

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 25, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

8:00 am - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: Bill and Dave met at 8:00 am and reviewed the 2018 proposed budget with LeaAnn and Helen and felt comfortable recommending it to the full board.

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Faber, Hubner, Stangl, Brutscher, and Saehr

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan, Hanson, and Ringwelski

Guest Leonard Koering from Crow Wing SWCD Board

9:00 am - RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

1. Official Date, Time, Location: Fourth Thursday of Each Month, 9:00 a.m. at USDA County Office. MSC to remain the same by Brutscher/Hubner.
2. Official Per Diem and Mileage: MSC by Faber/Saehr.
 - Per Diem and Mileage: \$75 Full Board or Exceeding Half Day Meetings
 - \$25/Committee or Payroll
 - Mileage at IRS Established Rate (\$.545 as of 1/1/2018)
3. Official Publication: Morrison County Record MSC by Faber/Brutscher.
4. Official Bank of Deposit: Bank of the West Checking MSC by Saehr/Faber.
5. Annual Resolution Approving Morrison County Local Water Plan as District's Annual Plan.
6. Grant Agreements / Contracts Signature Approval: For FY2017 Morrison SWCD's District Manager, Helen McLennan, in the absence of SWCD Board Members, may sign grant agreements and/or contracts. MSC to approve by Faber/Brutscher.
7. Minimum Fund Balance Approval: The minimum Fund Balance for FY2017 will be 3 months of Operating Expenditures. MSC by Hubner/Saehr.
(ie: Operating Exp. for FY2017, divided by 12, times 3 months) – (see handout attached)
8. Capital Assets Policy of Threshold Approval: In the FY2018 Capital Assets Policy Report, \$500 and above will remain the level of threshold documented, for depreciation, for all purchases by Morrison SWCD. MSC by Faber/Hubner to remain.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING to Follow:

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Hubner/Faber to approve.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as presented.

Introduction of Crow Wing SWCD Board Member Leonard Koering: Leonard shared his experience and some of the things going on in Crow Wing County.

STAFF REPORTS:

Helen shared that she will be attending the managers of the WCTSA next week and one topic coming up is to hire a Nutrient Management Specialist. The Morrison County Record is going to do an interview next week on the Buffer Law status. LeaAnn had found a new webhost and was working towards getting our website completely updated. Lance has completed all of the required E-link reports due by February 1, 2018.

Alan shared that he had completed an Environmental Review for Robert Jensen and is working on one for Randy Saehr's hog barn. He and Mike will be delineating the Co Rd 1 from Hwy 27 to Randall for the Public Works Dept. There has been a lot of interest lately in tax forfeiture properties.

Josh went through all the Civil Rights requirements and process for the District and NRCS outlined for the MOU.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 2016 Audit – MSC by Hubner/Brutscher to approve the 2016 Audit.
2. 2018 Budget Approval: Bill and Dave presented the 2018 budget as presented to the Finance Committee. MSC by Hubner/Saehr to approve as presented.
3. MAWQP Program Update: Alan shared that there had not been any new landowners coming forward lately and the number of certified remains at 18 of the 22 applicants received.
4. ACUB Easement Update: Helen shared that the BWSR board had approved the new rate of 75% of RIM rates to encourage new interest. The rates will be published soon.
5. Buffer Law Non-Compliance Letters / Results: 5 Non-compliance letters had been sent by certified mail. One was determined to be MAWQCP certified, and two others gave permission to enter their property. It appears that two may be difficult to resolve.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Solar Farm Policy on ACUB Easements: The MN BWSR board has approved the allowable use of easement acres to enter into solar farming operations provided they plant the understory to a pollinator habitat.
2. MDA Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan (MFMP) Update – Alan has nearly completed putting a committee together and is reaching out to some landowners.
3. State Cost Share Application/s: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve the following.
 - a. Tom Frederick #18-17 \$1,312.00 Reforestation
 - b. Jennifer Koetter #19-17 \$1,056.00 Reforestation
4. LCCMR Grant Application Agreement with DNR for Oak Wilt Control: Helen shared the meeting/con call she and Alan had held with Brian Schwingle of the DNR Forest Division regarding seeking funding to eradicate the oak wilt that has been discovered in Morrison County. MSC by Faber/Saehr to participate in the grant application for \$100,000.
5. Area 2 Envirothon Contribution: \$ 150.00 MSC by Faber/Brutscher to donate the funding.
6. Vacation Approval for Helen: February 9th - March 3rd MSC by Faber/Brutscher to approve.

7. Policy Amendment: MSC by Hubner/Faber to approve the following employee policy amendment:

7.17 Qualifications of Internal Candidates Policy. It shall be the policy of the SWCD to consider the employment of present employees for positions above their current level. At the discretion of the Board, if at least one or more qualified candidates apply, a vacancy need not be open to the public. Employees are encouraged to continually upgrade their own job knowledge and skills in order to qualify for promotions.

8. LCCMR Forest Stewardship Plan Grant Application for Sand Ridge Farms, LLC (funded through Crow Wing SWCD) MSC by Saehr/Hubner to approve.
9. Motion to Cancel Tom Friedrich – Reforestation & Forest Management Plan with Crow Wing SWCD LCCMR Forest Management Grant. MSC by Brutscher/Stangl to approve.
10. Camp Ripley Open House - January 25th 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 2018

USDA SERVICE CENTER

NO FEBRUARY SWCD BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 22, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Faber, Saehr, Brutscher, Stangl, and Hubner

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: Ringwelski, McLennan, and Hanson

BWSR Staff: Dale Krystosek, Chris Pence, and Cade Steffenson

Land Services Director: Amy Kowalzek

Introduction of Guests: Dale Krystosek, Chris Pence, and Cade Steffenson and Amy K. were introduced to the board and PRAP process was explained.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Brutscher/Saehr to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Josh shared that 31 eligible applications have been received for 2018 EQIP. A quality assurance review had been completed. There are 18 EQIP eligible under the RCPP funding. 28 CSP general sign up applications are beginning. There are also 7 CSP applications with the RCPP funding. The re-enrollment letters for 2019 have been sent out and landowners have until April 13, 2018, to re-enroll. Josh thanked Scott for participating in the Civil Rights survey.

Alan shared that final tree orders were being received rapidly and some cancellations will be made next week. There is quite a lot of interest in parcels of land that are entirely wetland and have very little potential. He completed the Saehr review and a Kloss review was underway but needed a variance.

