

## BOARD MEETING

May 27, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held May 27, 2010, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Rick Nelsen. Present were: Rick Nelsen, Lynn Darling, Ken Wolf, Jim Knips and Paul Langseth. Also present were: Ed Lenz, District Manager.; Jane Steffl, Financial/Contracting Officer; Stephanie McLain, D.C. and Gene Foth, Nobles Co. Comm.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the April 21, 2010, regular meeting were reviewed. Knips moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable were presented and reviewed. Langseth moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$13,921.73. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips, and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**STATE COST-SHARE:** Wolf moved to approve the following FY2009 State Cost-Share contract:

<b>2009-18</b>	<b>Matt Loosbrock</b>	<b>Farmstead Windbreak</b>	<b>\$ 236.25</b>
----------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	------------------

Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Langseth moved to approve the following FY2010 State Cost-Share contract:

<b>2010-5</b>	<b>Matt Loosbrock</b>	<b>Farmstead Windbreak</b>	<b>\$ 641.25</b>
---------------	-----------------------	----------------------------	------------------

Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter from State Conservationist, Don Baloun was sent to the District and Chairman thanking for the local staff's efforts and contribution to the SWCD/NRCS partnership.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Staff Insurance was reviewed by the personnel committee, but it was decided to move that agenda item to later in the meeting today and discuss as a full board.

The 2009 District Audit was discussed. Langseth moved to sign the 2009 District Audit engagement letter with Richard W. Holmberg, LTD and accept their bid of \$1,275.00. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips, and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The 2010 District Fund Balance was discussed. Steffl was in contact with Dick Holmberg with questions the board had after discussing what funds would be set aside as designated funds. Mr. Holmberg felt the District should not designate funds for a shortfall. After some discussion, Wolf moved to designate \$100,000 of the \$201,143.00 fund balance into: Land or building purchase, vehicle purchase, computer/office equipment purchase, SWCD Local cost-share program, compensated absences and staff. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips, and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

**DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ed reported he has been working on tile permits and drainage requests. A large number of drainage projects are going in this spring. Ed is attending a meeting on June 11th in New Ulm regarding a pilot program involving drainage permits. Aaron has been working on tree planting,

Ross Behrends and Pat Lais of the HLW assisted with a CP-22 planting and Ed has ordered an additional 13,000 feet of mat. Ed suggested the board meet to write up a proposal for contracting services for the KLR. Ken Wolf will work with staff to develop a proposal.

**D.C. REPORT:** Stephanie reported residue checks have been made for the contracts in the K-LR and EQIP programs. Staff has been working on surveying and design and several contracts where tile has been installed. She reviewed contracts under the WHIP and WRP programs.

The deadline for the latest CSP sign-up is June 11<sup>th</sup>. The average contract has been receiving \$20 to \$30 per acre based on what they are doing, with few enhancements. Stephanie has been receiving 1026 requests of about 30-40 per week.

A new WAE employee, Barb Daly, will begin work for the NRCS within the next couple of weeks. The RC&D program has \$8,000 they will request applications for as their Mini Grant program. The mini-grants will not exceed \$1,000 each.

**WATERSHED DISTRICTS AND OTHER REPORTS:** The Okabena-Ocheda Watershed Board held their meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> to adopt new watershed rules. They met with DNR to discuss a draw down on Lake Ocheda. BWSR's final legislative reductions will amount to a 7% cut in general funds and 8% in grants and did not get bonding for RIM. SWCD's should know by the June meeting what their reductions will be.

The K-LR meeting was short and the board had questions on tiling permits. They discussed the reports and other information needed by BWSR.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Clean Water Fund Grant Agreement should be available by the June meeting, with contracts ready for the July meeting.

The Farmbill Assistance Contract is due on the June 1<sup>st</sup>. Last year's grant covered a 25% FTE and staff will request an increase to 50% FTE for FY2011. This position is utilized for marketing and promotion of habitat producing programs.

The HLWD Grant is requesting in-kind for a grant application to extend the newly hired watershed coordinator. The in-kind request involves conducting level III feedlot inventories. 146 feedlots in the watershed district will need to be completed within the 4 year grant period.

Ed reported that Clean Water Legacy Grant funding project ideas are needed. He and Wayne Smith have discussed producing a newsletter involving the County ENVIS, as well as the watershed districts. Ed will have prices by next month's meeting.

Paul Langseth has filed as District Supervisor with the Nobles County Auditor and Rick will be filing later today.

The Staff Insurance was reviewed. Knips moved to increase the Insurance Reimbursement amount for Ed Lenz \$100.00 per month beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, which increases the total from \$3,550.00 to \$4,150.00. Wolf seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips, and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried

The next regular board meeting will be held June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m.

Langseth moved to adjourn the meeting. Wolf seconded the motion. Affirmative: Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, Knips and Langseth. Opposed: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.