

RC & D Annual report: Shawn Balstad of RC & D presented the 2008 Pembina Trail Annual Report and also the 2008 MARCD annual report.

Holly Anderson gave the District Manager's report as follows:

District activities: Anderson said staff meetings were held on January 27th and February 11th.

County appointments: The Commissioners appointed Anderson to the County's GIS Committee and the American's with Disabilities Act Committee.

Manager/Board Chair meeting: Klein and Anderson attended a Manager/Board Chair meeting in Thief River Falls on February 2nd. LeAnn Buck, MASWCD, and Ron Shelito, BWSR, talked about the importance of having supervisor participation. Much of the meeting was geared toward how to smoothly transition Area I from ten districts to seventeen. They did talk about budget woes, and the possibility of some new money coming to SWCDs through the Outdoor Heritage funds, however Shelito stressed that legislators want to see projects on the ground and not new staff to implement those projects.

Shovel ready projects: One thing that BWSR is asking Boards to do is to come up with "shovel ready" projects, should money become

available quickly. This is a "dream list" that should cover how the projects would benefit many entities, such as the SWCD, local contractors, nurseries, local businesses, etc.

Area I Meeting: Klein, Wilebski, Olson and Anderson attended the organizational meeting for the new Area I in Mahanomen on February 5th. The new Area I director is from Wilkin County. Russ Severson of West Polk will be the co-director. The group voted to hold two meetings a year, with an optional third meeting as a possibility. Meetings will be held in a central location in either Mahanomen or Ada. The first official meeting will be held on March 17th.

TSA meeting: Anderson attended the January 13th Technical Service Area meeting in Thief River Falls. The merge with Area IV will officially take place July 1st. In the meantime, each SWCD is asked to sign a joint powers agreement to establish the "Red River Valley Conservation Service Area". The new agreement states that employees can no longer represent supervisors at meetings. Therefore, a supervisor has to be delegated as the representative and an alternate also needs to be named. An organizational meeting will be held in Mahanomen on Tuesday, March 31st at 9:30 AM for the delegated supervisors and the SWCD managers. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Peterson, to enter in agreement with the Red River Valley Conservation Service Area and to appoint Klein to the RRVCSA Board and Dagen as an alternate.

Water Plan Update: Anderson said all the comments from state agencies are in for the scoping document which was due to BWSR on January 30th. Anderson hasn't had a chance to look very closely at them. In a quick glance, she didn't see anything major that needed to be changed. She hopes to start writing the plan soon.

Lake Bronson Dam Meeting: Anderson and Olson attended the Lake Bronson Dam Meeting January 29th to look over the final plan. Alternative A is to rebuild the spillway and allow water to overtop the road. Gates will be rebuilt at larger scales than current. Concrete spillway repairs will be done. A new, wider bridge will be put in. No retention capacity will be added - whatever water comes in must go out. The project will cost \$11 million, which includes maintenance costs for the 50 year lifespan of the structure. Depending on funding, construction should take place in 2011-2013. Before the DNR can go for the \$11 million funding, another \$400,000 has to be obtained to complete engineering work. Four-hundred-thousand had been obtained for engineering work, but the costs for that work will actually come in at about \$800,000.

Septic: Anderson attended a septic workshop in Thief River Falls on February 6th. A draft copy of a new ordinance has to be in to MPCA by December. Anderson hasn't started this process yet. Once

she has written the water plan this spring, she will start on the septic ordinance draft.

Wind Energy Regulations: Anderson sent Jeff Hane a letter with zoning amendment suggestions this week. She researched wind energy regulations and suggested to Hane that the county be involved in permitting only less than 5 megawatt wind energy farms, as well as accessory structures for large farms. The Public Utilities Commission currently has an application for an 80 megawatt farm. Anderson asked Hane to give her a date that they can go over some possible amendments with the Planning Commission in March.

SWCD Days at the Capitol: Anderson will attend the SWCD Days at the Capitol February 23-24th. She is very interested in how the budget is going to get balanced, and how the Outdoor Heritage money is going to be handled. Anderson will once again make appointments to see LeRoy Stumph and Dave Olin, as well as any other fairly close Legislators that are available. Olson mentioned that some SWCD folks should speak with the legislator that created the Native Buffer Program.

Per diem: At the January meeting, Ron Anderson asked Holly Anderson to check into per diem amounts for neighboring SWCD supervisors. Anderson reported that Roseau is \$55; Pennington is at \$60; Red Lake and West Polk are at \$65; and Marshall is at \$75. Upon a motion by Anderson, seconded by Dagen, to set per diem for the Board Chairman at \$75 per meeting; \$65 for half day meetings for regular Board members and \$130 for full day meetings.

