



Minutes of the **Board of Supervisors Regular Board Meeting** held July 13, 2015.

1. Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Behrens at 4:00 p.m.

Roll of Attendance

Supervisors present:

Others present:

Margaret Behrens	Joe Lochner, RCD Staff
Paul Gardner	Michael Schumann, RCD Staff
Mara Humphrey, arrived at 4:04pm	Laura Triplett, RCD Staff
Carrie Wasley	Andrea Prichard, RCD Staff
Gwen Willems	Ann WhiteEagle, RCD Staff
	Seth Ristow, RCD Staff
	Ashley Bennett, Conservation Corp Staff
	Michelle Wohlers, NRCS Staff
	Sheila Vanney, MASWCD Assistant Director

A. Approval of Agenda: **Motion by Supervisor Willems and Supervisor Wasley seconded** to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Announcements: The Board was sent a list of upcoming meetings in the board packets. **Motion by Supervisor Wasley and Supervisor Willems seconded** to approve the Ramsey County Budget Hearing on August, 11, 2015 at 8:30am as a Special Meeting Motion carried unanimously.

2. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Local Work Group Meeting: Michelle Wohlers distributed a handout with NRCS programs and requested input and recommendations from the Board for prioritizing conservation in Ramsey County. A NRCS local work group is held annually in every county to prioritize programs and activities. Supervisor Behrens voiced her support of community gardens. Ms. Wohlers mentioned that that the NRCS hopes to hire an urban conservationist in the near future. Other project and activity suggestions were for soil health, pollinator and butterfly habitat.

3. Legislative Update with Sheila Vanney, Minnesota Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD): Ms. Vanney gave an overview of the recent legislative session and on the results of the special legislative session, specifically relating to SWCDs. Increasing funding for SWCDs was the highest priority for the MASWCD and \$11 million per year for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 was provided in the Legacy Bill, with each SWCD receiving \$100,000 each year. There is an additional \$2.1 million that will be available as a match to county contributions and the formula should be coming by October. Because this funding is Clean Water funds, it is not to supplant current funding. If a county tries to reduce SWCD funding, then the SWCD is to contact the MASWCD and BWSR. Ms. Vanney also discussed the new State policy relating to buffers and

recognized that it was this policy (included in the agriculture and environment budget bill) that gave momentum to increase funding for SWCDs, because it will rely on the technical expertise of SWCD staff for assistance. The Wetland Conservation Act was briefly discussed, as well as the Supplemental Bonding Bill, which gave disaster relief to 37 counties, including Ramsey County.

4. Approval of Standing Reports: Secretary’s Report – Minutes of June 8, 2015

Motion by Supervisor Behrens and Supervisor Wasley seconded to approve the minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Action Items

A. Approval of June 2015 Supervisor Expense Claims: **Resolution 15-07-01.** Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Willems seconded. Resolved the Board approved the expense reports as submitted by Supervisors Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley, and Willems.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

B. Approval of the CWF Well Sealing Reimbursement: **Resolution 15-07-02.** Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Willems seconded.

Whereas, The MN BWSR has provided \$105,500 in FY2014 Clean Water Funds through the Sealing of Wells to Protect Ramsey County’s Drinking Water Grant to the RCD to provide cost share for landowners to seal unused wells;

Whereas, the BWSR cost-share shall not exceed 50% of the cost to seal a well, up to \$750 per well, whichever is less; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the RCD Board agrees to approve reimbursement payment in the following amounts:

Owner	Address	Receipt Rec'd	Reimburse
David Allar	3244 Bellaire Ave, White Bear Lake, MN 55110	1800.00	750.00
Helen Cook	1133 Karyl Place, Roseville, MN 55113	1880.00	750.00
Joseph Domeier	3532 Edgerton St, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127	1296.00	648.00
Jerome Lynch	1397 County Rd B2 W, Roseville, MN 55113	1200.00	600.00
John McDonald	649 Emil Ave, Shoreview, MN 55126	841.50	420.75
Elizabeth McNulty	1186 W. Burke Ave, Roseville, MN 55113	1385.00	692.50
Caroline Nielsen	1699 Laurie Rd E, Maplewood, MN 55109	1100.00	550.00
James Rothmund	1020 Cobb Rd, Shoreview, MN 55126	710.00	355.00
James Schneider	3266 Churchill St, Shoreview, MN 55126	1164.00	582.00
Georgiana Sobola	1961 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN 55113	2543.00	750.00
Wayne Thompson	1677 Millwood Ave, Roseville, MN 55113	1394.00	697.00

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

C. Approval of Aquatic Invasive Species MOA: Ramsey County Parks has approved the RCD proposal for inspection and enforcement funding for the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan for Ramsey County. The proposal identified six lakes for RCD staff to monitor access points and three workshops. The DNR will train RCD staff within the next month. The total budget approved is \$7,330 from the AIS funding and the RCD proposed a \$1,310 in-kind match, subject to RCD board approval. **Resolution 15-07-03. Supervisor Willems moved and Supervisor Gardner seconded.** Resolved, the Board authorized the RCD Chair to sign the Aquatic Invasive Species MOA with Ramsey County Parks and Recreation.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

- D. 2016-17 Ramsey County Budget Update: The formal budget presentation for the Ramsey County Board will be on August 11, 2015 at 8:30 am at the Ramsey County Court House. Ann stated that all budget materials have been submitted to the County and she would begin working on talking points for the budget hearing.
- E. MASWCD Awards: **Resolution 15-07-04. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Willems seconded.** Resolved, the Board approved the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District and Ramsey County for the MASWCD Conservationist of the Year for the Ramsey County Keller Golf Course Restoration Project. Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none
- F. FY13 Community Partners Project Amendment: The Twin Cities German Immersion project contract expires on July 30, 2015 and due to project delays including unforeseen soil contamination, the contractor is requesting an extension to complete the project. **Resolution 15-07-05. Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Behrens seconded.** Resolved the Board approved amending contract #CP FY13-01, amendment #01, to extend the contract end date to October 30, 2015, unless the contract is further amended by mutual consent to reschedule the work and funding. Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none
- G. FY14 BWSR MN Flood Relief Grant Agreement and Policy: Ann explained that the RCD was awarded \$95,591 in funding for projects identified as being impacted by the floods of June, 2014. The Board reviewed a draft policy concerning the allocation of the funding. **Resolution 15-07-06. Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Behrens seconded.** Resolved the Board authorized the Chair to sign the 2014 DR-4182 Flood Relief grant and approved the 2014 Flood Disaster Recovery Assistance Policy. Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none
- H. Flood Relief Projects: The Board reviewed the requests for flood relief funding. The RCD is waiting for the signed contracts to arrive.
- I. FY14 Community Partners Encumbrance: This item was moved to the August board meeting.
- J. FY14 Wakefield Grant Project Reimbursement: **Resolution 15-07-07. Supervisor Willems moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded.**
Whereas, The MN BWSR has provided \$56,000 in FY14 Clean Water Funds to the RCD for water quality projects installed in the Wakefield Sub-watershed designated area;
Whereas, the BWSR cost-share shall not exceed 75% of the total construction cost.
Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the RCD Board agrees to approve reimbursement payment in the following amounts:

Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 1725 Kennard St, Maplewood, MN 55109 for bio-retention basins. Contract #W14-1, Conservation Practice 570; Total Project Cost: \$99,492.00; BWSR Cost Share for eligible components: 20%/\$20,000. Local Watershed (Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District) Cost Share for eligible components: 80%/\$79,492.00. Landowner Contribution: 0%/\$0.00. Technical and Administrative reimbursement to the RCD shall be consistent with amounts outlined in the work plan.
Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none
- K. Tour/Outreach Opportunities: Staff presented the Board with two options for a tour of conservation projects, which were funded with Clean Water Legacy funding. **Resolution 15-07-08. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded.** Resolved the Board approved the Special Meeting tour for Wednesday, August 5, 2015 from 10am-1pm and authorized the staff to spend up to \$1,000 on expenses for the tour.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

L. Approval of DNR Ob Well 2015/16 Contract: **Resolution 15-07-09. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Willems seconded.** Resolved, the Board authorized the Chair to sign the DNR contract (SWIFT Contract no. 94729) for the RCD to complete groundwater level monitoring of nineteen wells located within Ramsey County. The 2015/16 contract expires June 30, 2016 and is not to exceed \$3,360.00.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

Ms. Wohlers and WhiteEagle left the meeting.

M. Personnel Committee: A revised Employee Handbook was completed and distributed by Supervisor Humphrey. The major change was to eliminate the reference to the Office Manager and replace it with District Manager. **Resolution 15-07-10. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded.** Resolved the Board approved the Employee Handbook revision.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

Staff requested offering a six-month temporary position to Ashley Bennett, once her Conservation Corp appointment ends in August. **Resolution 15-07-11. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded.** Resolved the Board approved offering a six-month temporary position to Ashley Bennett, as presented by the Personnel Committee, effective August 19, 2015.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

Resolution 15-07-12. Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded. Resolved the Board changed Ms. WhiteEagle's title to District Manager, effective immediately and approved the Personnel Committee's recommended salary increase, effective July 1, 2015.

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Gardner, Humphrey, Wasley and Willems – Voting against: none – Abstaining: none

Ms. Wohlers and WhiteEagle returned to the meeting.

6. Standing Committee Reports – The Board reported on the committee meetings they attended.

- A. Metro Conservation Districts – Supervisor Willems
- B. Rice Creek Advisory Committee – Supervisor Gardner
- C. Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee – Supervisor Gardner
- D. Capitol Region Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee – Supervisor Willems, Supervisor Wasley
- E. Ramsey County League of Local Governments – Supervisor Behrens
- F. VLAWMO Advisory Committee – Supervisor Behrens
- G. White Bear Lake CD Lake Level Committee – Supervisor Behrens
- H. Metro MAWD – Supervisor Willems

7. Next Regular Meeting Date –Monday, August 10, 2015.

8. Adjournment: **Motion by Supervisor Behrens, Supervisor Wasley seconded** to adjourn at 6:40 pm.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Ann WhiteEagle.