

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES  
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.  
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2012**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Linda Bruemmer, MDH; Bob Burandt, Jack Ditmore, Quentin Fairbanks, Rebecca Flood, PCA; Christy Jo Fogarty, Sandy Hooker, Paul Langseth, Tom Loveall, Keith Mykleseth, Tom Landwehr, DNR; Faye Sleeper, MES; Steve Sunderland, Gene Tiedemann, Gerald VanAmburg, Matt Wohlman, MDA

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joe Collins  
Todd Foster  
John Meyer  
Brian Napstad

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mary Jo Anderson, Angie Becker-Kudelka, Tim Dykstal, Travis Germundson, Jim Haertel, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Kevin Lines, Jen Maleitzke, Kathy Moore, Ken Powell, Dan Shaw, Ron Shelito, Kyle Skov, Dave Weirens, Brad Wozney

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Cliff Aichinger, Ramsey-Washington Metro WD  
Tim Koehler, NRCS

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**CALL MEETING TO ORDER at 9:05 a.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**\*\***  
12-45 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – John Jaschke presented two potential agenda additions:  
1) Under Committee Recommendations/Grants Program & Policy Committee: FY2012 Farm Bill Assistance Grants; and 2) Under New Business: Grants Monitoring Report. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Paul Langseth, to adopt the agenda as presented with two additional items. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-46 **MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2012 BOARD MEETING** - Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Christy Jo Fogarty, to approve the minutes of May 23, 2012 as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – presented later on agenda.**

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW BWSR STAFF**

- Jen Maleitzke, Communications Coordinator
- Kathy Moore, Office Administrative Specialist
- Ken Powell, Wetland Banking Coordinator

**REPORTS**

**Chair's Report** – Gerald VanAmburg explained that Brian Napstad is dealing with difficult flooding problems in his area and unable to attend the Board meeting; Gerry is Acting Chair today.

**Administrative Advisory Committee** – John Jaschke stated that Brian Napstad's residence and business is on the flooded Big Sandy Lake Reservoir in Aitkin County; he is awaiting a potential disaster declaration. John referred to the map from the State Climatologist showing the total rainfall and precipitation from April – June 25, 2012.

Faye Sleeper, U of M/Extension, arrived at the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

John reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee (AAC) met this morning. Tim Dykstal, Fiscal Compliance Director, presented a proposal for an Audit Committee. The purpose of the Audit Committee is to oversee BWSR's fiscal compliance and internal audit function. It appraises the effectiveness of the agency's system of risk assessment and internal control and provides an avenue of communication between internal auditors, external auditors, management, and the Board. The AAC recommends approval of the Audit Committee, consisting of the chair, vice-chair; three board members at-large; and Tim as staff. The Committee will meet at least once a year, or at

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the call of the chair or at the call of the majority of committee members. The proposal will be on the agenda at the August Board meeting.

John reported that he provided a staffing status report to the AAC. Julie Blackburn has resigned; and the process of hiring an assistant director has begun. Pete Fellend, engineering technician, resigned his position which will also be filled.

John briefed the AAC on the Board Tour/Meeting, August 22-23, at the Ramada Inn in Marshall. Logistics are underway, board members will receive information as details are finalized.

John informed the AAC of the two additional agenda items:

- 1) Grants Monitoring Report - the Board adopted the Grants Monitoring, Reconciliation, and Verification Policy on June 22, 2011, the implementation plan stated that an annual monitoring report would be presented at the June Board meeting. This was on the agenda for the May meeting of the Grants Program & Policy Committee, but the Committee did not get to it.
- 2) Farm Bill Assistance Grants - The Grants Program & Policy Committee considered the program allocations process in May and is recommending the Board adopt the draft resolution.

**Executive Director's Report** – John Jaschke reviewed information in the Board Member packets. Agency members commented on flooding issues in northeastern and southeastern Minnesota; additional burden on staff with the damage and flooding crisis. FEMA will provide 75% of the cost when a disaster declaration is declared; with 25% assistance by the state.

**Dispute Resolution Committee** – Travis Germundson reported that 16 appeals are pending; five new appeals filed since the May 23 Board Meeting. File 12-11 appeal of no-loss determination remanded for further technical assistance.

**Wetlands Committee** – Gerald Van Amburg reported that the Wetlands Committee has not met. John Jaschke stated that Governor Dayton issued Executive Order 12-04 supporting and strengthening implementation of the State's wetlands policy. John stated that this will be brought before the Wetlands Committee at a future date.

**Grants Program & Policy Committee** – Paul Langseth reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee met on May 23; recommendations are on the agenda later today.

**RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee** – Gene Tiedemann reported that the Committee met May 22; recommendations are on the agenda later today.

**Drainage Work Group** – Tom Loveall reported that Drainage Work Group is meeting tomorrow.

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### ***Metro Water Planning Committee***

**Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Plan Amendment** – Bob Burandt reported that the Metro Water Planning Committee met on May 9, the final draft Amendment to the Minnehaha Creek WD Watershed Management Plan was filed with the Board on May 16, 2012. The draft Order contains a summary of the changes and the reviewing agencies' comments. No comments were received during the public hearing that resulted in revisions to the draft Amendment. The Metro Water Planning Committee recommends approval of the Plan Amendment. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Keith Mykleseth, to approve the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Plan Amendment. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-47

**Scott WMO Plan Amendment** – Bob Burandt reported that the final draft Amendment to the Scott WMO Watershed Management Plan was filed with the Board on May 22, 2012. The draft Order contains a summary of the changes and the reviewing agencies' comments. No comments were received during the public hearing that resulted in revisions to the draft Amendment. The Metro Water Planning Committee recommends approval of the Plan Amendment. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Christy Jo Fogarty, to approve the Scott WMO Plan Amendment. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-48

**Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Enlargement** – Jim Haertel reported that the Cities of Roseville and Shoreview submitted a petition to enlarge the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 103D.261. The petition was accompanied by resolutions of concurrence from the two affected cities. The proposed enlargement would expand the District into the area of the recently dissolved Grass Lake WMO. After holding a public hearing, the Metro Water Planning Committee recommends the watershed district enlargement. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Faye Sleeper, to approve the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District enlargement. Discussion followed. Cliff Aichinger, Administrator of the Ramsey-Washington Metro WD, commented on the capital improvements and the efficiency of enlarging the Watershed District. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-49

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

John Jaschke explained that the upcoming agenda items today need the Conflict of Interest Declaration form submitted. Acting Chair VanAmburg stated that the declaration process is being used on the following decisions:

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- Area II Minnesota River Basins Project Inc. FY 2012 & FY2013 Biennial Work Plan and Grant
- Minnesota River Board, Fiscal Year 2013 Work Plan and Grant
- Proposed FY'13 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants Allocations
- Proposed FY'13 Natural Resources Block Grant
- FY2013 Clean Water Fund and Competitive Grants Program: Policy and Request for Proposals
- Targeted Drainage Water Management Grants
- FY2013 Farm Bill Assistance Grants
- RIM-WRP Partnership Program FY13 Outdoor Heritage Fund Allocation
- RIM Reserve 2012 Bond Fund Allocation
- Clean Water Fund and Outdoor Heritage Funded Permanent RIM Reserve Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program: Revised Criteria, Enrollment Procedures and Policy

Acting Chair VanAmburg read the statement:

*“A conflict of interest whether actual or perceived occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. At this time, members are requested to identify any potential conflicts of interest they may have regarding today’s business.”*

Acting Chair VanAmburg asked board members to submit their completed Conflict of Interest Declaration forms to John Jaschke. John explained BWSR’s conflict of interest policy for grant authorizations. The Conflict of Interest Declaration documents will be filed for the grant decision items.