Available Funds: Anderson said the County did give us our full allocation for the District, Zoning and County Ag in January, however along with the money came a letter stating that we may not get a portion of our allocations down the road due to budget issues. Anderson said the balances listed below are as of January 31st, unless otherwise noted: District, County, \$0; LWMP, \$21,651 County, \$1,716.24 SWCD; CLWP Dedicated Fund \$44,160; WCA, \$13,737 County, (\$915.85) SWCD; Shoreland, \$0 County, \$2,757.21 SWCD; Feedlot, \$3,000 County, \$3,876.59 SWCD; SSTS, \$10,000 County, \$5,128.27 SWCD; and Zoning, \$0 County, \$9,671.31 SWCD and Beaver \$4,160.00.

Jim Schwab gave the Program Analyst's report as follows:

Technician: Schwab introduced Mark Larson who started the technician position on January 20th.

President's Day: The office will be closed February 16th in observance of President's day.

African-American History month: February is African-American history month.

Turgeon leaving: Schwab notified the board that Kelly Turgeon has taken a District Director position in the Northeast part of the state, however is not sure when he will be leaving.

Shane Olson gave the Program Coordinator's report as follows:

AgBMP: Olson presented applications for JC09 for \$50,000 for an air drill and SA09 for \$50,000 no-till air drill. Upon a motion by Dagen, seconded by Peterson, to fund JC09 tillage loan application for \$50,000 and SA09 tillage loan application for \$50,000. The current application order is as follows: JF09, no-till air drill for \$50,000 (April); GL09, no-till drill for \$50,000 (April); EL09, soil saver (possibly May); LJ09, \$50,000 no-till air seeder and JS09, \$50,000 no-till air seeder.

AgBMP report: Olson received the AgBMP report and application was completed and sent before the February 6th deadline. Olson says once those funds are received, he can process the AG09 ISTS application for \$3,500 from new funds through American Federal Bank.

Springbrook project: BWSR has funded the Springbrook project proposal submitted by Dan Money to get some funding through RIM for the project. It would involve enrolling everything between the setback dikes, into RIM following their release from CRP. It will involve lots of work enrolling these areas into RIM. Olson and Anderson will be attending a RIM Red River Valley Restoration Initiative training scheduled February 19th in Erskine to discuss that project and several others approved throughout the Red River Valley.

FY08 State Cost share: Olson received cost share application FY08-02 and FY08-07, both for well sealing. Olson will submit them to Bruce Gunderson to perform estimates this spring. Olson presented an application for FY08-06 for a streambank stabilization project. Upon a motion by Wilebski, seconded by Dagen, to encumber FY08-06 for \$5,520 for a streambank stabilization project.

Drought disaster: Chad Severts will possibly be at the April Board meeting. He plans on performing a final audit for the Drought disaster program.

CREP sign-up: Roger Malm is still working on 35-02-07-01 title commitment paperwork to get performed for BWSR for 35-02-07-01 CREP II easement paperwork.

WCA KCHD: Kelly Bengtson submitted a partial application for CSAH 4 up in Caribou Township. Bill Best requested that they send cross-sections for the project. Olson will be looking at slide reviews for CSAH 4 in the near future.

WCA FOIA: Olson, Schwab and Larson will be attending a WCA/Swampbuster FOIA meeting in Thief River Falls on April 15th.

USDA Toolkit: Toolkit training will take place on March 26-27th.

Envirothon: The Envirothon will be held April 29th at Lake Bronson State Park. Upon a motion by Peterson, seconded by Wilebski, to donate \$100 from CLWP to the Area I Envirothon. Olson requested 250 bags of potato chips from Dagen. Olson will be lead presenter for the Current Events station and Larson will be on that station as well. Anderson will be lead presenter of the presentation station. Dan Money will be lead presenter for the aquatics station. Quiner will handle the food again.

eLINK: 2007 and 2008 reporting of ELINK is due by March 1st.

TRWD meeting: Olson attended the Two River Watershed District's SD 72/Big Swamp meeting in Badger on January 8th. There was another meeting held on February 5th, but was unable to attend.

MACFO: Olson will be attending a MACFO planning meeting on March 23rd.

Newsletter: The newsletter was sent out recently. A tree order form was included.

2009 Trees report: This far there have been 2,240 trees ordered from Lee Nursery.

Tree Open House: Olson said the tree open house will be on March 12th from 1-4 PM.

March Board meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 12th.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Klein.

Justin Dagen, Secretary