Helen shared that between computer/phone transitions and year end closing requirements, LeaAnn was being overwhelmed. Because of the workload of ACUB and environmental reviews she felt the need to re-assign some staffing duties and asked for a Personnel Meeting. Scott and Marvin agreed to meet on Thursday, April 12, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy shared the need to look at shore land zoning issues and the committee meeting on feedlot discussions. He also shared the meeting and votes held regarding the application for an overpass in Royalton. The primary for the open seat for a county board member was over and general election would occur in April with the board certifying the election on April 24, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Feedlot Ordinance Committee Discussions on Setbacks and Nitrate Areas: Amy Kowalzek discussed the issues raised regarding reciprocal setback distances and the results of the first meeting held on Monday, March 19, 2018. The second meeting will be held Friday, March 23, 2018, to talk about sensitive groundwater and performance standards in relation to feedlots. Alan and Randy shared their impression of some of the concerns raised by landowners. Scott expressed some reasoning behind the reciprocal setbacks for a neighboring property that has caused some landowners some grief.
2. 25,000 Acre Award: Helen stated that the end of January public meeting held had hosted over 180 landowners for interest in the ACUB program. Morrison SWCD and BWSR were awarded an encased flag celebrating the 25,000-acre mark with acres enrolled into the ACUB easement program.
3. WCTSA Manager Meeting Recap: Helen said it was a very worthwhile meeting hosted by Stearns SWCD and her concerns over short or long - term unemployment possibilities had been relieved. Some districts brought up the possibility of hiring a nutrient management planner. No action was taken. It was also discussed that the WCTSA Board should discuss the delegation of voting to a staff member when the Board representing that district could not attend a meeting.
4. Computer and Phone Status: The county has been diligent getting us transitioned but it's a process and very inconvenient for the county to deal with at a time the courthouse is in such chaos. Helen extended her gratitude to the county for all their help.
5. Nitrogen Fertilizer MDA Program Update – Alan said the two meetings held were quite lively and interesting. He is now attempting to find some farmers in the three townships that would be willing to do test plots at the various rates.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Buffer Cost Share Applications: MSC by Brutscher/Saehr to approve the following. Helen stated that the remainder of the funds would be returned to BWSR at the next payroll signing.
 - a. Michael Kahl #B-49-10 Pollinator Habitat \$6,000
 - b. Terry Zapzalka #B-49-09 Pollinator Habitat \$1,500
 - c. Carol Bringer #B-49-08 Pollinator Habitat \$2,500
 - d. William Trettel #B-49-07 Pollinator Habitat \$5,000
 - e. Martin Wagner #B-49-06 Pollinator Habitat \$4,500
 - f. Gerald Struffert #B-49-05 Pollinator Habitat \$2,000
 - g. Gerald Struffert #B-49-04 Pollinator Habitat \$2,500
 - h. Ryan Lanners #B-49-03 Pollinator Habitat \$1,200
 - i. Kenneth Warzecha #B-49-02 Pollinator Habitat \$4,500
 - j. Robert Anderson #B-49-01 Pollinator Habitat \$6,000

2. Resolution Supporting LCCMR Proposal for Oak Wilt Control:
 - a. \$100,000.00 MSC by Hubner/Saehr to support the District's application for the task. Bill explained why it is encouraged to run such programs through another entity rather than DNR.
3. Morrison County IT Services Agreement: MSC by Faber/Saehr to approve.
4. Biennial Budget Report: Lance submitted the report the previous week and met the deadline.
5. Year End Report Extension: Helen explained that due to all the conversion situation, it had been impossible for LeaAnn to get the year end reporting done by March 15,2018. Therefore, a request was made and approved by BWSR Rep. Chris Pence for a one month extension.
6. LR Cost Share Application: MSC by Brutscher/Hubner to approve.
 - a. William Winscher #LR49-02-17 Cover Crop \$1,500.00
7. BWSR PRAP Review – Dale Krystosek and BWSR Team reviewed the process and timelines and purpose for the legislative mandated review. He shared the forms and procedures and timelines.

INFORMATIONAL:

- Camp Ripley Annual Meeting – Thursday, March 29, 2018.
- Professional Judgement Team Meetings on Mississippi River Sartell and Brainerd.
- Tree Week Pickup and Delivery Scheduled for Week of April 23 – 27, 2018 .
- Nitrate Water Testing Clinic Scheduled for Week of May 7 – 11, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 26, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Hubner, Faber, Saehr, and Brutscher

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan, Ringwelski, and Zapzalka

BWSR: Chris Pence

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Hubner/Saehr to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS: Helen said the Shamineau situation had taken quite a lot of time over the last three weeks but was on the agenda. A new intern, Brenden Thompson will be starting when school is out in mid-May. The PRAP report is done and she shared some of the issues that will likely be raised. The photo of the golf course erosion project was shared with the board and discussion on funding capability.

Alan said WCA was already active with ditch maintenance requests. A number of buffer plantings are being planned. Two landowners had appealed and the PW designation had been removed by DNR. The MDA rule was published for comment and he highlighted the intentions. Jim Knopik had agreed to do a test plot on slow release.

Terry said Josh was a meeting so he outlined that 22 active EQIPs are in progress with 28 new pre-approved applicants with many for nutrient management, others for ag waste or animal mortality. 18 RCPP applicants for mostly prescribed grazing contracts. 254 active CSP and 35 new enrollments. The NRCS staff had also been to soil loss training.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy Winscher said it had been a little quieter of late but said the survey situation by Hillman Twp where two different surveyors have found conflicting markers is causing some turmoil. They retained Stearns County Surveyors to try to find confirmation for one way or the other.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Local Workgroup Report – Tom and Terry outlined that there was little change in the previous focus but the oak wilt minor watershed area will receive additional points.
2. MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program Results: Morrison has 18 certified which is third in the 12 county, area 2. Interest has slowed down considerably.
3. Lake Shamineau Report – Randy and Helen outlined the overwhelming number of meetings regarding the feasibility study to drain Lake Shamineau and send the water to Todd County. The report and project has changed three times in 2 weeks and many entities had not even been contacted or informed. The LID voted to go forward following their April 21 Public Hearing but now the County Board must approve the expenditure. The county is holding one more meeting May 1, 2018, to present some other alternatives that may have merit.
4. Financial Statement for Year End Report: LeaAnn finished the YE reports in two weeks of the one month extension and a copy was provided to the board to study at their leisure.
5. Resolution Accepting Wetland Conservation Act Delegation: MSC by Faber/Hubner to accept the resolution delegating responsibility of WCA to the District, by the County. New resolutions had been sent to all municipalities to re-approve since the old resolutions cannot be found.
6. ACUB and BWSR Changes: Helen explained about the money requests between BWSR and NGB being problematic as well as the new CA not being approved before Bill Penning took medical leave. As a result of all the frustration, Helen had to contact John Jaschke and Dave Rickert to step in and get things moving.
7. Mississippi River Sartell Judgement team meeting report: Helen summarized the findings presented on April 25, 2018, and the final report will be posted when revised. Many streams/waters will be added to the impaired waters list. One half of the Little Rock Creek was changed from a cold-water designation to a warm water.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Legislative Report – Bill to Grant Levy Authority to Districts: Helen shared that this bill was being carried by Senator Carrie Ruud and Crow Wing SWCD testified. If it receives legislative approval, each district and county would be able to decide whether they wanted it or not. The AMC isn't in favor.
2. Tree Program pushed back to week of May 14-18, 2018
3. Audit Contract Approval with Michael Peterson \$2,300: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to approve.
4. County Ditch 7 maintenance request: Randy and Helen outlined the discussion but the problems lie in the fact that the ditch has never seen maintenance so the path would have to be determined since it's virtually not discernable in the field. Also, the ditch runs through a Public Water Wetland that would have to have an OHW determined and that can take months.
5. Nitrate Clinic May 7-11, 2018

6. State Cost Share Application Approvals: MSC to approve:

a. Matthew Gold	Reforestation	#21-17	\$1,080.50
b. Gerion Palo	Reforestation	#20-17	\$1,080.00

Bill Faber left at this time. 10:35 a.m.

At this time, the chairman closed the meeting at the request of the District Manager. Helen outlined the extra work involved with the IT conversion and recommended that a bonus be given to LeaAnn in the form of an additional week of vacation with pay. MSC by Saehr/Stangl to approve.

She then announced that this was going to be her last year and would be retiring in November of 2018. She had met with the personnel committee and asked for direction from the board on how they wished to proceed and what the timelines should be. There is the ability to promote from within, and there is interest. However, the board felt they would like to see this position particularly open for more consideration. The direction was given to Helen to prepare the posting to present to the Personnel Committee on May 16, 2018. After which the job will be posted the end of May and into June (dates to be determined) and interviews commencing in late June.

The board did encourage internal applications and would guarantee an interview to internal candidates.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 24, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices Board Room

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Brutscher, Hubner, and Faber

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan, Hanson

Guests: BWSR Staff Daly Krystosek, Chris Pence

County Land Services Director: Amy Kowalzek

Absent: Supervisor Scott Saehr and staff Alan Ringwelski

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Brutscher to approve as read

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as presented

STAFF REPORTS: Josh shared that the 25 new EQIP applicants may start their projects. There are 17 new RCPP applicants under EQIP and 6 new CSP applicants for the RCPP. There are 26 new CSP for the normal funding.

Helen shared that the district had received a Date request for purchase orders and vendors for the past 5 years. Understanding it's public information but it was forwarded to the County Attorney because it was very vague about the interest or validity of the party requesting it. Chris Pence said Aitkin SWCD had received the same thing. The requester was informed that we will try to assimilate the information by the end of June but it was a very busy time for the Adm. Asst. to stop and do it right now. Chris also advised on billable allowances for such requests.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy shared that Mudfest would be happening this weekend and hopefully without more incidents. He also shared the request from the City of Randall regarding sheriff patrol even though they are hiring additional police staff.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. BWSR Performance Review Report: Dale Krystosek and Chris Pence walked through the findings for the PRAP and said it was draft form so might include some changes but the district and county rated quite well and were given limited recommendations, some of which the district is already addressing. He asked that Amy and Helen prepare comment letters soon and also to evaluate the number of hours spent on the process.
2. WCA Resolutions with Cities Status: Helen shared that one of the WCA PRAP recommendations addressed the lack of physical resolutions delegating WCA to the district. 8 resolutions had already been returned and once we receive all of them, t
3. Buffer Law Program Status: Mike and Alan have been out frantically measuring for farmers that have requested assistance. A couple of appeals had not prevailed but were given additional time since the appeal process slowed down ability to plant. Darren Mayers, BWSR Buffer Specialist had been down to assist with a problematic site. The legislative adjournment did not see an extension approved.
4. WCA Violation Status: Zilka and Pietrowski Restoration Orders will both have to be re-written and were confusing sites. Trying to appease the township boards and other partners and deal with WCA is problematic and there is a new Wetland Enforcement Officer for the DNR that hasn't even met the staff yet.
5. Financial Statements: No questions were brought out.
6. Legislative Update: Taxing Authority and other issues failed miserably. The Capacity Dollars survived but still in the CWF pot of money.
7. Lake Shamineau Saga Continuation: Yet another meeting was held on May 22, 2018, and Todd County was very adamant that the LID was asking them to come to them, when they are in Morrison when the LID should be meeting with those officials in their own county. It's clear that the LID doesn't even have the authority to create and outlet so this project, while emotional is an uphill battle.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Supervisor Elections: Filing Period; May 22nd – June 5th, 2018, Helen shared the maps and since Marvin has declared he will not seek re-election the board members were encouraged to seek good candidates from District 4.
District 2 – 2 Year Term
District 3 – 4 Year Term
District 4 – 4 Year Term
2. Budget Hearing – August 14th, 2018, @ 2:30 p.m. MSC by Brutscher/Faber to seek the same level of funding as 2018.
3. State Cost Share Application Approval Request: MSC by Brutscher/Hubner to approve
 - a. Crow Wing Power Critical Area Seeding \$2,350.00
(two sites) Motley Twp and Bellevue Twp
4. LSOHC Proposal and ACUB Problems: Helen explained the glitch from the new Army Attorney and also the funding risk with getting the money requested and BWSR Section Chief and Polly Remick are on medical leave. Helen and Josh Pennington have reached out to Dave Rickert to assist.
5. MDA Rule Outreach – Thursday, May 31st, 2018, @ Initiative Foundation: 8:00 am - 9:30 am

6. Manager Posting Recommendation – Personnel Committee shared their recommendations and Chris Pence offered some advice about posting until filled language. It was agreed to get it posted right away in the MASWCD network, AMC, the websites for the county and SWCD and sharing it with partners. The board didn't see merit in posting in the St. Cloud Times.
7. Area 2 Meeting: Thursday, June 21st, 2018, Nelson, MN. The board will be canvassed before the next payroll to see if anyone wants to go.
8. BWSR Report: Chris Pence shared the 1W 1P concept and goals. He also shared some Academy changes. He asked if the district had a preference regarding Calendar Year/ Fiscal Year financial record keeping and this district prefers the Calendar year. He also asked about whether we had a preference on keeping the Capacity Dollars as a split payment if the leverage money is awarded, or all at once in February. This district preferred the split due to cash flow purposes.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 28, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Brutscher, Hubner, and Faber (Brutscher arrived at 9:40 a.m.)

