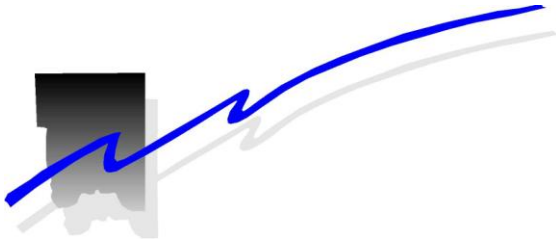


## Ramsey Conservation District



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Minutes of the Board of Supervisors Regular Board Meeting held April 13, 2009.

I. Meeting called to order by Chair Eckman at 10:00 a.m.

A. Roll of Attendance

Supervisors present:

Karen Eckman  
Margaret Behrens  
Mara Humphrey  
Nick Quade  
Carrie Wasley

Others present:

Tom Petersen, RCD Staff  
Ann Heyer, RCD Staff  
Geoff Nash, RCD Staff  
Mike Goodnature, RCD Staff  
Paul Erdmann, RCD Staff

Sheila Vanney, MASWCD  
Marylyn Deneen, CRWD Board

B. Review of Agenda: The agenda was approved by concensus, with the addition of the following two items: "Special Meetings for Cost-Share Approval" and "Special AMSWCD Update".

II. Approval of Standing Reports – Secretary's Report: **Resolution 09-04-03.** Supervisor Humphrey moved and Supervisor Quade seconded. **Resolved the Board approves the Minutes of the March 2, 2009 Special Board Meeting.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

**Resolution 09-04-04.** Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Humphrey seconded. **Resolved the Board approves the Minutes of the March 9, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

III. Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) Presentation: Sheila Vanney, Assistant Director for the MASWCD, introduced herself to the Board and gave an overview of some of the functions of the MASWCD. She also explained that they offer a New Supervisor Orientation workshop, which will be in June this year and that the Annual Convention will be December 6-8, 2009 in Duluth. Ms. Vanney then informed the Board of the legislative efforts taking place at the state level that will impact SWCDs and outlined current legislation. She encouraged the Board to contact members in the "House" regarding SWCD support for HF 2128. Action Step: **Manager Petersen will contact, MASWCD Legislative Affairs staff, Judy Erickson, for more information on newly introduced legislative bills and provide this information to the District Board.**

IV. Standing Committee Reports

- A. Association of Metro SWCDs – Eckman/Humphrey
- B. Rice Creek Advisory Committee – Quade
- C. Watershed Advisory Commission (RWMWD Advisory Committee) – Wasley/Behrens
- D. Capitol Region Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee – Humphrey/Quade
- E. Legislative Committee – Quade
- F. RCLLG – Behrens/Eckman
- G. WMO-WD Reports – Supervisors

A. Manager Petersen announced that AMSWCD Landscape Specialist Gregg Thompson gave notice and his last day would be May 5, 2009. The AMSWCD District Managers are currently in discussion about possible solutions. The Joint Powers Agreement was signed and is effective until September 30, 2009. Supervisor Eckman provided a written report of the March 25<sup>th</sup> AMSWCD Meeting (see attached).

D. Supervisor Humphrey reported that RCD Groundwater Specialist, Geoff Nash presented the Ramsey County Groundwater Plan update at the last CRWD-CAC meeting. Manager Petersen added that they received feedback that they will be responding to.

V. Natural Resource Conservation Service Report (NRCS): No report

VI. Staff Reports: The Board was mailed a report detailing the major activities of the staff, prior to the meeting. It was noted that RCD Board received a letter of appreciation from the City of Gem Lake and White Bear Township for the work done by RCD Staff, Ryan Johnson, in the design and installation of a rain garden.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. March 12<sup>th</sup> RCLLG Meeting: Manager Petersen reported that RC Groundwater Protection Plan update was presented by the RCD at a special March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were a lot of questions asked and the meeting was well attended.

B. Area IV Meeting (March 12<sup>th</sup>): Supervisor Eckman provided a written report summarizing the meeting (see attached). Manager Petersen reported that he was still waiting for the County Attorney to respond to his question regarding the Freedom of Information Act and State Data Practices Act. **Action Step: Manager Petersen will attempt to contact the County Attorney by then end of the week, if he doesn't receive a response beforehand.**

C. Review of Revised 2009 Annual Plan: All of the Board acknowledged that they had received the revised plan prepared by Manager Petersen. **Action Step: The Board will review and respond to the revised plan before the May 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.**

D. Discussion on Personnel Handbook Revision: Supervisor Eckman provided a hand-out revising a portion of the Staff Personnel Handbook prior to the meeting and she outlined the major changes that were made. **Action Step: Manager Petersen will send the revision to the attorney and give copies of the document to the staff and instruct them to reply that they received and read it. Resolution 09-04-05.** Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Quade seconded. **Resolved the Board approves the Personnel Handbook revision, subject to County Attorney review and approval.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley

Voting against: none

Abstaining: none

E. RCD Marketing Update: The Board was given a written summary of the marketing strategies discussed at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting and decided to further discuss the topic at the next Board Meeting.

VIII. New Business

A. MASWCD Area IV Dues: **Resolution 09-04-06.** Supervisor Humphrey moved and Supervisor Wasley seconded. **Resolved the Board approves payment of \$225 to the MASWCD Area IV for the 2009 annual dues.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

B. RCD 2010-2011 Budget: Manager Petersen informed the Board that he would complete the budget within the next 2-3 weeks and requested meeting with the RCD Budget Committee (Supervisors Eckman and Humphrey) to discuss it further.

C. Email Notice for Special Meetings: Manager Petersen explained to the Board that there would be a number of new cost-share projects soon, which will need Board approval, before the work can begin. He requested approval to call special meetings for project approval. Ms. Heyer requested being able to give the Board special meeting notice via email, rather than postal mail. They approved email notification for special meetings, by consensus. **Resolution 09-04-07.** Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Quade seconded. **Resolved the Board approves Manager Petersen calling Special Board Meetings for cost-share approvals.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

D. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009 Supervisor Expense Claims: Manager Petersen explained that under State Statute the Board is allowed a maximum of \$75/day for per diem. The Board discussed the need for the RCD to have greater public visibility, by attending meetings and balancing that with the \$7,000 budget for 2009 Supervisor per Diems. **Resolution 09-04-08.** Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Quade seconded. **Resolved the Board approves the first quarter 2009 expense claims submitted by Supervisors Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley, with the stipulation that the Supervisor expense claim policy would be clarified at the next regular Board Meeting.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

**Action Step: Manager Petersen was asked to present the Board with a list of what he estimates as priority meetings for the Board to attend, so as to clarify expense claim policy, which will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.**

E. Other: Supervisor Humphrey requested changing the date for the June Regular Board Meeting, due to a conflict on June 8<sup>th</sup>. **Resolution 09-04-09.** Supervisor Humphrey moved and Supervisor Carrie seconded. **Resolved the Board approves June 1, 2009 for the June regular Board Meeting.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

IX. Next Regular Meeting Date – Monday, May 11, 2009 for the Regular Board Meeting.

X. Adjournment: **Resolution 09-04-10.** Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Humphrey seconded. **Resolved the Board adjourns the meeting at 11:53 a.m.**

Voting in favor of the resolution: Behrens, Eckman, Humphrey, Quade, and Wasley  
Voting against: none  
Abstaining: none

These minutes are respectfully submitted by  
Ann Heyer  
Office Manager