

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF DODGE)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2017-05 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole March 14, 2017, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Government Services Building, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Chair Tim Tjosaas opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present:	John Allen	District #1
	Tim Tjosaas	District #2
	Rodney Peterson	District #3
	Rhonda Toquam	District #4
	David Kenworthy	District #5
Members absent:	None	
Also present:	Jim Elmquist	County Administrator
	Becky Lubahn	Deputy Clerk

Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Manager Adam King provided the Board with a SWCD year in review.

SWCD Year in Review

Mr. King introduced the new Conservation Technician Jessica Bakken and Blaine Delzer who started as an Education/Outreach Technician and is now a Conservation Technician.

The District Manager provided an overview of the following topics:

- Who We Are
- Budget Review
- Projects
 - Conservation Cost-Share
 - One Watershed One Plan
- Accomplishments for 2016

The SWCD Director elaborated further on the following 2016 SWCD accomplishments:

- Grant Funded Projects
 - Dodge Saturated Buffer Project Implementation: \$50,625
 - Middle Fork Zumbro River Critical Source Area Restoration: \$359,925 (\$219,000 Sec. 319, \$140,925 CWF)
 - Ripley Nitrogen Reduction Implementation: \$36,675
- Conservation Cost-Share
 - \$9,908 Received from the Board of Water and Soil Resources in 2016 and used for Technical Assistance
 - \$43,668 from Local Capacity Funds were dedicated to Conservation Cost-Share to landowners
 - 9 projects encumbered with 5 installed in 2016

- One Watershed One Plan
 - Root River Watershed – BWSR Approved, Adopted January 2017
 - Cedar River Watershed – Dodge SWCD is Day to Day Contact
 - Zumbro River Watershed – Anticipated application in 2018

- No-Till Drill
 - Over 730 acres of CRP and Conservation plantings
 - 24 Cooperators used the No-Till drill

- Projects/Education/Outreach
 - Edge of Field (EOF) Monitoring – Discovery Farms of Minnesota
 - Cover Crops
 - Saturated Buffer Field Day
 - Dodge County Business Expo Booth
 - Dodge County Fair Booth
 - Elementary Education Project (5th Grade County wide – Water Quality)
 - Community Education Project (Urban Birding 2017)

SWCD Year in Review - Continued

Mr. King reviewed the following:

- 2017 Budget
- Looking Forward – 2017
 - Projects
 - Funding

Blaine Delzer shared with the Board information on special projects he has been involved in over the last year and discussed conservation education.

Special Projects Discussed

The County Attorney arrived to the meeting at 9:17 a.m. CDT.

County Attorney Arrived

Mr. Delzer discussed the following topics:

- Feedlot Technician
- Upcoming in 2017

SWCD Year in Review - Continued

Mr. King further discussed the One Watershed One Plan project.

The Board thanked the Soil and Water Conservation District employees for the review.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

TIM TJOSAAS
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: