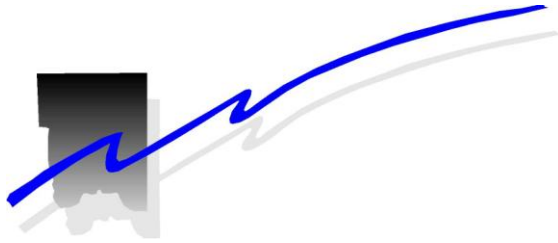


## Ramsey Conservation District



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### Minutes of the **Board of Supervisors Regular Board Meeting** held September 14, 2009.

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

A. Roll of Attendance

**Supervisors present:**

Karen Eckman  
Margaret Behrens  
Nick Quade  
Carrie Wasley  
Mara Humphrey

**Others present:**

Tom Petersen, RCD Staff  
Ann WhiteEagle, RCD Staff  
Loren Clarke, NRCS Staff  
Marylyn Deneen, CRWD Board  
Melissa Lewis, BWSR Staff

Mike Fix, US Army  
Geoff Nash, RCD Staff

B. Review of Agenda: Motion by Supervisor Wasley, Supervisor Behrens seconded to approve the agenda. Supervisor Eckman added Action Item D. Personnel Committee to the agenda.

**Motion by Supervisor Humphrey, Supervisor Behrens seconded to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried unanimously.**

II. Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP): Michael Fix, Commander's Representative in the US Army presented on the contamination at the TCAAP property located in Arden Hills. He gave a brief overview of the progression of the site from a manufacturing and munitions testing facility beginning in 1941 to the present decommissioning activities for a part of the property (585 acres). He provided a map of the TCAAP site and mapped the groundwater plume contamination on the site, explaining the remediation accomplished by the US Army to clean-up and stabilize contamination to surface water, groundwater, and the soil. It was further explained that the site is the number one "Superfund" site in Minnesota.

III. Supervisor Election Procedures: Manager Petersen began the discussion on the possibility of converting the RCD from an "election at large board" to an "elected by nomination district board" by summarizing portions of State Statute 103C.311 and 103C315 supporting that change. If adopted, this would change the RCD from a five member to a seven member board with election districts following county commissioner districts. Currently the Washington Conservation District (WCD) is the only SWCD to take advantage of this governance option. Melissa Lewis, from BWSR, had worked for the WCD during their transition from an elected at-large board to the current election by nomination district board, and offered several benefits the WCD received from the transition, including a stronger connection with both constituents and the county board. She informed the Board that they would all have to re-run for their office if this change was adopted. Supervisor Humphrey suggested that it might be appropriate to consider for 2012, when there would be a "redistricting" of Ramsey County. **Motion by Supervisor Wasley, Supervisor Behrens seconded to further explore the ramifications of converting to a seven member board with election districts consistent with county commissioner districts. Motion carried unanimously.** Supervisor Eckman suggested the Board take on assignments to pursue this possibility. **Action Steps:** Supervisor Humphrey will contact the Ramsey County Commissioners to gain their

feedback on the transition. Manager Petersen will research the “costs” in making the change. Supervisor Wasley will research the timing for the redistricting of the county. Supervisor Eckman will contact the Chair of the WCD, Louise Smallidge to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the change and possibly get Chair Smallidge to present at a future RCD Board Meeting. Ms. WhiteEagle will place further discussion on the RCD October agenda.

IV. Approval of Standing Reports – Secretary’s Report: **Motion by Supervisor Wasley, Supervisor Quade seconded to approve the August 10, 2009 Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**

V. Action Items

A. Approval of RC Groundwater Plan for Agency Submittal: Mr. Nash updated the Board on the process of updating the *Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan*, highlighting some of the comments he received from the “groundwater partners”. He explained that many of the comments revolved around the funding aspect of the plan. **Resolution 09-09-01.** Supervisor Behrens moved and Supervisor Humphrey seconded. **Resolved the RCD Board approved the September 4, 2009 draft Ramsey County Groundwater Protection Plan for submittal to State agencies, including the Board of Water and Soil Resources for approval, subject to minor staff revision reflecting pending final comments by “groundwater partners”.**

