

Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees

**State Directors Meeting
Radisson City Center St. Paul, Minnesota**

February 22, 2005

Attendance

Bryan Malone, Pennington District (Area 1)
Karen Carlsrud, Clay District (Area 2)
Art Norton, Itasca District (Area 3)
Brian Watson, Dakota District (Area 4)
Steve Pahs, Rice District (Area 7)
Anne Spanbauer, Fillmore District (Area 7)

President Malone called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Motion by Art Norton second by Steve Pahs to approve agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Secretaries Report

Bryan Malone read the December 6, 2004 meeting minutes.

Motion by Karen Carlsrud second by Steve Pahs to approve the December 6, 2004 meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Karen Carlsrud provided the Treasurer's Report and indicated a December 31, 2004 balance of \$6,160.01.

Motion by Steve Pahs second by Brian Watson to approve the December 31, 2004 Treasures Report. All in favor, motion carried.

Election of Officers

Motion by Karen Carlsrud second by Art Norton to elect Brian Watson as President. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Bryan Malone second by Steve Pahs to elect Rick Reimer as Vice-President. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Bryan Malone second by Karen Carlsrud to elect Art Norton as Secretary. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Steve Pahs second by Bryan Malone to elect Karen Carlsrud as Treasurer. All in favor, motion carried.

2005 Budget

The board reviewed the proposed annual budget and made several changes to reflect a balanced budget. Discussion occurred regarding the annual summer training session, as it is the largest single expense each year. Existing bylaws require an annual meeting of the MACDE membership each year and most felt the summer training event is the best mechanism to conduct this meeting. It was stated that the primary purpose of the organization is to provide education and training opportunity and the employee survey that was completed in 2003 indicated the majority would like to continue with annual summer training event.

The Board discussed increasing the summer training registration fee to help cover costs. Over the last two years reserves have been used to keep the cost of the session low. Existing fund balance is now relatively low compared to previous years.

Motion by Bryan Malone second by Steve Pahs to increase registration for the 2005 summer session to \$50 for members and \$75 for nonmembers. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Steve Pahs second by Art Norton to accept a 2005 budget proposal with anticipated revenues of \$11,000 and anticipated expense of \$11,000. All in favor, motion carried.

Representation From New MASWCD Area

Discussion occurred on need to change bylaws and obtaining representation from the newly established MASWCD Area 8. Art Norton will keep the Directors informed as more details for the new MASWCD Area develop.

State Envirothon Donation Request

A letter from BWSR was presented to the Board requesting a donation to the State Envirothon. Motion by Bryan Malone second by Art Norton to donate \$500 to the state Envirothon event. All in favor, motion carried.

Website Update

Discussion about the MACDE website took place. The Board felt we need a functioning website that is more user friendly. It was decided to revisit this issue at our next meeting.

Annual Meeting

The Annual MACDE meeting is scheduled to take place June 28 – June 30 at Ruttgers in Bemidji.

Motion by Art Norton second by Karen Carlsrud to authorize Bryan Malone to coordinate the contract with Ruttgers in Bemidji for holding summer training session. All in favor, motion carried.

Slogan

Brian Watson expressed interest in changing the MACDE slogan to something more professional. He suggested that the current slogan "Blue Collar Conservationists" sounded self-serving and suggested something more consistent with our organizational goals of working with others to put conservation on the ground. The board was instructed to bring ideas to the next meeting.

Other

Committee assignments for 2005 are as follows:

MASWCD - Brian Watson, Karen Carlsrud alternate

BWSR - Rick Reimer, Bryan Malone alternate

NRCS State Tech. Committee - Area 7 Director, Bryan Malone alternate

Summer Training Session Planning Committee - Bryan Malone, Karen Carlsrud alternate

President Watson suggested that email updates be sent to Area Directors and that each Director then send information to individual member Districts and employees.

Meetings for 2005 were scheduled for April 20th at 10 a.m. in Waite Park, June 28th in Bemidji, September 28th at 10 a.m. in Waite Park, and Dec. 5th at 4 p.m. at the MASWCD convention.

Motion by Karen Carlsrud second by Art Norton to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.