



**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District  
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 – 12 P.M.**

Chair Gary Crowley called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Deutz, Crowley, Prairie, Lavoy, Ritter, L. Olson, T. Bruse, and J. Thomazin

Absent: Meulebroeck, J. Biren, A. Cauwels

Motion by Prairie, Seconded by Lavoy to approve the agenda with several additions under “New Business”:

D. Enviro Fair Donation

E. SWCD’s ATV

F. Cover crops and Soil Health Workshop Recap

Board Conflicts- None. All voted in favor, motion passed.

Motion by Prairie, seconded by Lavoy to approve the February 24, 2015 minutes as presented.

Board Conflicts – None. All voted in favor, Motion passed.

Motion by Prairie, seconded by Lavoy to approve the financial reports. All voted in favor, Motion passed.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- A. Tanner Bruse, PF Field Biologist, provided a fact sheet for MN Governor Mark Dayton’s Buffer Initiative. He highlighted the required 50’ buffer on DNR protected waters already in law, not enforced though. Bruse feels that a compromise will lie somewhere in a reduced buffer distance. A major issue among the general public is the total amount of tillable acreage to be converted to perennial vegetation. Another issue discussed was the cost of compensating landowners. DNR to mandate the law, SWCD to implement.
- B. Alvin Smith – 4 basin project. Luke Olson went over the project details, where 4 basins with tile are recommended to treat severe gully erosion on Alvin Smith’s property in the W1/2, NW1/4, Nordland 19. Curt Neyens operates on the land and will hold the contract. A critical area planting was recommended on the southern part of the farm that will not be eligible for cost-share. Motion by Prairie, Seconded by Lavoy to approve cost-share assistance of \$11,590.47, 75% of the total project costs of \$15,453.96.
- C. Carr Properties – 2 basin project. Luke Olson highlighted that the previous cost-share contract had expired 10/24/2014. No changes to the project were made. Motion by Prairie, Seconded by Lavoy to approve cost-share assistance of \$7,010.15, 75% of the total project costs of \$9,346.87.
- D. The EnviroFair has asked for a \$500 donation from all area SWCD’s to sponsor the operations of the fair, which brings 1,500 area 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to the fair. Motion by Prairie, Seconded by Lavoy to approve a \$500 donation to the EnviroFair from Lyon SWCD.
- E. Lyon SWCD’s ATV, a 1998 Polaris Sportsman, was not starting consistently so Olson brought it to Action Sports in Marshall for a tune-up. Action Sports found metal shavings in the flywheel, signifying the ATV needs a new stator. Action Sports quoted \$1500 for a Polaris

brand stator (parts/labor) and \$1300 for an aftermarket stator (parts/labor). With these costs, the SWCD questioned upgrading, either to an ATV or UTV. Olson indicated a UTV would be more effective for surveying and explaining projects to landowners, mainly for carrying equipment in the field. The board recommended getting some figures together on costs of new and used ATV's and UTV's. Tabled until next meeting

- F. Prairie and Deutz recapped points from the Soil Health Workshop in Marshall, hitting on cover crops. A panel discussion with 4 regional farmers covered their experiences in detail, but never really hit on costs. Benefits to cover cropping include yield increase over time, reduced weed issues, and increase soil tilth. Deutz pointed out that if the SWCD was to promote cover crops, a no-till drill would be our best mechanism. The board discussed potentially cost-sharing cover crops for a producer but could require that if assistance was provided, the producer would be obligated to host a field day.

District Technician - Luke Olson

None

NRCS - Jamie Thomazin

None

District Office - John Biren

None

RCRCA - Kerry Netzke, Area II/RCRCA Director for Mark Meulebroeck

- Alternative intake cost-share is their main workload currently. She discussed potentially sharing an employee with the SWCD under the WRAPS program for the Redwood and Cottonwood Rivers, to begin in 2016. The WRAPS program is an intensive watershed restoration study. There were two kickoff meetings in March for the Redwood and Cottonwood River "One Watershed, One Plan." There was good turnout for both with a very engaged audience. One more meeting in April to include landowners previously missed in the mailing.

SW TSA - Allen Deutz

None

Area V - Mark Meulebroeck

None

County - Steve Ritter

- The Township Association meeting will be held Thursday, March 26 at 7pm at the Lyon County Courthouse.
- On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the County Board will be hosting a Public Hearing to hear comments on the proposed \$28 million bonding expenditures, including highway/road improvements, Courthouse expansion, and other business. The hearing will be held at the Lyon County Courthouse at 9am.

Park - Steve Prairie

- A rep from GameTime discussed playground equipment for Twin Lakes Park. The Garvin Park frisbee golf course will have sponsored hole signage. The parks department talked of creating a "Friends of Lyon County Parks" organization for sponsorship. The goal for Twin Lakes Park is to be open June or July of 2015. Garvin park will have a new foot bridge installed by D&G.

**The April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will be moved to 8pm due to planting.**

Motion by Lavoy and seconded by Deutz to adjourn the Meeting at 2:00pm. All voted in favor.

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Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

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Attest by Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date