

# MINUTES FROM THE JULY 15, 2015 BOARD MEETING

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The regular monthly board meeting of the East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday July 15, 2015 at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center Conference Room at 801 Jenny Ave S.W., Perham, MN.

*The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:28 a.m.*

**Members Present:**

Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann  
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards  
Secretary: Dennis Reynolds  
Treasurer: Marion Gill  
Public Relations: Terry Greenwaldt

**Others Present:**

County Commissioner: Doug Huebsch  
Pete Waller, BWSR  
Soil Conservationist: Ryan Antholz  
District Manager: Darren Newville  
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas

## Agenda

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Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Marion Gill to accept the Agenda as presented with one change:

Add 19a: BWSR Agreement

Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Approve Board meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Marion Gill to approve the previous month Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Marion Gill, seconded by Dennis Reynolds to approve the last month Treasurer's Report. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Bills Paid & Bills Payable:** Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Dennis Reynolds to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: None, motion carried.

## Cost Share

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### WATER PLAN COST SHARE

**Jan Aldrich**; is requesting cost share assistance for a Well Sealing. The cost estimate is \$565.00 and cost share not to exceed \$300.00 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Marion Gill to approve the above cost share item. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Jane Moe**; Dora Township, Section 12 is requesting cost share assistance for a Well Sealing. The cost estimate is \$465.00 and cost share not to exceed \$300.00 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Marion Gill, seconded by Dennis Reynolds to approve the above cost share item. Opposed: None, motion carried.

### DNR SHORELAND HABITAT GRANT

**Mike Wienhandl**; is requesting to amend the contract from the original cost estimate of \$6,534.00 to a cost of \$7,063.84. The cost sharing increase will be from \$4,900.00 to \$5,297.88, which results in an additional \$397.88 to the cost share assistance. Motion made by Marion Gill, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to amend the above cost share item. Opposed: None, motion carried. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Dennis Reynolds to approve a payment of \$5,297.88. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Corwin Jones; 8-CSW-2014**, is requesting payment for a Shoreline planting in the amount of \$3,351.03. Motion made to approve payment by Steve Inwards, seconded by Marion Gill. Opposed: None, motion carried.

## Agenda cont.

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**District Manager's Report:** See attached report as written by Darren Newville.

### **District Conservationist's Report:**

Ryan Antholz attended in place of Jon Frie, acting DC.

- This is a big year for CRP. There have 30-40 new requests. '333 expire on September 30, 2015. 75% will be getting back into the program in some form. General sign up is set for December.
- 14 EQIP's have been approved.
- CSP has 11 re-enrollments.
- Bruce Becker's position has not yet been posted.

### **County Commissioner Report:**

- CRP will be reduced from 32 million acres to 24 million acres.
- Midwest Farm Energy Conference discussion focused around things we could be doing to reduce energy by 50%. Minnesota has great solar energy.
- Plans for a new Feedlot Officer has the vote of the Commissioner. We need dairy cows to keep Bongaard's open in Perham.

## Old Business

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**Department of Ag Update:** This item was discussed in the Manager's Report

*8:30 a.m. County Commissioner Doug Huebsch left the meeting.*

**TSA Update:** At the June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting there was a re-organization of the board. All positions stayed the same. Financials were discussed. There was discussion on the Ag Certainty Program and the TSA role. MDA was not present at this meeting. There is supposed to be a meeting of the district managers to discuss this further.

**EOT/Wadena SWCD Joint Meeting:** The sub-committee members Lyle Dittmann and Dennis Reynolds met last month with the sub-committee members of the Wadena SWCD Ken Berg and Nancy Benson. Topics included Vehicles, insurance, building, equipment, etc. The next meeting will be on Monday, July 20, 2015 after the regular scheduled Wadena SWCD Board Meeting.

## New Business

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July 29, 2015 MASWCD/DNR Groundwater Seminar at Thumper Pond, Perham, MN. This is a free seminar for all staff and supervisors. Staff seminar runs from 8:30 – 3:30 and Supervisors runs from 4 – 6. Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve for those interested to attend. Opposed: None, motion carried.

MASWCD Governance 101 – St. Cloud, MN there is a \$145.00 registration fee for this seminar and an overnight stay at \$85/room. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve for anyone wishing to attend. Opposed: None, motion carried.

There is a Decision Maker Training on October 7, 2015 in Parkers Prairie, MN. This training is for County Commissioners and SWCD Supervisors. Former WCCO News Anchor Don Shelby will be the guest speaker at this training.

Equipment: A 2015 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab for \$30,278.16 is on order for the district and should arrive in August.

Budget: See attached budget. Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the budget and to submit it to Otter Tail County. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Fair sponsorship: The East Otter Tail County Agricultural Society is asking for a \$400.00 donation. This donation will go toward renting mammals and birds to display for fairgoers to learn more about the different species, both on land and water. Information about the EOT SWCD will be on display as well. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to donate to this cause. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Seal coating: The estimate to seal coat the parking lot and restripe is \$2,785.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve the estimate and move forward with the seal coating. Opposed: none, motion carried.

DNR Observation Well Agreement: The price per well has increased from \$15/well to \$30/well, with a total contract for \$3,060.00. Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to accept the new agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

2016 BWSR Grant Agreements: No change in dollar amounts. Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Steve Inwards to accept the 2016 BWSR Grant Agreements and Authorize Darren to sign them. Opposed: none, motion carried.

BWSR Board Conservationist Pete Waller:

- This was the biggest Legislative Session in many years. See BWSR's summary attached. 22 million funding was approved for the SWCD's which results in \$100,000.00 per SWCD
- 50 foot buffer for lakes, rivers, streams, and ditches is a major topic. 20% of the state's ditches currently have a buffer.
- DNR to map legal ditch systems with a deadline of July 1, 2016
- It would be voluntary for additional (not required) water that would benefit from a buffer

Public Comments: None

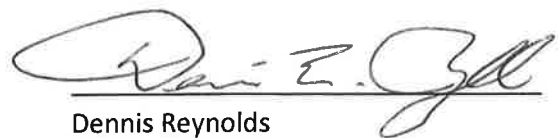
Personnel: Aaron Salo, District Technician has resigned. He will be going to Becker SWCD. Motion made by Lyle Dittman, seconded by Steve Inwards to accept his resignation. Opposed: none, Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TRAINING SESSIONS			
Training/Meetings	Location	Date	Attending
DNR Groundwater Workshop	Otter Tail	July 29, 2015	
SWCS Conference	Greensboro, NC	July 26-29, 2015	Darren Newville
Local SWCD CWF meeting	Perham	August 5, 2015	
Leadership Training	Grand Rapids	Aug 12-13, 2015	
MASWCD Governance 101	St. Cloud, MN	Sept. 16-17, 2015	



Chantal Tougas  
Administrative Secretary



Dennis Reynolds  
Secretary