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan, Hanson, and Ringwelski

BWSR Staff: Chris Pence

County Land Services Director: Amy Kowalzek

Absent: Supervisor Scott Saehr and staff Alan Ringwelski

SECRETARY's MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as read.

TREASURER's REPORT: MSC by Saehr/Faber to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Josh, NRCS reported 15 applications for EQIP/RCPD totaling \$227,050. had been submitted. 6 CSP/RCPD were also submitted and CSP 2018 had 25 applicants. They have conducted 29 FSA Compliance reviews, and 21 CSP contract reviews. The 2018 EQIP contracts totaled \$811,468. For a variety of practices.

Alan shared that He, Helen, and Mike had been doing the buffer compliance checks and he and Mike had nearly completed the State Cost Share contract spot checks which are required year 1, 5, and 9. A lot of trees were showing stress.

Helen shared that she had met most of the candidates for her position so far and expected some more would come in by July 2. The Shamineau crowd was taking a bulk of time answering emails and phone calls.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT: Randy Winscher shared the filings for county elections with the auditor forcing a primary. The Mudfest had approximately 30 minors in possession citations and caused some concerns with the sheriff’s office on number of people attending. He too felt overwhelmed by the Shamineau situation. The county board had approved the Rum River 1W1P resolution and Randy and Mike Wilson would share the contact responsibility.

BWSR REPORT: Chris Pence gave the board complete updates on grant funding, training opportunities and coordination and advised staff to use updated cost share forms that are now on the website. He also distributed the legislative outcomes for the BWSR budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. WCA Violation Status – Roger Pietrowski was amended and re-served as was the RO for Mike Zilka. Helen shared what would be required. Eric VanNurden is being rescinded.
2. LCCMR Hearing – Helen, Brian Schwingle (DNR Forest Health Specialist), John Korzeniowski-DNR Area Forester, and Alan had testified before the LCCMR Council on June 21, 2018. LCCMR does not normally fund operations on private lands, but the team made the pitch for eradicating while we can, before it spreads further north.
3. Cost Share Payment Approvals: MSC by Faber/Brutscher -
 - a. Jerry Thoma #17-17 Field Windbreak \$475.00
 - b. Don Tschida #16-17 Well Decommission \$400.00
 - c. Jennifer Koetter #19-17 Reforestation \$856.00
 - d. Gerion Palo #20-17 Reforestation \$830.00
 - e. Matt Gold #21-17 Reforestation \$830.00
4. Buffer Cost Share Payment Approvals: MSC by Hubner/Saehr to approve -
 - a. Terry Zapzalka #B-49-09 Buffer Cost Share Pollinator \$820.00
 - b. Carol Brigner #B-49-08 Buffer Cost Share Pollinator \$2,000.00
5. Buffer Status Update: Helen said they had cleared as many as possible before the July 1, 2018, extension deadline and that BuffCAT was as current as can be to date. She did a radio spot to encourage landowners to call and confirm they are finished.
6. ACUB Legislative Decision: The decision was approved by the federal legislature that state-owned Nation Guard facilities are indeed eligible for DOD/NGB funding for ACUB. Lance and Amy are furiously working to commit all the available funding (over \$8,000,000 state and federal)
7. MN Wetland Conservation Act Appeal Process Approval: MSC Faber/Saehr to approve the appeals policy. See attached.
8. City and Municipality WCA Administration Resolution Approvals: MSC by Hubner/Saehr to approve the delegation of WCA to the District by Swanville, Randall, Elmdale, Pierz, Flensburg, Little Falls, Royalton, Buckman, Upsala, and Genola.
9. Tree Program Summary: The 2018 results were almost exactly the same as \$2017 with a profit of just over \$20,000.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Cost Share Applications: MSC by Faber/Brutscher to approve the following.
 - a. Mason Shay #02-18 Critical Area Planting \$2,500.00
 - b. Kevin Vetsch #03-18 Ag Waste Outlet #620 \$2,500.00
2. Joint Powers Agreement Resolutions with Stearns SWCD: MSC by Faber/Saehr to approve the two resolutions.
3. MASWCD Candidate Prospectus: Helen distributed the pamphlets for the MASWCD Board candidates.
4. Filings for Office Discussion: Helen shared that Randy had reached out to encourage a landowner to file for District 4 and was successful. There will be a race in District 4, incumbants only for the other two seats.
5. Rum River Watershed 1 P 1 W Support Resolution
6. Candidate Panel and Interview Selection for Manager Position - first round interviews with Personnel Committee on July 11, 2018, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
7. Retirement Party Planning – Camp Ripley has offered to host a retirement party for Helen and Marvin. We will request November 13th or 14th from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

RESOLUTION

**Resolution to support a Rum River Major Watershed
One Watershed, One Plan Implementation Framework Project.**

WHEREAS, Integrated comprehensive watershed planning is a benefit for the water resources of the Rum River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Rum River Planning Boundary, as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map (#15), have interest in developing a coordinated, major watershed-scale implementation framework for this area; and

WHEREAS, the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Rum River Planning Boundary, have a successful history of cooperation for resource protection and restoration via the recently completed Rum River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy; and

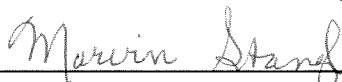
WHEREAS, Participating in the One Watershed One Plan will provide funding for plan development and increase efficiency of disbursement of implementation funds through a plan-based disbursement process; and

WHEREAS, Morrison SWCD has an interest in the concept of One Watershed One Plan provided that it does not create an additional bureaucratic layer of water planning and management;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Morrison SWCD welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Rum River Planning Boundary for major watershed-scale planning efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Morrison SWCD supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a coordinated, major watershed-scale implementation framework and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties, SWCDs, and WMOs within the Rum River Planning Boundary to implement this collaborative effort and be eligible for plan-based implementation funding from BWSR.

On a motion by William Faber, Second by Tom Brutscher, the above resolution was approved at the regular board meeting of June 28, 2018.



Marvin Stangl, Chair

Date Adopted: June 28, 2018

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 26, 2018

9:00 am – 10:00 am

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Faber, Stangl, Brutscher, Hubner, and Saehr

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan and Ringwelski

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC Saehr/Brutscher to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Alan shared that the NRCS staff was at a meeting to meet the new State Conservationist. He shared the CSP and EQIP reports and also shared about the large water bank contract approval. In his own work, the buffer sites were scattered and getting cleared constantly. He feels the Pierz golf course project will go forward with or without grant funding. He had hosted another fall nitrate management meeting for MDA.

Helen shared that the spot checks completed by Amy and Lance had shown several landowner changes that had not been submitted and a couple of violations that we will need to pursue. She also shared the oversight requirement now being made by Army attorneys that is causing some strife as to how it can even be processed without incurring title costs. In spite of the chaos, another \$1,000,000 had been awarded for REPI funding 2018.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy shared the information about the large scale solar farm going into southern Morrison County. The Little Rock lake was scheduled to be drawn down three feet but had suddenly been cancelled until possibly next year. There will be a ribbon cutting for the new trail dedication from Mill Pond north. He was also hearing from some septic designers that claim Morrison County has unreasonable expectations in Agram Twp.

BWSR REPORT: Chris Pence informed the board that CWF applications must be in by late August. The county matching fund piece also needs to be in by January 15, 2019. He and Dale Krystosek had presented the PRAP report to the county board this past week.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Lake Shamineau Update: Randy and Helen shared the ongoing saga of what the expectations and requests were from citizens and the LID Board.
2. WCA Violation Status – Roger Pietrowski, no movement as yet. Mike Zilka will be visited by Cade and Alan next week to see if a de minimus exemption might be eligible.
3. State Cost Share Payment Amendment Approvals: MSC by Brutscher/Hubner
 - a) Jennifer Koetter #19-17 Reforestation \$200.00
 - b) Gerion Palo #20-17 Reforestation \$250.00
 - c) Matt Gold #21-17 Reforestation \$250.00
4. Buffer Status Update

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Personnel Committee Report – First Interview Results were discussed a little bit and then the board began the interviews.

10:15 am
Mike Becker

11:00 am
Shannon Wettstein

11:45 am
Nate Hylla

After much discussion, the board directed Helen to offer the position to Shannon Wettstein and negotiate a salary package.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 23, 2018

9:00 am – 10:00 am

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Brutscher, Stangl, Faber, Saehr

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan, Wettstein, Hanson, and Ringwelski

Absent: Supervisor Dave Hubner

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Brutscher/Saehr to approve as read.

TREASURER'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Saehr to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Josh reported that they are working on obligating the funds for 31 CSP applications. Terry is attending Comprehension Nutrient Mgt. training. He and Shannon had attended the Local Workgroup Training. There are a lot of requests for compost facilities and stacking slabs. Producers are preparing to plant cover crops. They have 20 CSP re-enrollments. And, they are beginning to work on the 2019 EQIP applications.

Alan said that he and Helen are working on three Environmental Reviews for expanded Tier 2 poultry facilities. The WCA calls are still active. Another MDA Nitrogen Fertilizer meeting had been held and people are questing about split applications. The county and the district and NRCS staff had conversations regarding suitable soils for temporary stockpiling manure. We found that we have not identified the soils correctly with using the MPCA standards.

Shannon said she was meeting everyone and reviewing what each staff person's work load is. She is working on the CWF application which centers around manure managements in the high nitrate townships where the vast amount of the poultry producers are locating as well. The other part of the application will be to address erosion problems on Lake Shamineau.

Helen explained how she and Shannon had decided training should occur with Helen's end date being fluid with when there's a comfort zone. Steve Hockett from Great River Greening had visited with us the day before and is writing a CPL application for the Weyerhauser Museum and Pierz Golf Course erosion projects.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy said they had completed all the budget requests. The Mill Park bike trail is delayed as is the County Ditch 7 clean out and yet he expressed the unrealistic expectations of Lake Shamineau's timeline. The price tag keeps going up.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Employment Confirmation for Shannon Wettstein: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to confirm Shannon's employment at Step 3 on the Manager's schedule. She began on August 13, 2018.
2. Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District Summary – Randy, Helen, Shannon would be attending the annual LID meeting on Saturday, 25, 2018. The county board is looking at how transparent the LID is with other ideas and to determine whether the group is supportive or not. The County Board will react to their budget request in September.
3. Buffer Cost Share Payment Approval: MSC Saeher/Faber to approve.
 - a) Robert Anderson #B-49-01-2018 Pollinator Habitat \$1,600
4. Elections for supervisor: Helen shared that John Ulrick is out campaigning and not sure if Dale Scholl intends to or not. Marvin said he had spoken with him about running some ads.
5. Culvert Inventory Status Update: The map of townships completed by Mike, Amy, and Brendon was presented. An extension has been requested for a full year to complete the project. In spite of the late May 2018 start, another 13 townships had been completed.
6. WCA Violation Status Update: Pietrowski has asked for an extension of one month and Jeff Kloss has not responded at all.
7. Mississippi River Sartell Civic Engagement Recap: Helen and Shannon attended the open house in Rice on Aug. 22nd and only two residents were in attendance, with 12 resource people. Helen feels strongly that these meetings are a waste of time and money and outreach should be done through the media.
8. Buffer Monitoring Plan: Galen, Shannon, Alan, Mike and Helen are discussing how a modeling plan should be developed. BWSR requires 1/3 of the parcels be reviewed each year. Shannon will get the plan posted by the deadline.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Report: The board was given the annual report that will be posted on the website and was shared with the County Commissioners.
2. WCTSA Application for Nutrient Management Support: The WCTSA is applying for funds to fill a nutrient management writer position. Most districts submitted letters of support.
3. CPL Application for Pierz Golf Course and Weyerhaeuser Museum: Steve Hockett with Great River Greening has agreed to write the proposal in two parts and he visited with Shannon, Alan, and Helen on the details.
4. State Cost Share Application Approval: MSC by Faber/Brutscher to approve:
 - a) Joe Kuchinski #04-18 WASCOB & Waterway \$2,500
5. Buffer State Cost Share Cancellation of Application: MSC by Brutscher/Stangl to approve:
 - a) Kenneth Warzecha #B-49-02-18 Pollinator Habitat \$4,500
 - b) Michael Kahl #B-49-10-18 Pollinator Habitat \$6,000

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Water Festival: September 18th - 19th, 2018.
- Nitrate Clinic - October 15th – 19th, 2018.
- Regional Manager Meeting – Mille Lacs September 25, 2018.
- Mississippi River Brainerd Outreach – Swanville September 13, 2018.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Scott Saeher, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 28, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Brutscher, Hubner, and Faber (**Absent:** Scott Saehr)

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: McLennan and Wettstein

Guest: John Ulrich

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Brutscher/Hubner to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Shannon shared that she had been working on the grant applications and reviewing policies and staff duties. She also had submitted the Buffer Monitoring plan required by BWSR. Otherwise, it's been shadowing and learning the ropes. She thanked the board for her hiring.

Helen shared that she would be exiting the end of October, a bit earlier than stated, but that longer than that was not likely needed and she would be available to Shannon at any time for help where needed. They were transitioning well and trying to expose Shannon to all aspects of the district. She encouraged Shannon to change staff duties however she saw fit if necessary.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Randy Winscher explained the ongoing Shamineau discussions and now hearing from two groups. County Ditch 7 maintenance was being forced to a Public Hearing due to one landowner's dissent. Land Services was moving into their new office space this week.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Area 2 Meeting Review: Marvin and Shannon attended the Sept. 19, 2018, meeting in Albany. Legislative candidates and incumbents were allowed to speak. A lot of people wished Marvin well and thanked him for his service of 34 years.
2. Water Festival Recap: 25th Annual 6th Grade Water Festival: The Festival went off without a hitch. All the commissioners had attended the morning ceremony with Chm. Jeff Jelinski doing a county welcome and Camp leaders welcoming the students to Camp. Thank you notes had been sent out to all the presenters from USFWS, NRCS, Land Services, City of Little Falls, DNR, Rich Prairie, Science Museum, camp staff and others. Lance did an amazing job once again of overall coordination.
3. Buffer Status and Request for CRP Expiration Info: Alan and Ruth Westre will be going through the expiring contracts to see if any of the landowners would need a buffer letter.

4. Mississippi River Brainerd Open House in Swanville: Shannon hosted the meeting at the Lion's Building in Swanville and with great outreach, brought in 42 citizens which was a much better turn out than the meeting in Rice. She felt citizens were very interested in the testing results of the lakes and streams in the watershed.
5. Crookneck Lake Tour: Helen, Shannon, and Mike had taken a shoreline tour of Crookneck Lake with the LID members and were extremely pleased to see how well vegetated and wooded the shoreline was maintained from the advice given in 2002 at a lake association meeting. It was enriching to see the results and stewardship of the residents.
6. Lake Shamineau Update: The LID meeting was long and well attended with ¾ of the attendees supporting their efforts to seek relief. However, in subsequent meetings, there are two different groups and two separate ideas but they are being encouraged by everyone to come together and develop a less drastic plan and to show unity. The County will be deciding their budget request on October 9, 2018.
7. Manager's Meeting: Shannon and Helen attended the several county meeting held in Milaca and Shannon stated she was proud to know that Morrison had resolved some of the problems raised by other managers, years ago.
8. Grant Reconciliation for Capacity Funds with Jeanette Austin: Shannon and LeaAnn have met with Jeanette once and discovered some billable rates issues on the Capacity Grant. They will meet again on Monday, Oct. 1, 2018, and hopefully get on track with the formula.
9. WCA Violation Status: Pietrowski, Kloss, Kubicek, and Anderson: Pietrowski has been completed and issued a Satisfaction. Kloss has been served and is working on the restoration. Kubicek has been issued the Restoration Order and has hired a contractor. Anderson will be issued a Restoration Order and has not been heard from.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ACUB Issues and Review: Dave Weirens, acting section chief, Polly Remick, Dave Rickert, and Bill Penning will be meeting with Shannon, Helen, and Josh on Thursday, October 4, 2018, to resolve some process issues.
2. Buffer Cost Share Payment Approval: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to approve:
 - a. Bill Trettel #B49-07-18 \$125.00 Pollinator Habitat
3. Little Rock Cost Share Payment Approval: MSC by Brutscher/Hubner to approve:
 - a. William Winscher #LR49-02-17 \$953.09 Cover Crop
4. Contribution Donation to Crane Meadows Wildlife Refuge: \$150.00 MSC by Hubner/Faber to approve.
5. Cost Share Authorized Signature: MSN by Brutscher/Hubner to approve contract signing authority to Shannon Wettstein, District Manager, effective immediately.

INFORMATIONAL:

- Nitrate Clinic: Week of October 15th, 2018
- BWSR Academy: October 29th – 31st, 2018

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 25, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Brutscher, Saehr, and Faber (**Absent:** Dave Hubner)

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: Wettstein and Ringwelski with SWCD, Hanson with NRCS. Becker present during Staff Report.

BWSR Staff: Chris Pence, Board Conservationist

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Saehr to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Brutscher/Saehr to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Ringwelski said he is working on Environmental Reviews, WCA and the Buffer Program. He sent out five letters for people who still needed buffers and two called to say it was done. He has turned over only a handful of people to Galen Gruber at the County for enforcement. He also attended an aerial photo training with Mike Becker which will help do Level 1 wetland delineations.

Becker presented an up to date map of the culvert inventory progress. He mentioned Lakin Township has spotty cell phone reception which is needed for the survey equipment to work. He mentioned we may end up needing a cell phone booster in order to finish this township.

Hanson gave a summary of EQIP, CSP and the second RCPP application. He mentioned the haven't had a Farm Bill since September 30th.

Wettstein discussed Helen and Marvin's party, the TEP meeting regarding Shamineau Lake and reworking the County Ordinance, reviewing the SWCD Staff Policy Handbook with all staff and the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) meeting in Milaca for the Rum River Watershed.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Randy Winscher explained the ongoing Shamineau discussions and how they voted to approve part of their presented budget. He also shared that County Ditch 7 held its Public Hearing on Tuesday. The ditch attorney was there and stated the County Board has the final authority if an agreement cannot be made on November 3rd. Winscher also said the board is reviewing their annual budget.