***Southern Water Planning Committee***

**Area II Minnesota River Basins Project Inc. FY 2012 & FY2013 Biennial Work Plan and Grant** – Paul Langseth reported that BWSR oversees the administrative funding related to the efforts of the Area II Minnesota River Basins Project Inc. (Area II). The 2011 Minnesota Legislature appropriated administrative funding for Area II Minnesota River Basins Project Inc., resulting in a fiscal year 2013 grant of \$120,000. The overall budget objectives are included in the plan. Staff recommends approval of this plan and execution of the administrative grant agreement for FY 2013. The Board’s Southern Water Planning Committee met on June 7, 2012 to review the Area II Work Plan and recommends approval of the plan and execution of the FY 2013 grant. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Steve Sunderland, to approve the Area II Minnesota River Basins Project Inc. FY 2012 & FY2013 Biennial Work Plan and Grant. Discussion followed. Steve Sunderland asked if it’s important to have the number of staff identified in the work plan. John stated that Area II will be contacted to include the number of staff in future work plans. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-50

**Minnesota River Board, Fiscal Year 2013 Work Plan and Grant** – Paul Langseth reported that this work plan is for BWSR oversight of administrative funding related to the efforts of the Minnesota River Board (MRB), formerly known as the Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board. The 2011 Minnesota Legislature appropriated administrative funding for the MRB, resulting in a fiscal year 2013 State General Funds grant of \$42,000. The overall budget objectives are included in the work plan. Staff recommends approval of this work plan and execution of the administrative grant agreement for fiscal year 2013. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Tom Landwehr, to approve the Minnesota River Board, Fiscal Year 2013 Work Plan and Grant. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-51

**Grants Program & Policy Committee**

**Proposed FY'13 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants Allocations** – Wayne Zellmer reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee reviewed the proposed SWCD grant allocations on May 23, and recommends approval of the FY'13 allocations for the Conservation Delivery, Easement Delivery, Non-Point Engineering Assistance, and Cost-Share Base Grant Programs. Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Keith Mykleseth, to approve the FY'13 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants Allocations as presented:

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12-52

1. Staff to allocate grant funds to individual SWCDs up to the amounts listed below and as provided on the attached allocation spreadsheet, *Proposed FY '13 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants*:

State Cost Share Base Grants	\$1,559,999
Conservation Delivery Grants	\$1,765,000
Easement Delivery Grants	\$ 290,996

2. Allocate the Non Point Engineering Assistance Grants to joint powers boards up to the \$1,060,000, as listed below:

<b>NPEA Area</b>	<b>Base Grant</b>	<b>Host/Fiscal Agent SWCD</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Total Grant</b>
1	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$0	<b>\$130,000</b>
2	\$120,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	<b>\$145,000</b>
3	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$0	<b>\$130,000</b>
4	\$120,000	\$5,000	\$0	<b>\$125,000</b>
5	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	<b>\$150,000</b>
6	\$120,000	\$5,000	\$0	<b>\$125,000</b>
7	\$120,000	\$10,000	\$0	<b>\$130,000</b>
8	\$120,000	\$5,000	\$0	<b>\$125,000</b>

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3. Authorize SWCDs, to use all or part of their allocation for technical assistance, when the following conditions exist:
  - i. Federal funds will be leveraged and they couldn't do the project otherwise;  
Or,
  - ii. Funds are used on a project(s) that is State Cost Share Program or EQIP eligible and their 2011 Financial Report indicates less than an 18-month fund balance; and
  - iii. Board Conservationist approval.

Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**Proposed FY'13 Natural Resources Block Grant** – Wayne Zellmer reported that the Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) provides assistance to local governments to implement state natural resource programs. These programs are: Comprehensive Local Water Management, the Wetland Conservation Act, the DNR Shoreland Management, the MPCA County Feedlot, and the MPCA/BWSR Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems. The Grants Program & Policy Committee recommends Board approval of the Proposed FY'13 Natural Resources Block Grant allocations. Wayne reported the feedlot allocations are not listed, finalized numbers will be provided to BWSR soon. Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Tom Landwehr, to approve the FY'13 Natural Resources Block Grant as presented:

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12-53

BWSR hereby authorizes staff to allocate appropriate individual grant amounts to counties meeting the NRBG Program requirements, as determined by the BWSR, MPCA, and DNR, and indicated on the attached spreadsheet PROPOSED FY'13 NATURAL RESOURCES BLOCK GRANTS; totaling:

LWM	\$1,139,156
WCA	\$1,906,472
DNR Shoreland	\$ 377,372
MPCA Feedlot Base	\$1,689,179
MPCA SSTS	\$1,628,926

and, for Local Water Management, Wetland Conservation Act, and DNR Shoreland Programs, Local Governmental Units will have the flexibility of determining the amount of the total of these three BWSR Programs, to allocate to each of their programs locally.

Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**FY2013 Clean Water Fund and Competitive Grants Program: Policy and Request for Proposals** – Dave Weirens reported that BWSR has been appropriated Clean Water Funds for grants to local governments to address water quality needs. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is contributing funds to this grant program. BWSR staff are proposing to package these funds into a single request for proposals that will allow local governments to apply for funds to address water quality priorities that are identified in their local water management plan. The Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed this program on May 23, 2012 and recommends approval. Dave reviewed the competitive grant policy and request for proposals (RFP). Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Christy Jo Fogarty, to authorize staff to finalize, distribute and promote a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the FY2013 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program consistent with the provisions of appropriations enacted in 2011 and 2012; and adopts the FY2013 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Policy. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-54

Al Kean presented a brief explanation of a drainage management initiative by NRCS, focused on targeted drainage water management grants. Al reported that this is tied cooperatively with NRCS standards, clarified multi-purpose management on drainage systems, and nutrient management systems. This will be an RFP, the Grants Program & Policy Committee will review, allocations of grants in December.

Linda Bruemmer left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Vice-Chair called for a break in the meeting at 11:05 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

**Targeted Drainage Water Management Grants** – Kyle Skov reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the targeted drainage water management grant allocations totaling \$700,000 and recommends Board approval. Kyle presented a summary of the recommended grantees and the allocation. Moved by Rebecca Flood, seconded by Steve Sunderland, to approve the targeted drainage water management grants and associated grant allocations as indicated:

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12-55

Bois de Souix Watershed District	\$170,000.00
GBERBA (Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance)	\$170,000.00
Mower SWCD, Cedar River Watershed District, Turtle Creek Watershed District Partnership	\$100,000.00
RCRCA (Redwood Cottonwood River Control Area)	\$100,000.00
Buffalo Red River Watershed District	\$ 70,000.00
Lac qui Parle SWCD, Yellow Medicine SWCD Partnership	\$ 60,000.00
Two Rivers Watershed District	\$ 30,000.00
Total	\$700,000.00

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Discussion followed. In order to meet the current need and legislative intent, a targeted grant process was developed. John stated that this is a one-time allocation, in the future it will likely be rolled into drainage water management. Tom Landwehr requested a summary of the types of projects. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**BWSR Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines** – Dan Shaw reported that ongoing collaboration with partners, new information and additional experience resulted in updating the BWSR Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines, which was completed in May 2012. Dan explained that BWSR staff worked closely with NRCS and DNR to maintain consistency in efforts.

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12-56 Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to approve the BWSR Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines, May 2012 as the replacement for all previous BWSR policy regarding invasive and non-native species, including previous versions of the BWSR Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines, and authorizes staff to periodically update these guidelines. Discussion followed. Tom Landwehr stated that this is an extraordinary document. Gerald VanAmburg stated that this is very important to guide and shape high quality conservation. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**FY2013 Farm Bill Assistance Grants** – Dave Weirens reported that the Farm Bill Assistance Program is a cooperative effort among BWSR, DNR, Pheasants Forever, and local SWCDs to accelerate staff capacity to deliver programs that increase grassland and wetland program enrollment for both wildlife habitat and water quality. The FY13 Farm Bill Assistance Program will be funded from several revenue sources, chief among them, the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources. Dave reported that the Grants Program and Policy Committee reviewed the allocations process in May and recommends approval to avoid delays in program activities by participating SWCDs, as well as potential staffing problems. Dave stated that this is a reimbursement grant program. Moved by Bob Burandt, seconded by Steve Sunderland,

