

BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held January 20, 2010, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Paul Langseth.

Present were: Paul Langseth, Rick Nelsen, Lynn Darling, Jim Knips and Ken Wolf. Also present were: Ed Lenz, District Manager.; Jane Steffl, Financial/Contracting Officer; Aaron Crowley, Dist. Tech.; Stephanie McLain, D.C.; Dawn Madison, CST; Gary Watson, A.C.; and Norm Gallagher, Nobles Co. Comm.

AGENDA and MINUTES: Nelsen moved to add an item to the Agenda: District Lease Agreement. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried. The minutes of the December 15, 2009, regular meeting were reviewed. Darling moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable were presented and reviewed. Darling moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$41,102.85. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

STATE COST-SHARE: Darling moved to approve the following FY2009 new State Cost-Share contract:

2009-17	Doug Mathias	Farmstead Windbreak	\$ 618.75
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Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Notification of the Rock River TMDL meeting was sent to the board members. The Rock River TMDL Implementation Plan has been approved and we have received an EPA 319 grant for several projects including weigh scales for landowners to calibrate manure solid manure application rates and cost-share for purchasing flow meters for liquid manure tanks.

OLD BUSINESS: The EQIP Local Workgroup meeting will be held in the back meeting room today at 10:30 a.m., with the CRP Workgroup directly following that. The SWCD board is still planning to meet this afternoon for the Nobles SWCD Annual Plan development workshop, but because of the weather, that workshop may need to be shortened or postponed to a later date.

The SWAG Grant was discussed. Ed received notification that the 2010 grant was approved including testing Iowa Lake, Little Rock River and the Ochedian River.

The upcoming MASWCD Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol agenda was reviewed with the board. The meeting will be February 23rd & 24th, at the Kelly Inn, in St. Paul. Reservations will be made for three supervisors to attend the meetings. Individual meetings with legislators will also be scheduled.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: Ed reported that the annual reporting for WCA is due Feb. 15th. The Dew Drop Drill has been delivered and is currently being stored in the garage. He asked the board to set rental rates, but mentioned the manufacturer suggested getting a \$200.00 refundable deposit and a \$75 per acre rate. The trailer is in production and should be completed this week.

Ed recently attended the Heron Lake advisory meeting and was appointed President. He attended the Rock River Watershed Educational Meeting. It was a kickoff for the landowners and to inform of cost-share and

grant opportunities including funding flowmeters, incentives for manure management plans, and incentives for calibration of solid manure spreaders. He reviewed the Green Acres and Rural Preserves Programs and gave the Nobles SWCD District 2009 accomplishments and 2010 outlook at the Nobles County Commissioner's Meeting and attended the SW Prairie TSA Meeting. He also plans to attend the Nobles County Waters Meeting, the MPCA Feedlot Meeting, the Nutrient Management Conference and the Advanced WCA Administration meetings in the near future.

D.C. REPORT: Stephanie reported the CSP payment rates were generated and the contract obligation date is January 29th. The EQIP Local Work Group Meeting will be later today. The application deadline for the first round of funding is February 26th, with an obligation deadline of April 1st. The 2010 payment schedule will be out the end of January and training for the 2010 sign-up, will be on January 28th. The WHIP program application sign-up and obligation deadlines are the same as EQIP.

NRCS's 75th Anniversary planning is underway. Events will be planned during April 22-27th. Locally we could also set up a display and host events during the county fair in August. Dawn Madison is on the Area 5 planning committee. Stephanie suggested this would be a good way for the NRCS/SWCD to partner on projects/events highlighting what we do.

Stephanie then reviewed the NRCS/Nobles SWCD FOIA Agreement with the board members and staff. Knips moved to approve and sign the FOIA agreement. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

WATERSHED DISTRICTS AND OTHER REPORTS: The Okabena-Ocheda Watershed met January 5th and reviewed their budget. The K-LR JPB has received an additional \$100,000 Project Agreement of ARRA funding through the NRCS. They have approved applications obligating the entire amount of the agreement. The HLWD will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary, February 25th with an open house. The BWSR Grant Committee met recently and approved 3 CWL applications, Lenz is waiting for more information from BWSR staff.. Knips reported on the latest SWPTSA Annual Meeting. Officers remained the same and technical staff wages and benefits were renewed.

Gary Watson, Area Conservationist, presented a plaque from the NRCS to the Nobles SWCD congratulating them on 55 years of conserving natural resources in Nobles County.

NEW BUSINESS: The 2010 Nobles SWCD Election of Officers was held. Knips made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the following officers:

Chairman:	Rich Nelsen
Vice-Chairman:	Lynn Darling
Secretary:	Ken Wolf
Treasurer:	Jim Knips
PR&I:	Paul Langseth

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

The following committee assignments were made for 2010:

Personnel Committee:	Paul Langseth Rick Nelsen
Budget Committee:	Ken Wolf Jim Knips
RC&D:	Lynn Darling (Jim Knips, alternate)
SWPJPO:	Jim Knips (Paul Langseth, alternate)
KLR-JPO:	Lynn Darling

O-O WD: Paul Langseth
H-L WD: Rick Nelsen
K-LR WD: Ken Wolf

Each year the District is required to designate financial institutions where District funds will be deposited. Knips moved that the Nobles SWCD use the following banks during 2010: Wells Fargo, Bank of the West, and First State Bank Southwest, all of Worthington. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The Day at the Capitol was again discussed. Reservations will be made for Rick Nelsen, Paul Langseth and Ken Wolf to attend the meetings.

The District has received the Lease for Real Property between Shellie Eisma and the Nobles SWCD effective October 1, 2009. The lease is for monthly payments of \$980.33 or \$17.00/sq. foot, for 692 square feet of office and general purpose space. This lease shall be a month to month tenancy until an agreement to the contrary is entered into by the parties. Knips moved to approve and sign the lease agreement. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Langseth, Nelsen, Darling, Wolf, and Knips. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 a.m., for the board to attend the EQIP and CRP Local Work Group meetings.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

The Nobles SWCD Annual Plan draft copies were reviewed with the Board. The Annual Plan presented for review has changed format from last years to be more in line with PRAP requirements. The Annual Plan will need to be approved at the February meeting.

The next regular board meeting will be held February 17th at 7:30 a.m.

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

Lynn Darling, Secretary