BWSR REPORT: Pence explained it is still really important to be involved in the 1W1P even if it is not mandatory for us to have Policy Committee members at their meetings. Ultimately the County Board and the SWCD Board will have to approve the final plan. He also mentioned BWSR Academy and deadlines for Work Plan approvals and eLINK year-end reporting is coming up.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Buffer Status and Request for CRP Expiration Information Update: Alan and Ruth Westre went have not reviewed these parcels yet.
2. Lake Shamineau Update: County Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, to decide budget request. Winscher spoke to this so the board moved on.
3. Local Capacity Grant Funds Reconciliation with Jeanette Austin Update: All issues were resolved. Pence is waiting for a report from Janette.
4. Nitrate Clinic (Monday, October 15 – 19, 2018) Results: Lance Chisholm put together a summary for the board and a map of sampled wells and their results.
5. WCA Violation Status Update:
 - a. Kubicek – Shamineau. Landowners called to say it was restored but when it was checked the area was under water. Wettstein wrote a letter stating the site will need to be checked at a later date before a restoration can be certified.
 - b. Anderson – Shamineau. Landowners have been in contact.
 - c. Backowski – Pike Creek Township. Landowners have been in contact.
6. Shannon, Helen, and Josh met on Thursday, October 4, 2018, Regarding ACUB Issues and Review: (Dave Weirens, Acting Section Chief, Polly Remick, Dave Rickert, and Bill Penning). Wettstein mentioned Josh Pennington is taking another position. Also, they talked about some changes to the process moving forward. The meeting spurred some action on BWSR's end with several agreements and easement paperwork Chisholm has been waiting on.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Helen and Marvin's Retirement Party – Invoice Cost Approval Requests. MSC by Brutscher/Saehr for the approval of \$3,374.94 of costs associated with the event.
2. MASWCD Resolution Vote. Board reviewed and voted on each resolution.
3. MASWCD Convention Registration (December 9 – 11, 2018). MSC by Saehr/Brutscher to table this until next meeting.
4. Ag. BMP Authorized Person Assignment – MSC by Saehr/Faber to authorize Wettstein to sign on behalf of the district.
5. Bank of the West Signature Card – MSC by Brutscher/Saehr to table this until we have more information.
6. State Cost Share Cancellation Approvals: MSC by Faber/Saehr to cancel the following contracts.
 - a. Tom Friedrich #10-17 Reforestation \$1,312.00
 - b. Craig B. Stangl #12-17 WASCB / Outlet \$2,500.00
7. Board Meeting Dates for November and December. MSC Faber/Saehr to set the November meeting for the 29th. Board will set a December date in November.
8. Current Environmental Reviews: Point of information
 1. Ray Sieben
 2. Keith Ripplinger
9. Culvert Inventory Update: (Mike) LCCMR Grant. Becker spoke to this earlier so the board moved on.

INFORMATIONAL:

Wettstein informed the board of the upcoming events...

- ALICE Training – Wednesday, November 14, 2018
- BWSR Academy – Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, October 29th – 31st, 2018
- Tree Open House – Wednesday, December 5th, 2018

Meeting Adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 27, 2018

9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Brutscher, Saehr, and Faber (Absent: Hubner)

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: Wettstein and Ringwelski with SWCD, Hanson with NRCS.

BWSR Staff: Absent

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Saehr to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Ringwelski reported he is still working on WCA calls and requests for wetland determinations especially for people looking at purchasing lands but as of freeze up the office is no longer doing wetland determinations. He has also reviewed CRP lands with Ruth and there will be no issues with the buffer law. He has also gone out on several feedlot visits with the county feedlot officer, Addison March.

Hanson gave EQIP signup deadlines as January 18th for first cut off and April 19th for second cut off. CSP had 281 contracts with most getting payment in 2018. Also, the Little Falls office participated in a Time Trial Cycle for five weeks.

Wettstein discussed Shamineau Ordinance is going to commissioners on the 11th of December. SWCD and Land Services met to discuss buffer law compliance and extensions for those who did not get seed in after corn was removed. They are still waiting to hear if the grant proposals submitted to BWSR and CLP were successful. Great news to share is Josh Pennington will be staying on at Camp Ripley.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Randy Winscher gave an update on County Ditch 7 and the upcoming public hearing. Ditch 21 is also being proposed for maintenance. He also shared the Planning Commission hearing regarding the solar farm on Dave Kloss' property. Announced the levy has been set and taxes came out.

BWSR REPORT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ALICE Training: Active shooter training held for the whole Service Center by the Morrison County Sheriff's Department.
2. BWSR Academy: All staff attended at least one day of training. Recapped after and it was a very worthwhile training.
3. Nitrates Follow-up Discussion from Last Meeting: Lance printed off a couple of handouts which show Morrison and Benton County nitrate testing results from the MDA Township Testing program.

4. Wetland Banking – Robert Hobson’s Bank Sold Out: Wettstein informed the board he had this bank since 1996 and had worked with Helen over the years.
5. Bank of the West System Administrator Change: Brutscher and Stangl signed off on this paperwork to authorize Wettstein as the administrator for the Bank of the West WebDirect online system last week when they were in to sign checks.
6. WCA Violation Status Update:
 - a. Backowski – Pike Creek Township
 - b. Kloss- Pulaski Township
 - c. Johnson -Little Falls Township
 - d. Pogreba – Scandia Valley Township

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MASWCD Convention Registration (December 9 – 11, 2018): Wettstein asked if board members were interested in attending and if they would like her to attend. MSC by Faber/Stangl for Wettstein to represent Morrison SWCD at the convention.
2. Board Meeting Date for December: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to set the December meeting at Thursday December 27th. This will be Stangl’s last meeting as a board member.
3. Tree Sales Order Policy: MSC by Brutscher/Faber to adopt the District Tree Sales Order Policy as presented.
4. Stifel Nicolaus Account: MSC by Saeher/Brutscher to get more information regarding putting money into a Certificate of Deposit through a local bank.
5. Staffing Considerations: Wettstein asked for other staff to leave the room so the board could discuss this item. Wettstein spelled out where we are at with the LCCMR Culvert Inventory and how Local Capacity will be funding this position once the grant funds are expended. She also informed the board of an opportunity to have a Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist based out of the office but she is gathering more information on this. The board supported looking into this opportunity. Saeher brought up an internship opportunity through Sourcewell where the district can get reimbursed for staff costs up to 640 hours at \$12/hour. Saeher will get more information for Wettstein.
6. Board Member Contact Information for Website: The board listed their contact information which will be presented on the website.
7. 1W1P for Rum River Watershed – Overview and Policy Member and Alternate: The board would like to get more information and then make appointments for the Policy and Alternate members. There was discussion about having a main member and the rest of the board acting as an alternate. Wettstein presented maps Heinen made showing the watersheds in relation to Morrison County and the rest of the state.
8. Cost Share Payment Approval – MSC by Saeher/Faber to approve an amendment to the original contract with Crow Wing Power to create two separate contracts, one for each site and to approve additional funds for the project.
 - a. Crow Wing Power, Site 1 \$2,333.00 MSC by Saeher/Faber to approve.
 - b. Crow Wing Power, Site 2 \$2,062.50 MSC by Saeher/Faber to approve.

