**MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 8, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Supervisors**

Chair

District 1

Mark Koenig

Vice Chair

District 2

Kevin Kokesch

Treasurer

District 3

Terrylea Ness

District 4

Kathryn Kelly

District 5

Jim Hebrink

**Staff**

Holly Hatlewick

District Administrator

Karen Wermers

Farm Bill Technician

Cody Dale

Technician

Michael Sandager

Technician

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Renville Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 7:30 A.M. by chair, Mark Koenig, and opened with the pledge of allegiance.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch, Kathryn Kelly, Terrylea Ness, Jim Hebrink

**STAFF PRESENT:** Holly Hatlewick, Mike Sandager

**Citizens Comment Period:** Dispensed, no citizens present

**Consent Agenda**: approved the minutes from Nov. 2017 regular meeting and bills to pay (**Kokesch, Kelly)** **MSC**

**Treasurers Report**: approved Nov. treasury report **(Kokesch, Hebrink)** **MSC**

**CREP Outreach Agreement:** Holly presented and provided a copy of the executed BWSR agreement.

**2018 Feedlot Agreement**: Support and approve 2018 Renville County Feedlot Agreement. **(Kokesch, Kelly) MSC**

**Hometown Checking Account:**  supervisors completed checking account paperwork. Account signature card should be ready for signing at the January Board meeting.

**IDC Project:**  Support IDC, project with local partners including Renville County Soybean growers, Local Producers and Minnesota Ag Solutions. **(Kelly, Ness) MSC**

**GBERBA-MAWQCP Certified:** Approved Dean Dambroten Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Agreement. **(Ness, Kelly) MSC**

**Alternative Rock Intakes:** Cost share alternative rock intakes with TSA project oversight and approval, while SWCD staff works toward local job approval authority. **(Hebrink, Kokesch) MSC**

**January Board Work Session:** Decided to hold a supervisor work session January 9, 2018 at 5:00pm at the USDA Service Center in Olivia to discuss SWCD operations.

**Flex Work Schedule:** will be reviewed with legal counsel and MCIT.

**One Watershed One Plan:** Discussed recent One Watershed One Plan meeting that was held on Nov. 27th. Local partners are planning to apply for the Hawk Creek One Watershed One Plan planning grant in 2018. Board passed a resolution supporting the application in Oct. 2017.

**Cover Crop Cost Share:**  Grant Administrator Hatlewick full signatory authority for any and all actions related to the Renville SWCD/Hawk Creek Cover Crop Cost-Share program and finical obligations. **(Kelly, Hebrink) MSC**

**Staff report:**

Sandager provided the board an update on the counties buffer compliance to date. Working with landowners developing alternative practices and producing buffer validations. Conducting site visits to determine compliance. Administering Buffer State-Cost Share policy. Working with customers on conservation program options.

Hatlewick is working with customers on cover crop cost-share program. Working with staff and county on Buffer Law policy and procedures, and ordinance. Preparing for Dec. 12th, 2016 Local Capacity BWSR verification. Drafting 2018 Conservation Corps Apprentice application. Met with CROW and Renville County water planner Diane Mitchell to discuss potential projects in the CROW and funding for projects. Attended Area VI meeting on Nov. 29th and the MASWCD Convention on Dec. 3-5th.

Wermers continues to do CREP outreach efforts along with assisting landowners with the sign-up process. Working with BWSR on application/Agreement documents and making any required changes as necessary. Attended the County Staff Development on Dec. 7. Will be attending 2 buffer meetings that are put on by the SWCD on Dec. 8 and 14 along with the MASWCD Staff Development on Dec. 19.

Dale is working with landowners on their projects; most have been staked and are ready to be built. Working with Renville County and SWCD to complete streambank restoration project. Dale is working with 4 landowners to reestablish native vegetation. Preparing haying/grazing plans for landowners interested in using alternative means to manage easements. Preparing conservation plans.

**NRCS Report:** Kjorness is working on payment for EQIP cover crops and planning new EQIP applications. Started CSP payments for 2017. Emily stared administrated position with Ultima on Nov. 6th.

**Board Report:**

Supervisor Kokesch: Attended the Nov. 9th Soil Health meeting in Redwood Falls, also attended Geological Atlas meeting in Olivia.

Supervisor Hebrink: No activities to report.

Supervisor Kelly: Attended the Nov. 9th Soil Health meeting in Redwood Falls, also attended Geological Atlas meeting in Olivia. Attended AMC conference in St. Cloud, lots of good material covered.

Supervisor Ness: Participated in MASWCD outstanding conservationist award meeting.

Supervisor Koenig: Attended the monthly Crow River Watershed meeting.

**Other:**

**2013 Ag Waste Grant:**  Administrator Hatlewick updated the Board on the projects construction progress. Project is yet to be completed and based on discussion with BWSR-BC grant funds will be returned to BWSR.

**DRAP II Date Amendments-** Approve extending project completion date for the following DRAP II contracts. **(Kokesch, Kelly) MSC**

* Don Wertish 65-06-14, contract completion date 12/31/19
* Brian Greenslit 65-10-14, contract completion date 12/31/19
* Jacqueline Simmons 65-08-14, contract completion date 12/31/19
* John Kane 65-09-14, contract completion date 12/31/19
* Shelly Goblirsch 65-07-14, contract completion date 12/31/19

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular meeting will be January 11, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Olivia, MN.

**ADJOURNMENT:** To adjourn the Renville SWCD Meeting 9:12 a.m. (**Ness, Hebrink) MSC**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**SUPERVISOR**