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

Voting against: none

Abstaining: none

B. Amendment to FY08/FY09 BWSR Native Buffer Work Plan: Manager Petersen explained that the original work plan for the FY08/FY09 Native Buffer Grant was for shoreline restoration on McCarrons and Long Lakes. There hasn’t been as much interest as projected, so the RCD would like to open the grant funding to other water bodies. Supervisor Eckman reported that there would be a meeting discussing a Lake Owasso study on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and it would be beneficial to offer the grant funding at that time. **Action Step:** Manager Petersen will create a handout for the Lake Owasso Meeting.

**Resolution 09-09-02.** Supervisor Humphrey moved and Supervisor Quade seconded. **Resolved the Board approved the following resolution to expand the scope of the qualifying water resources for the FY08 and FY09 BWSR Native Buffer Cost-Share Program Work-plan:** Whereas, the MN BWSR has provided \$55,000.00 in FY-08 and \$150,000.00 in FY-09 NVBP cost-share to the RCD; and Whereas, the district’s application for these funds identified that the funding would be primarily directed to shoreline restoration projects on McCarron’s Lake (FY-08) and Long Lake (FY-09); and Whereas, the district is receiving requests for water resource shoreline restoration cost-share funding on water resources other than Mc Carron’s Lake and Long Lake; and Whereas, the demand/interest by private property shoreline owners on both lakes, for shoreline protection cost-share funding has been slower than our initial expectations; and Whereas, the BWSR NVBP rules require that funds be encumbered by June 30, 2010 (FY-08) and December 31, 2010 (FY-09); and Whereas, the BWSR will allow the RCD to amend the work plans for FY-08 and FY-09 NVBP to allow an expansion of target water resources that will qualify for NVBP cost-share. Now therefore Be It Resolved, the RCD District Board shall allow for the expenditure of NVBP cost-share funds on all water resources subject to BWSR staff approval.

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

Voting against: none

Abstaining: none

C. Resolution to Encumber FY09 BWSR Native Buffer Funds: Ms. WhiteEagle gave a brief status report of the FY09 Native Buffer Grant, in which there remains approximately \$90,000 in cost-share funds available. **Resolution 09-09-03.** Supervisor Wasley moved and Supervisor Humphrey seconded. **Resolved the Board approved the following resolution:** The MN BWSR has provided \$150,000 in FY09 Native Buffer Cost-Share funding to the RCD for the restoration of eroded shorelines on lakes within Ramsey County; and

Whereas, the BWSR cost-share shall not exceed 50% of the total construction cost and the RCD shall utilize 20% of the BWSR cost-share grant for technical and administrative costs incurred by the RCD staff; and the Rice Creek Watershed District has a cost-share program and will supplement the BWSR cost-share at an amount not to exceed 25% of the total eligible construction costs; and  
Whereas, the RCD Board of Supervisors designates, Ryan Johnson, District Staff, as the technical representative for these projects.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the RCD Board agrees to enter into BWSR cost-share agreements with the following:

1. James and Carol Lampi of 1929 - 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, New Brighton, MN 55112 (Long Lake). Contract#: NBFY-09-04, Conservation Practice: 342 & 643 Total Project Cost: \$5,448.00 BWSR cost-share: 50%/\$2,724.00, T&A Amount: 20%/\$681.00. The project must be started by August 26, 2010 and completed by February 26, 2011.

2. Gary and Jeanne Erickson of 1911 - 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, New Brighton, MN 55112 (Long Lake). Contract#: NBFY-09-05, Conservation Practice: 342 & 643, Total Project Cost: \$4,324.00, BWSR cost-share: 50%/\$2,162.00, T&A Amount: 20%/\$540.50. The project must be started by August 26, 2010 and completed by February 26, 2011.