INFORMATIONAL:

- Tree Open House – Wednesday, December 5th, 2018: Wettstein invited all of the board to come. Faber suggested looking into native plant plugs for next year.
- City of Motley Wellhead Protection Plan Commencement: Wettstein presented maps Heinen and Chisholm put together for all the WHPP in the county and which cities are yet to be completed.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Scott Saeher, Secretary

MORRISON SWCD BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 27, 2018
9:00 a.m.

USDA County Offices

PRESENT:

Supervisors: Stangl, Hubner, Saehr, and Faber (Absent: Brutscher)

Commissioner: Randy Winscher

Staff: Wettstein, Chisholm and Ringwelski with SWCD, Hanson with NRCS.

BWSR Staff: Absent

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: MSC by Faber/Hubner to approve as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: MSC by Saehr/Faber to approve as presented.

STAFF REPORTS:

Ringwelski said they have still been getting a lot of requests for ditch maintenance so he has been busy with this. He also said the office gave a Notice of Decision for the County Ditch 7.

Chisholm followed up to the nitrate discussion from last meeting and added there will be a state Nitrate Fertilizer Management Plan rolled out and the office has been involved in hosting meetings on this. He has also been working with LeaAnn and Shannon to simplify our time tracking spreadsheet so staff are all now using this new spreadsheet for reporting hours. He was also part of the work session where Jason Weinerman and Chris Pence from BWSR explained the One Watershed One Plan to the county commissioners.

Hanson said they will start processing CSP payments for people who wanted them in 2019. Also working on 2019 EQIP application rankings. First sign-up deadline for EQIP is January 18, 2019. New Farm Bill was signed December 20, 2018. Even though many other parts of the federal government are shut down including FSA Farm Loans NRCS will remain open for business and operating as usual until further notice. Next meeting he will go over Civil Rights for the group.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Randy Winscher gave an update on County Ditch 7 and how they were able to use Kurt Deters, an attorney from Rinke Noonan, to give advice on public ditch systems. Ditch 21 in Moral Township will be around the corner too. He has had a lot of complaints about manure application and explained to the board how they need to find a way to track this better at the county. The hemp operation was denied and the solar farm may be looking to relocate and submit a new application.

BWSR REPORT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. MASWCD Annual Convention – Wettstein attended with Hanson. Was worthwhile and the sessions were good.
2. Tree Open House – District sold 7,000 trees and had 120 orders, up from last year.
3. Nitrates Follow-up Discussion from Last Meeting (Lance) – Already covered in staff report.

4. WCA Violation Status Update:
 - a. Kloss- Pulaski Township – Pushed to next year.
 - b. Pogreba – Scandia Valley Township – Pushed to next year.
5. Shamineau Ordinance Passed – Will provide principal structure relief on existing county ordinance for two years. Landowners will still have to work with the District on WCA.
6. Status of BWSR Grant Application and CPL Grant Application – The two BWSR applications for groundwater protection in Agram and Buh Townships and erosion control on Shamineau were not successful. Neither was the CPL application to restore the river bank in Pierz at the golf course.
7. ACUB Easement Process Delays – Chisholm and Wettstein explained they have been getting a lot of calls from those working through the easement process wondering where things are at. There have been delays due to easement language changes required by the Army and from a lack of funding requests from BWSR.
8. Internship Program through Sourcewell – Reimbursement of wages; Spring 2019 for Amy Heinen – This is an opportunity Saehr brought up and the District will be taking advantage of. The program is meant to encourage young people to work for local governments.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MACDE 2019 Approval (Jan 1 - Dec 31 2019) - \$25/employee or \$150.00 – MSC Faber/Saehr
2. Stifel Nicolaus Account – Certificate of Deposit Options – MSC Faber/Saehr to move Stifel Nicolaus monies to Mid Minnesota Credit Union. \$50,000 to a CD and \$90,000 to a money market account.
3. 1W1P for Rum River Watershed – Overview and Policy Member and Alternate – MSC Faber/Hubner for Scholl to be the main policy member, Faber to be alternate and Saehr to be second alternate.
4. Cost Share
 - a. Payment Approval – 2018 Buffer #B-49-03 for \$1,200, Ryan Lanners – Receipts not received by meeting so no approval given.
 - b. Cancelled- 2018 Buffer #B-49-04 for \$2,500, Gerald Struffert – MSC Hubner/Saehr to cancel and re-encumber funds.
 - c. Cancelled- 2018 Buffer #B-49-05 for \$2,000, Gerald Struffert– MSC Hubner/Saehr to cancel and re-encumber funds.
5. Audit Package from Peterson Company Ltd. – Wettstein pointed out the auditor had no changes to our report. Tabled to next meeting.
6. Upcoming CPR/First Aid Training – Wettstein invited the board to attend this with staff. Will be Feb 6 from 1-4 pm.
7. Slate of Officers for 2019 – MSC Faber/Saehr to approved as presented:

Roles	Proposed for 2019
Chairman	Dave Hubner
Vice Chairman	Scott Saehr
Secretary	Tom Brutscher
Treasurer	Bill Faber
Public Relations	Dale Scholl
Committee Assignments	Proposed for 2019
Finance Committee	Brutscher/Saehr
Personnel Committee	Hubner/Faber
Water Plan Representative	Brutscher
WCTSA	Faber/Hubner
One Watershed One Plan	Scholl/Faber/Saehr

8. NRCS Cooperative Working Agreement - Data Privacy presented and reviewed by Hanson.
9. MCIT Membership Renewal (Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2019) - \$7,678.00 MSC Hubner/Saehr

10. MASWCD Membership Renewal (Nov 1 2018– Oct 31, 2019) - \$3776.11 MSC Faber/Stangl. Stangl was curious to know how our membership rates compare with other counties. Wettstein will contact MASWCD to find out.

INFORMATIONAL:

- Next SWCD Board meeting is scheduled to be January 24th
- Budget Committee will need to meet one hour prior to the January meeting
- March 5-6 - MASWCD Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol
- MASWCD Area II Spring Meeting Hosted by Morrison SWCD – Wettstein will check into this date for the meeting and set the location but will be the end of March.
- Ruth Westre is retiring from FSA, her open house is from 1-3 today.
- Cake will be served immediately after the meeting to celebrate Marvin Stangl's retirement from the SWCD Board

MSC Saehr/Hubner to adjourn meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Scott Saehr, Secretary