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12-57 to authorize staff to allocate up to \$312,000 Environmental Natural Resources Trust Fund; \$150,000 DNR; up to \$100,000 of unused or returned FY2010 or FY2011 funding for which SWCDs are eligible, and any rollover or slippage from this program according to these policies. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RIM-WRP Partnership Program FY13 Outdoor Heritage Fund Allocation** – Kevin Lines reported the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee (RRMPC) met on May 22, 2012 and unanimously recommends the allocation of \$13.810 million OHF dollars to the RIM-WRP Partnership. Moved by Gene Tiedemann, seconded by Quentin

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12-58 Fairbanks, to authorize staff to: 1) allocate \$13.81M in Outdoor Heritage Funds to the RIM-WRP Partnership; and 2) target expiring CRP contracts with critical wetland

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restoration practices for enrollment into the RIM-WRP Partnership. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Christy Jo Fogarty left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

**RIM Reserve 2012 Bond Fund Allocation** – Kevin Lines reported that the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee recommends allocation of \$6 million in Capital Budget Bonds to the RIM Reserve Program; and authorize staff to target expiring Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Continuous CRP (CCRP) acres on the most vulnerable riparian buffers and wetlands as the priority for enrollment in the RIM Reserve Conservation Easement Program. Kevin stated that a new 11-core area of prairie strategic management plan is in this program. Moved by Rebecca Flood, seconded by Gene Tiedemann to authorize staff to: 1) Allocate up to \$6 million of RIM Reserve Bond funds for targeting the enrollment of the most critical expiring CRP acres using RIM Reserve easements in concert with re-enrollment in CRP; and 2) Target expiring CRP and CCRP acres on the most vulnerable riparian buffers and wetlands as the priority for enrollment in the RIM Reserve Program. The DNR's *Long Range Duck Plan*, *Long Range Pheasant Plan*, and the newly crafted *Prairie Strategic Management Plan*, as well as the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council's *Strategic Plan*, will be used to help identify targets. Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-59

**RIM Reserve Clean Water Fund Wellhead Protection Initiative Payment Rate Revision** – Kevin Lines reported that the RRMPC considered input from the Minnesota Rural Waters Association and the Red Rock Rural Water District requesting the necessary change to non-cropland payment rates in certain instances. The RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee recommends the Conservation Easement Section Manager, in consultation with the Executive Director or Assistant Director, to offer the cropland rates on non-cropland acres for critical lands to be enrolled in RIM Clean Water Fund Wellhead Protection Initiative. This authorization applies only when all factors related to the easement project purpose and function have been evaluated and an increased rate is determined to be necessary to ensure the public's benefit and safety in completing the project. John stated that the area of the current example is an active gravel mining area.

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12-60

Moved by Gene Tiedemann, seconded by Matt Wohlman, to authorize the Conservation Easement Section Manager, in consultation with the Executive Director or Assistant Director, to: 1) Evaluate and document relevant factors related to the RIM CWF WPI's function and purpose in protecting the public's benefit and safety of the area being enrolled in determining an increased rate is justified and necessary; and 2) Adjust the RIM CWF WPI payment rate up to the current cropland rate for non-cropland areas enrolled in the program. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**Clean Water Fund and Outdoor Heritage Funded Permanent RIM Reserve Riparian Buffer Conservation Easement Program: Revised Criteria, Enrollment Procedures and Policy** – Kevin Lines reported that the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee recommends implementation of the FY12-13 CWF and OHF RIM Reserve Riparian Buffer Easement Initiative. Moved by Keith Mykleseth, seconded by Paul Langseth, to approve the recommendations of the RRMPC to authorize staff to:

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12-61
- 1) Issue a new FY12-13 CWF/OHF RIM Reserve Riparian Buffer Easement Initiative Request for Proposal.
  - 2) Review and approve RFPs for SWCD participation.
  - 3) Develop a CWF buffer certification process to determine landowner eligibility.
  - 4) Develop a continuous riparian buffer enrollment process, but cap individual SWCD applications at \$1million. If necessary, a pending list will be maintained at the local SWCD for future funding.
  - 5) Allow haying of CWF buffers only.