3. John Baker of 434 Woodhill Drive, Roseville, MN 55113 (Pond). Contract#: NBFY-09-03, Conservation Practice: 342 & 643, Total Project Cost: \$12,450.00, BWSR cost-share: 50%/\$6,225.00, T&A Amount: 20%/\$1,556.25. The project must be started by August 26, 2010 and completed by February 26, 2011.

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

Voting against: none

Abstaining: none

D. Personnel Committee: Supervisor Eckman requested having another Supervisor assist with the Personnel Committee and nominated Supervisor Wasley. **Resolution 09-09-04.** Supervisor Quade moved and Supervisor Behrens seconded. **Resolved the Board assigned Supervisor Wasley to the RCD Personnel Committee.**

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

Voting against: none

Abstaining: none

#### VI. Standing Committee Reports

- A. Metro Conservation District – 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. Metro Conservation Districts (MCD): Manager Petersen explained that Clean Water Legacy funds that the Anoka Conservation District received on behalf of the MCD was intended to support staff positions, but BWSR has changed the intent and now 80% of the funding is for projects and only 20% can be utilized for staffing. They are also waiting to see if the NRCS will provide the matching grant to support the Lakeshore Restoration Program.

C. Watershed Advisory Commission: Supervisor Eckman gave an overview of the projects sites she visited for the LEAP Tour.

F. Ramsey County League of Local Governments: The next meeting is Thursday, September 24, 2009 and Supervisor Behrens will be attending. There is also a workshop on the same day, titled “Conflicted about Conflict” and Supervisor Eckman will be attending that.

VII. Natural Resource Conservation Service Report (NRCS): Loren Clarke, Soil Conservation Technician with the NRCS presented on the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) which is approaching the sign-up deadline of September 30, 2009. CSP provides financial assistance to eligible landowners to improve the natural resources on cropland, prairie land, pastureland, and forest lands. **Action Step:** Manager Petersen will see if the North Oaks homeowners association would be eligible for CSP funds.

VIII. Staff Reports – The Board was mailed a report detailing the major activities of the staff, prior to the meeting.

Supervisor Quade left the meeting at noon.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Board Meeting Schedule for Oct – Dec, 2009: The following dates were chosen for the remainder of 2009 – October 12<sup>th</sup>, November 9<sup>th</sup>, and December 14<sup>th</sup> and 10:00am is the time.

B. MCD Grant Update: Covered earlier in the meeting.

C. Chair's Letter to Ramsey County Board: Supervisor Eckman presented a letter she drafted to the Chair of the Ramsey County Board for RCD Board for review. **Motion by Supervisor Humphrey, Supervisor Wasley seconded to approve sending the letter to the Chair of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.**

D. RCD Tour October 12, 2009: Manager Petersen suggested delaying the "tour" until spring, 2010, because of the current workload of the staff. By consensus the Board approved of the delay.

E. Supervisor Handbook: Due to time constraints, discussion on the handbook was moved to the October Board Meeting.

IX. New Business

A. Budget Hearing Sept 25<sup>th</sup>/2010-2011 Budget: Chair Eckman declared a Special Meeting for September 25, 2009 for Supervisors to attend the 2010-2011 Budget Hearing with the Ramsey County Board.

B. HCD/RCD Boards Joint Meeting October 26, 2009: Manager Petersen reported that the Hennepin Conservation District Board is able to meet with the RCD Board on Monday, October 26, 2009 at 6:00pm. Supervisor Wasley informed the Board that she will be out of town and cannot attend the meeting.

C. Grant Proposals: Manager Petersen informed the Board that the staff is working on many grants to the MPCA that are due this Friday.

D. MASWCD Convention Resolution Process: Ms. WhiteEagle handed out the MASWCD resolution packet to the Board and requested that they review the packet, before the next Board Meeting and complete the resolution ballot. **Action Step:** The Board will fill out the resolution ballot and bring the ballot along with the resolution packet to the October Board meeting.

X. Next Regular Meeting Date – Monday, October 12, 2009 at 10:00am for the Regular Board Meeting.

XI. Adjournment: **Motion by Supervisor Wasley, Supervisor Behrens seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:10pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by  
Ann WhiteEagle  
Office Manager