



Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees

www.macde.us

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MACDE Regular Board Meeting Stearns County SWCD Office Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2016

Meeting was called to order 1:02pm – Tiffany D. called to order the annual meeting of the MACDE @ 1:02 pm on July 12, 2016 at the Stearns SWCD office. Members present include: Beau Kennedy, Tiffany Determan, Blake Honetschlager, Peter Nelson, Lynn Gallice, Chessa Frahm and Stephanie LaBrune. Also present were Sheila Vanney, MASWCD and Jason Weinerman, BWSR.

Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Beau K. and seconded by Stephanie L. to approve agenda. **Motion Passed**

Approval of minutes from February 16th 2016 MACDE Directors meeting. A correction was made to the officers' appoint table from. The corrected terms of service is listed below. Motion made by Blake H. and seconded by Peter N. **Motion Passed.**

Annual Election of Officers and Board Member Terms of Service

Area 1	Tiffany Determan	Elected July 2014
Area 2	Peter Nelson	Elected Feb 2015
Area 3	Chessa Frahm	Elected July 2015
Area 4	Lynn Gallice	Elected July 2015
Area 5	Stephanie LaBrune	Elected July 2015
Area 6	Blake Honetschlager	Elected Feb 2013
Area 7	Beau Kennedy	Elected Feb. 2013
Area 8	Julie Kingsley	Elected March 2014

2017 Elections
2019 Elections

Treasurers Report

Blake H. reported the current checking balance of \$3,056.03 with a savings balance of \$9,056.65. A Motion was made by Beau K. and seconded by Chessa F. to approve the Treasurers report. **Motion passed.**

Annual National Envirothon Scholarship Request

The Board decided to put this item in the annual budget for \$200.00/year and have the full membership vote on it.

Social Media Training Discussion

The Board reviewed 2 training quotes from consultants. Thelen will offer a 1 day training for \$250/attendee and Allee will offer a 2 day training for \$7,000 or 1 day for \$4,000. Both seemed to offer what our group was looking for but lacked a few minor details that Peter and Chessa will gather before the Annual meeting (preferred a 1 day training, focus on how to target our audience, encouraging people to look our info, tracking views, and identifying goals of district's social media efforts). At the annual meeting we will gauge interest from members and estimate the number of attendees that may participate. The Board thought that a stipend of \$50 per member (not to exceed \$2K) could be offered to supplement the training expense to the

districts. The target training period would be late winter 2017 or fall 2017. Sheila mentioned that our training should address the legal implications of social media info; maybe invite MCIT for a brief presentation.

Annual Meeting Agenda Items

The annual meeting will be head at BWSR Academy on October 25th @ 430pm at Craguns Resort. Tiffany will send out a draft agenda in early September with raffle item requests and a call for nominations for extraordinary contributor award. Nomination and raffle items must be noticed by Sept. 30th.

The annual meeting will be held in a room TBD. Agenda topics include:

- 1. Treasurers Report
- 2. Review and approve 2017 budget
- 3. Annual National Envirothon Scholarship
- 4. Social Media Training Discussion review bids and gauge interest.
- 5. Technical Training and Certification System Intro to Megan Lennon and system update
- 6. Raffle Handout
- 7. Extraordinary Contributor Award

Website update email

Tiffany discussed a request she received from a district about possible templates, banners or marketing pieces that MACDE could share. This reminded the group of the need for districts to send in their template/articles for sharing on the MACDE website. Chessa was going to send out an email or put a request in the newsletter requesting this info.

Committee Reports

<u>Mentoring program</u> – Peter mentioned that the mentoring program activity has dropped off lately. Peter and the board all agreed that the trial database that was created on the MACDE for sharing services is a great tool that is underutilized. The next step is to make the database live and try it out for an Area (Lynn?!)

<u>Technical Training and Certification</u> – Beau reported on the progress of the interim state technical training committee. Blake attended the first, June 8th meeting, and provided insight on the steps needed to be taken over the next year to get the certification program up and running. Beau mentioned that if any Board members have incite on quality core competency training (water, soils, cons. plan)they've experienced to forward that along to him for possible inclusion in the program. The Board hopes that this program will produce better quality and more training opportunities with the NRCS.

<u>Quarterly Newsletter</u> – Chessa is working in the next newsletter to go out in Aug. Area 7 will be the spotlight this edition. Articles will include calls for extraordinary contributors, funds available for training, leadership fund recipients to name a few.

Agency Reports

- BWSR Jason Weinerman was present to provide updates on recent policy changes to capacity funding, BWSR Academy platform and erosion control rule notification. The BWSR Academy focus this year will be tailored to beginner and intermediate level programs. A lot of new staff has been hired recently with those needs.
- NRCS none
- MASWCD –Sheila Vanney was present from MASWCD and gave updates on recent legislative session and the lack of bonding dollars associated with it. She also mentioned that the possibility of CREPIII is near; we just need some more state matching dollars and formal agreements with USDA. The target acres would be 100,000 and would be \$500 million package when it's all said and done. Sheila and Jason both wanted to emphasize the need for district to BE SURE TO SPEND YOUR CAPACITY FUNDS.
- 2) Adjournment -motion by Beau K. and seconded by Blake H. to adjourn the meeting.
 - Tiffany D. adjourned the meeting at 3:16 pm
 - Minutes submitted by: Beau Kennedy Goodhue SWCD
 - Minutes approved by: