

- Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:08 PM by Chair Todd Ronning.
Present: Ronning, Omarzu, Brodigan, Haus (came one hour late)
Absent: Sagan
Staff: Nelson, Byrns
Guests: Paul Sandstrom
- Agenda: **Motion by Brodigan and seconded by Omarzu to approve the agenda with two amendments: 1. Discussion of joining the CCL group. 2. Motion to approve signing contract with North St. Louis SWCD. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu. Abstain: None. Carried**
- Minutes: **Motion by Omarzu and seconded by Brodigan to approve minutes for the February 8, 2018 meeting with two corrections. Affirmative: Ronning, Omarzu, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Financial and administrative reports reviewed.
- Treasurer's Report: **Motion by Omarzu and seconded by Brodigan to approve the treasurer's report as printed. Affirmative: Ronning, Omarzu, Brodigan. Abstain: None. Carried.**
- Discussion on the Annual Financial Report tabled until the April 12, 2018 meeting due to the absence of the District Manager.
- **Guest Updates:**
- Laurentian Resource Conservation and Development (Laurentian RC&D): Paul Sandstrom reported that Laurentian RC&D is organizing a River Restoration Conference on October 28th through 31st. Board would like to discuss financial support for the conference at the April board meeting.
- NRCS report was reviewed.

District Manager Report: Ronning summarized Tucker's District Manager report.

1W1P: The 1W1P policy meeting was discussed. During this round of funding, storm water improvements in Grand Marais will be prioritized.

Strategic Planning: The strategic planning session held on February 15, 2018 was discussed and the board expressed an interest in holding a strategic planning session on a yearly basis.

Hiring Plan: Discussed seasonal positions and a hiring plan.

Cost-share Policy: Discussed cost-share policy.

Website: Nelson reviewed the options for moving forward with updating the website. **Motion by Haus, seconded by Brodigan, to approve updating the website in-house with WordPress software and a purchased theme. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Silver Bay Project Update: Reviewed minutes of most recent meeting.

Questions About Board Reports:

AIS North St. Louis Contract for Summer Boat Inspectors: **Motion by Omarzu, seconded by Haus, to approve Tucker's signing of the contract with North St. Louis SWCD for AIS summer boat inspectors. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Job Postings for AIS Summer Positions: **Motion by Haus, seconded by Omarzu, to approve posting summer AIS internship positions. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Approve the Water Plan and Comp Plan: **Motion by Brodigan, seconded by Haus, to approve the Water Plan and Comp Plan. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Correspondence:

Supervisor Committee Reports and Concerns: Omarzu gave update on CCL group.

Staff Report: Byrns gave an update on projects he's working on. Discussed safety in the field.

Audit Committee: Counted 16 checks. **Motion to approve audit committee findings Haus, seconded by Brodigan. Affirmative: Ronning, Brodigan, Omarzu, Haus. Abstain: None. Carried.**

Legislative Briefing (March 12-13, 2018): Ronning will be attending the briefing.

Personnel Committee: Tabled until April board meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 3:02 PM, next meeting will be April 12, 2018 at Noon at 408 First Avenue.



LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
408 FIRST AVENUE, TWO HARBORS, MN 55616
P: (218) 834-8372 F: (218) 834-8545
WWW.CO.LAKE.MN.US/SWCD

February, 2018 Forestry Report
Tim Byrns, District Forester

Gretchen Gilbertson Forest Stewardship Plan

Gretchen Gilbertson's Forest Stewardship Plan delivered. Payment made in the amount of \$1,651.00.

John Geodel Timber Stand Improvement and Woody Residue Treatment Certification

15 acres of balsam treatment was certified at 1833 Gun Club Rd. Practice Certification has been submitted to NRCS for landowner reimbursement.



Superior Shores Reforestation Plan

Site visit to Superior Shores concerning approximately 3 acres of Forest Stand Improvement and tree planting.

Sue Bott Plantation Management

Management planning for thinning 2 acre red pine/white spruce stand.

Northshore Adventure Park Small Acre Stewardship Plan

Small acre stewardship plan for 5.7 acres of aspen and birch forest at 42 Outer Drive in Silver Bay completed and delivered. Invoice for \$250.00 submitted to landowner.

Chainsaw Safety Training

Chainsaw safety course hosted for CCMI crew leaders, Feb 13 and 14.



NACD Grant

\$82,800.00 was requested from the National Association of Conservation Districts to provide planning, implementation, and certification services for existing NRCS conservation program participants. Lake County was not selected for this funding opportunity. A total of 34 Districts in MN requested funding. Only one District was awarded funds.

Crown Creek Rd Culvert Replacement

The Crown Creek Road culvert replacement has been placed on TSA#3's project list and is scheduled for survey and design this spring/summer

Lovely Stream Bank Stabilization

The Lovely (formally Tesareck) stream bank stabilization is on TSA#3's project list for construction this spring/summer pending landowner commitment to the \$15,000.00 flood contract. The contract is currently expired and a request for extension will be made upon landowner commitment.

GIS Forestry Prioritization Tool

Contributing to GIS forestry tool that will serve to identify forest priority areas within Lake Superior north and south watersheds. The tool will be used to promote the development of forest stewardship plans, manage species composition, and to assist landowners with forest practice implementation as outlined by LSNS 1W1P.

Workshops

Contributing to GIS forestry tool that will serve to identify forest priority areas within Lake Superior north and south watersheds. The tool will be used to promote the development of forest stewardship plans, manage species composition, and to assist landowners with forest practice implementation as outlined by LSNS 1W1P.

Rainy River Citizen Engagement

- Ely Community Resource AIS monitoring projects
 - (Ongoing) Native Plankton Community project aimed at characterizing the current plankton community in Shagawa and Fall Lakes to see how it responds to spiny waterflea colonization. We are exposing several students per week to AIS/plankton sampling protocols, laboratory techniques, microscope use, and dichotomous key use.
 - Project has been expanded from just the “Science Club”, to be a regular part of Biology class. This means more students involved and more data collected.
 - Plankton samples are collected and delivered to school weekly.
 - Additional cyanoscope kits were purchased by Ely High School to serve as extra capacity for additional students.
 - The Kit is also used for its intended purpose during the open water season. (CyanoScope citizen science program through iNaturalists.org.)



Cyclopidae



Daphniidae



Anabaena

- Co-authored a grant application for USFS funds directed at expanding ECR’s capacity for biological/chemical monitoring projects for 2018.
- Held several meetings with ECR to “flesh out” summer 2018 plans and scenarios given extra funds/no extra funds.
- Re-organized and entered WICOLA + Birch + Fall lake CLMP+ water quality data into spreadsheets in a more user-friendly format.
- Planning a stream geomorphology/chemistry/biological assessment clinic for VCC students with Wade Klingsporn. Tentatively planning a training day for May 2018.
- Participated in a webinar discussing AIS issues/priorities at the national level with participants from all around the US.
- Attended BWSR meeting.
- Retrieved Sonde from Dunnigan Lake.



Conservation Outreach Coordinator Report

March, 2018

Rainy River Headwaters Civic Engagement

- Presentation at Vermilion Community College on SWCDs for water resources class.
- Participated in SWCD strategic planning meeting.
- Met with Derrick and MPCA to discuss RRHW/Cloquet grant amendment, future civic engagement grants.
- Attended Microsoft Excel training with Karen and Sonja.
- Created cost-share program brochure.
- Attended GIS training session in Carlton, MN.
- Presentation training (used training materials owned by Lake County SWCD) in preparation for VCC presentation.

Coastal Program

- Interviewed Sonja about One Watershed, One Plan, and edited episode.
- Interviewed David Demmer (MN BWSR) on wetlands.
- Met with Castle Danger Brewery to discuss Sweep the Skunk – they will be taking on the bulk of organizing this year

County

- Worked on Annual Plan draft.
- Entered precipitation data for rain gage program.

Envirothon

- Correspondence with teachers and districts, registration of teams.
- Put together table of county and school participation for the last three years. Summarized SWCD contributions for the past three years (information was requested from North St. Louis SWCD).



**DISTRICT MANAGER MONTHLY UPDATE
FEBRUARY 1 TO MARCH 1**

**KAREN TUCKER, ACTING DISTRICT MANAGER
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- Worked on Annual Financial report and updated capitol asset sheet
- Met with Mac for his 6 month review
- Thanks to Derrick for snowblowing and all staff that helped with shoveling.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Attended the 1W1P Funding request meeting with Cook County
- Strategic Planning
- Area III meeting for Managers with Erin from BWSR about changes in Technical Training and Certification program.
- Attended the Silver Bay project update
- Reviewed Budget and looked at staffing expenses

ITEMS OF NOTE AND/OR MOTION NEEDED

MN Green Corps program (42 positions statewide for a full-time person from Sept 2018 to August 2019)
Motion to approve Annual Report



**WATER PLAN REPORT
FEBRUARY 1 – MARCH 1 2018**

**SONJA SMERUD, WATER PLAN COORDINATOR
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Board Retreat/Strategic Planning Session – Water Plan focus, comprehensive planning context
- Draft contract in the works for additional educational goals of water plan to be administered by Wolf Ridge through the AIS Educator/Naturalist on the Shore summer position
- Initial contact to teachers about water resource visits, networking for lesson plans

LAKE SUPERIOR NORTH ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN

- Organized old 1W1P files
- LSN1W1P LGU Meeting for priority establishment, FY18/19/20 allocation – February 12th
- Initial meeting about Rainy River Headwaters 1W1P with North St. Louis SWCD – February 13th
- RSPT Meeting in Duluth for North Shore Stormwater Protection Team model – February 21st
- Stormwater
 - Budgeting, scope of work with Lake SWCD and Cook SWCD
 - Phone call and follow up with EOR; Silver Bay
 - Received Phase 1 Memo: Bacteria Assessment for Two Harbors from EOR
- Work Plan Draft (w/Cook County Water Planner)
 - Lots of phone calls, work drafting 1W1P plans
- LSN1W1P Policy Committee Meeting – March 5th
- LSN MPCA Core Team Meeting – February 26th

ITEMS OF NOTE AND/OR MOTION NEEDED

- Comprehensive Plan for SWCD – Re-adopt Water plan – Motion, Signature



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES REPORT FEBRUARY 1 – MARCH 1 2018

SONJA SMERUD, AIS COORDINATOR
LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

OUTREACH

- Duluth Boat Show – Paul Trygstad
- Water Watchers planning meeting – February 14th
 - AIS Educator at Wolf Ridge to teach program; job description and draft contract sent to Wolf Ridge for review
- Summer outline for staffing, postings and contracts drafts
- CD3 Station – discussions with DNR, draft lease agreement
- AIS Summit in Minneapolis February 27th – March 1st
 - Live tweeting - increased outreach presence
 - Secret Boater Program for Inspections 2018 – North St. Louis SWCD, Vermilion, Cass County partners
 - eDNA machine for AIS early detection through USGS – potential for partnerships with St. Louis, Carlton Counties
 - Eurasian watermilfoil weevil biocontrol – use in educational programming, future control
 - Discussion on legal challenges –Wright County Regional Watercraft Inspection Program with misdemeanors and county ordinance for no-inspection launching
 - Networking, discussions with local partners – established Arrowhead regional meeting on CBSM Survey for 2018 in combination with watercraft inspections
 - MPR's Water Main program will appear, highlighting the conference, in April

MONITORING, ASSESSMENTS, GRANTS

- GIS Training – Area III, BWSR Wed February 7th
- Excel training – February 14th and 16th
- Meeting with North St. Louis SWCD about 2018 Watercraft Inspection Plan for Fall, Moose, Snowbank Lakes – February 13th
- Discussion with Finland DNR Fisheries – creole surveys, watercraft inspection scheduling

ITEMS OF NOTE AND/OR MOTION NEEDED

- Shared services agreement North St. Louis SWCD – Motion, Signature
- Summer Positions Outline – Discussion, approval

MONTHLY REPORT: TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES

Mackenzie Hogfeldt | 2018 | February | 152 days

- Forest Health Workshop February 06, 2018 on the Chippewa National Forest with Tim Byrns.
- Updated SWCD timecard spreadsheet.
- Chainsaw safety course through CCMi partners February 14 & 15.
- Reporting on GLRI-USFS-MNDNR Barberry contract grant closing FY2017.
- Reporting on LCCMR Thirteen Counties Propagating Native Plants, Restoring Diverse Habitats FY2017.
- Reporting on USFS-GLRI-CWMA-2015 for 2017 season.
- Worked on 2018 work plan for Mackenzie Hogfeldt.
- Updated Lake Emergency Services Culvert priority maps for use with USFS.
- Messaging with Duluth CISMA.
- Compiling Data for the Forestry Prioritization Tool.
- Tuned and sharpened chainsaws.

Wild Blue Yonder

- CWPP Firewise Meeting Feb 08.
- 2018 work plan for Mackenzie Hogfeldt.
- Submit Transcripts for Society of American Foresters Accreditation to become a SAF accredited forester in order to write Forest Stewardship Plans.
- Wildland Firefighter Refresher and Work Capacity Test
- LCCMR: Start Growing some plants and figure out where we can put them. *Crataegus douglassii* seems to a prime candidate for re-establishment.
- Talk with DNR about LCCMR restoration site near Tettegouche State Park.
- Start writing 6 Firewise plans for CWPP.
- Finish the Forestry Prioritization Tool.



Crataegus douglasii Lindl (Black Hawthorn)
