

**BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD N.
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Burandt, Joe Collins, Jack Ditmore, Chris Elvrum, MDH; Quentin Fairbanks, Rebecca Flood, PCA; Christy Jo Fogarty, Todd Foster, Paul Langseth, Tom Loveall, John Meyer, Keith Mykleseth, Brian Napstad, Tom Landwehr, DNR; Rob Sip, MDA; Steve Sunderland, Gene Tiedemann, Gerald Van Amburg

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sandy Hooker
Faye Sleeper, MES

STAFF PRESENT:

Mary Jo Anderson, Julie Blackburn, Don Buckhout, Travis Germundson, John Jaschke, Al Kean, Paul Senne, Aaron Spence

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tim Koehler, NRCS
Tim Loesch, DNR
Henry Van Offelen, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy

Chair Napstad called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

12-40 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Moved by Rebecca Flood, seconded by Paul Langseth, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed on a voice vote.

12-41 **MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2012 BOARD MEETING** – Moved by Paul Langseth, seconded by Quentin Fairbanks, to approve the minutes of April 25, 2012, as circulated. Motion passed on a voice vote.

REPORTS

Chair's Report – Brian Napstad reported that he's been attending a series of public meetings regarding establishing a Lake Improvement District. There is statutory language and a process in place for creation of a lake improvement district. Generally, the purpose to create a lake improvement district is to help the lake, in this case, it's to operate a weed harvesting machine. Chair Napstad stated that this has been very interesting.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BWSR STAFF

Julie Blackburn, Assistant Director, introduced:

- Angie Becker Kudelka, Organizational Effectiveness Director
- Jenny Gieseke, Training Coordinator

Administrative Advisory Committee – Brian Napstad reported that the Administrative Advisory Committee did not meet this morning. Chair Napstad and Vice-Chair Van Amburg met with John Jaschke this morning to conduct the executive director's annual performance review. Chair Napstad was happy to report that the executive director's review was between very good and excellent. Chair Napstad stated that we can all be very proud of BWSR's Executive Director.

Executive Director's Report – John Jaschke reviewed information in Board Members' packets. John stated that the 2012 legislative session ended, and it's time to start planning again for the next session; Julie Blackburn will provide a legislative update on the agenda today. John reported that the annual All Staff Meeting will be held June 5-6.

Dispute Resolution Committee – Travis Germundson reported that there are no new appeals; there are 13 pending appeals; he provided an update. Travis followed-up with the Attorney General's Office regarding training for the Dispute Resolution Committee members, it's likely that training will be held in August. Travis attended the Court of

BWSR Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012
Page Three

Appeals oral arguments last week for a case based on a BWSR WCA appeal decision; a decision from the Court will be received in 90 days.

Wetlands Committee – Gerald Van Amburg reported that the Wetlands Committee met on April 25, 2012; discussed agreement between BWSR and NRCS, regarding the new ag wetland banking initiative. A new wetland banking coordinator will be hired. An Executive Order on WCA will have an impact in the future months.

Grants Program & Policy Committee – Paul Langseth reported that the Grants Program & Policy Committee will meet immediately following adjournment of the Board meeting today.

Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee – Keith Mykleseth reported that the Public Relations, Outreach & Strategic Planning Committee has not met.

RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee – Gene Tiedemann reported that the RIM Reserve Management Planning Committee met last night; agenda items will be brought before the Board in June.

Drainage Work Group – Tom Loveall reported that the Drainage Work Group is scheduled to meet on June 28.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Northern Water Planning Committee

Polk County Local Water Management Plan Update – Quentin Fairbanks reported that the Northern Water Planning Committee met on April 11, 2012, to review the Polk County Plan Update and recommends approval. The Polk County Local Water Management Plan is identified as a 10-year plan with a review of the Plan in five years.

** Moved by Quentin Fairbanks, seconded by Gene Tiedemann, to approve the Polk County Local Water Management Plan Update. Keith Mykleseth stated that the County commended BWSR staff assistance with the process and appreciates it. Motion passed on a voice vote.

12-42

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Update – Julie Blackburn reported that she is BWSR's legislative liaison and provided a 2012 Legislative Review. The Legislature adjourned on May 8th. Bills that were passed and signed by the Governor included: the Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Policy Bill, a Bonding Bill and the Legacy Bill. Julie provided an overview of the key provisions of each bill, funding, policy, and Executive Order 12-04, a daunting task with an accelerated schedule. The budget development is in progress for

BWSR Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012
Page Four

2014. Julie suggested a possible BWSR summit to work through the Executive Order and accomplish the expectations set forth by the December deadline.

Minnesota Elevation Mapping Project Update (aka LiDAR) – Al Kean introduced Tim Loesch, DNR, GIS Project Operations Supervisor; and Henry Van Offelen, Natural Resource Scientist, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy. Tim provided an overview of the digital elevation data acquisition and described how it is used for many natural resource management functions and projects, including terrain analysis, other GIS applications, conservation practice planning and design (including wetland restorations), as well as for hydrologic modeling and other natural resource studies.

Henry provided an overview of a practical applied LiDAR-based information on water quality improvement and flood damage in the Red River Basin. Targeting BMPs, mapping depression and water retention areas, and flood damage reduction prioritization. Al Kean explained that BWSR is using this LiDAR for concept planning without survey work. Chair Napstad thanked Al, Tim and Henry for their informative presentations.

AGENCY REPORTS

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) – Rob Sip distributed registration information on three Agricultural Drainage Seminars to be held this summer, sponsored by MDA and other partners.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) – Chris Elvrum reported that MDH is providing public information on the new recent evidence of manganese exposure risk for infants drinking tap water.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Tom Landwehr provided a brief legislative update for DNR: funding for the Walk-in Access Program to carry-out the program for a third year; the hunting and fishing fee increase passed; approval to create the wolf season hunting and trapping; the School Trust Fund land management which takes effect in 2013; an Institute created at the University of Minnesota for Aquatic Invasive Species research and Wildlife Management Area allowances for grazing was authorized. Commissioner Landwehr acknowledged that Julie Blackburn does an outstanding job for BWSR during the legislative session.

ADVISORY COMMENTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Tim Koehler reported that the Grassland Reserves Program had a disappointing sign-up. The Water Bank Program resurfaced this year, primarily for North Dakota and South Dakota, four applications received in MN. Tim reported that the National Smithsonian Exhibit will highlight Minnesota soils.

BWSR Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012
Page Five

Tim stated that NRCS and BWSR are using the LiDAR system; it's a great tool. NRCS challenge is flood mitigation concerns, working with DNR, F&WS. Tim stated that the future Farm Bill provisions remain uncertain at this time.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next Board Meeting – June 27, 2012
- BWSR Board Tour and Meeting – August 22-23, 2012
- Grant Committee meets immediately following adjournment of the Board meeting.
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** Moved by Todd Foster, seconded by Tom Loveall, to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m.
12-43 Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Derald Van Amburg

for

Brian Napstad
Chair