Discussion followed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**RIM Reserve Easement Alteration Request** – Kevin Lines reported that the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee recommends authorization of the Conservation Easement Section Manager to develop and finalize the alteration request, achieving the required 2:1 acre newly acquired/released ratio and meeting existing Board policy requirements. Kevin explained that BWSR is working with a very cooperative landowner. Tom Landwehr stated the need to be conscience of setting a precedence -- criteria, process, and more value for the public. Kevin suggested that the RIM Committee will review this in the future. Moved by Gene Tiedemann, seconded by Bob Burandt, to authorize the Conservation Easement Section Manager to:

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12-62
- 1) Work with the WOT SWCD and Mr. and Mrs. Reutter to identify easement alterations that will achieve the 2:1 acre standard in current Board Policy; and
  - 2) Develop a Memorandum to File documenting the estimated ecological and economic value benefits to the State; and
  - 3) Complete the alteration request for RIM Easement #56-07-00-01-W as requested and modified to meet existing Board Policy.

Motion passed on a voice vote.

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12-63

Moved by Keith Mykleseth, seconded by Faye Sleeper, to table the Grants Monitoring Report until the August Board Meeting. Motion passed on a voice vote.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

**Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA)** – John Jaschke, reported on behalf of Matt Wohlman, that MDA announced members of the Agriculture Water Quality

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Certification advisory committee; the membership listing will be distributed to BWSR Board Members.

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** – Tom Landwehr reported that DNR, BWSR, The Nature Conservancy, Pheasants Forever, and others developed the Prairie Strategic Management Plan, a common vision for the State's grassland in the prairies, and a commitment to implement the program collaboratively. This document will be signed on July 31<sup>st</sup> and presented to the Outdoor Heritage Council on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Tom suggested that a summary of the document be presented at an upcoming Board meeting.

**Minnesota Extension Service (MES)** – Faye Sleeper reported that the Water Resources Council (WRC) is offering LIDAR courses, an LCCMR funded project targeted for LGUs and engineers. Faye encouraged attendance, details of the course are on the WRC website: <http://wrc.umn.edu>

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)** – Rebecca Flood reported that the Lake Pepin and Minnesota River sediment TMDL comment period for public input is nearing the end.

**ADVISORY COMMENTS**

**Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT)** – Sandy Hooker reported that the MAT Summer Short Courses are being held June 25-28; good attendance and training. The MAT Board of Directors are meeting with ND, SD, and WI on Thursday and Friday.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** – Tim Koehler distributed the membership list of the MDA Agriculture Water Quality Certification advisory committee. Tim also distributed copies of a letter to State Conservationist Don Baloun and Warren Formo, Subcommittee Co-Chair, MN Ag Water Resource Center, from MDA Commissioner Dave Frederickson, regarding the federal and state certification program efforts to build a program that enhances water quality and ensures farmer profitability. Tim stated that Don Baloun suggests this as an upcoming topic at a BWSR Board meeting.

Tim, on behalf of NRCS, expressed thanks to Polly Remick's unbelievable work on difficult easement closings; her persistence, mediation, and hard work is greatly appreciated. Tim also expressed thanks to Tom Wenzel for his assistance on training and engineering restoration.

Tim reported that NRCS received an additional \$400,000 of technical assistance for WRP; and \$50,000 for continued assistance with BWSR. Tim briefly commented on the Farm Bill work still underway in Congress.

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- BWSR Board Tour and Meeting – August 22-23, 2012, Ramada Inn in Marshall. Information will be provided as logistics are confirmed.

\*\* Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Sandy Hooker, to adjourn the meeting at  
12-64 12:50 p.m. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian Napstad".

Brian Napstad  
Chair