

**POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MEETING Minutes**

**Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am June 20, 2017**

**Meeting site: USDA Service Center,  
1680 N. Franklin Avenue  
Glenwood, MN 56334**

**Attendance:** Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Mike Billehus, Randy Pederson, Kelly Erickson, Nicole Brede, Laurie Aaberg, Holly Kovarik, Jessica Oldakowski, Alexa Hoffarth, Dalton Herrboldt, Commissioner Paul Gerde

**Meeting Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by President Talle and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Additions/or corrections to the agenda items –A few items were added to the agenda for review and discussion.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*

a) **May 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

b) **Resolutions-NONE**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>

c) **Contract/Applications for Approval**

<u>Number/Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Application \$\$</u>
2018 Observation Well Grant	Contract for monitoring wells	\$3,300
Farmbill Assistance Grant 2017-2018	Grant agreement	

d) **Appropriations/Payments-None**

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.	University of Minnesota	MDA Rosholt 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter- Payment just cleared bank	\$23,964.00	

e) **Grant Payment/Project Approvals-**

<u>Contract Code</u>	<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>	<u>Project Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment</u>
CWF16-04	Lake Emily Targeted 2016	Tom Beuckens	Water and Sediment Control/diversion	BM 4, 5		\$45,475.13
CS16-03	State Cost Share16 &17 funds	Steve Schaeffer	WASCOB	Hoff 13	\$15,500.00	
CWF16-05	Lake Emily Phase I	Johnson Bros Farm Partnership	WASCOB	BM 19 & 30	\$38,397.25	

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MCWF-03-16	Lake Minnewaska Phase III	Stark Hafner Friederich LLC	WASCOB	Glenwood 36		\$14,032.20
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**Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve all the items on the consent agenda and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

**Jeff Hellerman gave his report at this time.**

- He provided an updated on 1026 Compliance reports. There are some changes to the wetland determination process including shifting of staff.
- He mentioned the freeze on CRP sign ups.
- He is working on CSP project ranking.
- He is working on certifying practices mostly pasture improvements and water and sediment control practices.
- There are some changes to teams for the Wetland Reserve Program.
- The state cattlemans tour will be held July 10-11 in Pope County.
- There will be a Pope County Grazing field day on August 10<sup>th</sup> at the Shane Blair farm.
  
- Kovarik mentioned the NACD Action Alerts and letters to submit to our congressmen. **Mike Billheus made a motion to approve submitting the letters and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

**4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde**

- The new County Coordinator will start on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The State Cattlemans Tour is coming up in July and the full board is attending the event.
- The election of jurisdiction on the buffers enforcement is on the agenda this morning.

**5. Old Business**

- a. DNR Working Lands Grant Amendment-project payment approvals-**Randy Pederson made a motion to authorize staff to cut payments for the final projects to meet the grant deadlines and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.** This grant ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- b. 2017 Legislative Session Wrap-Up information was discussed with the board and a fact sheet was included in the board packet for their review.
- c. CRWP Simon Lake Gilchrist lake Restoration and Protection Grant contract amendment was shared with the board in their packet. **Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the revised contract and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

**6. New Business**

- a. Interseeding of cover crops/set up of drills to accommodate and promote-The board discussed this new concept and staff will continue to look into this as an option for the future.
- b. Minnesota Department of Ag Update on Rosholt project/Targeted Township Testing-*Dan Langseth-Tabled till the July meeting*
- c. MASWCD Leadership Institute discussion \$2,850.00 –**D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve Jessica Oldakowski to attend the training along with other applicable expenses**

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hotel, meals, mileage per the standing policy. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- d. Giziibi RC & D proposal was shared in the board packet. Mike Billehus made a motion to decline the proposal and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- e. Operational Agreements-Kovarik shared information about the agreements that will be brought forth at the July meeting to discuss and approve.
- f. D. Gary Reents made a motion to opt out of the Lake Service Cooperative agreement with other SWCDs for computer and technology support. The board would like to continue through the agreement process with USDA at this time. The motion was seconded by Keith Nygaard. The motion passed with all in favor.
- g. Buffer Resolution Follow up-Oldakowski/Kovarik-Oldakowski provided an update of the meetings held with the County Commissioners. Clarification has been provided by the county on the ditch systems and if the ordinance applies or not. This satisfies the concerns brought forth and this item is now considered resolved.

## 7. Reports

a) **Treasurer Report**-Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- i. Monthly Checking Account Report #11247
- ii. Monthly Savings Account Report #870903
- iii. Treasurer Report (3 year comparison)

c) Holly Kovarik, Manager

- 1. Staff will attend Pope County Township Officer Meeting June 27
- 2. Election of Jurisdiction discussion and Riparian Aid for Counties and Watershed Districts was discussed with the board.
- 3. Discussion about repairs of equipment at Rosholt-bills submitted to Prairie Lakes Coop as they were items accidentally damaged by Prairie Lakes Coop staff. They will pick up the bill and pay it.
- 4. Rosholt Field Day to be held August 17th
- 5. Thank you from Gobblers of Glacial Ridge for donation of rain barrel
- 6. DNR permit reviews completed on two projects.
- 7. Confirmed 2017 Water Fest for September 15<sup>th</sup> –notifications sent to schools
- 8. Shoreline tour was discussed and staff is exploring an event in August. The staff will be out conducting maintenance on each of the sites to finalize what was agreed upon with the DNR funding.
- 9. City of Glenwood workshop/Inquiry for Interest in BMP Implementation-The staff is working to coordinate a workshop to gain interest from landowners within the city that are interested in doing a project. This information will then be used to apply for funding to do projects.
- 10. 2018 Grant Applications Discussion-Kovarik mentioned an application for the City of Glenwood to implement projects and potentially a couple as follow up to the Lake Emily and Lake Minnewaska project areas. The

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applications will be brought to a future board meeting for further discussion.

11. MASWCD Area II meeting updates were shared with the board. A full report was sent to the board.
12. Chippewa River Watershed District LWG meeting update was provided. The CRWP mentioned that they will be discussing jurisdiction at their September board meeting. The group will not be submitting for grants at this time.
13. The board discussed a project that is a condition of a permit. Is this something that we would want to consider changing in our cost share policy for the future? The board decided by general consensus that they did not want to change the policy at this time. This project is currently eligible for state cost share.

d) Kelly Erickson, Technician

1. Wetland Conservation Act-1 TEP approved road project needs to be mitigated/1 violation for dumping fill on Silver beach road by a contractor/TEP will be held next month./1 notice of satisfaction for a project in Reno Twp
2. Sales Program Updates-He mentioned that there is concern about black hills spruce received from the nursery. Staff has been out and has been working with the nursery. Staff will keep the board informed more as this situation unfolds. There was 5.1 miles of plastic mulch laid. He is working on seeding food plots and buffers, and renting the packer and drill out.
3. He finished doing the well monitoring.
4. He participated in a meeting for Rosholt.
5. He is beginning work on the summer irrigation management work.

e) Nicole Zimmerman, Farmbill Technician/Kovarik

1. CRP update on workload-20 folders working on right now.
2. Farmbill program updates-All of her information has been transferred to other staff for when she goes out on leave.

f) Jessica Oldakowski, District Technician

1. RIM program-Has been working on 2-3 ownership changes for RIM. There will be a tour on August 10<sup>th</sup> and she will participate in this tour as the landowner has a parcel of land in RIM that will be partially grazed. There are 51 easements that will be site inspected this summer.
2. CWMA program-They are coordinating a beetle collection and spraying of wild parsnip with Duffy Morton.
3. CREP Information general-She discussed that there are four specific criteria areas for interest in this program. We can currently take sign ups but have had very little interest at this time.
4. Buffer implementation updates-6 pack discussion alternative practices-She mentioned that she met with David Green and the clarification on the ditches and if shoreland applies has been clarified.

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5. She has attended a few meetings and written articles for the newspaper and newsletter.

- g) Dalton Herrboldt, District Technician Intern-He has been working on tree matting, shoreline maintenance, learning to spray, raingarden maintenance, CRP project work, site inspections with other staff, cooperative weed management mailings, and articles.
- h) Alexa Hoffarth, Hydrologist Intern-She has been working on analyzing samples at Rosholt, maintenance of the farm, shoreline maintenance, and assisting the engineer on survey of two sites.
- i) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-above
- j) Laurie Aaberg, FSA-She talked about programs including the farm program which sign up is almost done. Her staff are working on certifications right now.

8. **Board Member Meeting Reports**-Randy Pederson mentioned that there was no 1W1P meeting for the North Fork of the Crow River Watershed and that there was also no Glacial Ridge Trail meeting.


9. **Upcoming Meetings:**

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
7-18-17	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.


10. **FYI Items**

- **Attended County Commissioner Meeting and gave annual program update and plan for 2017 work.**
- **Attended North Fork Crow River WD Citizen Advisory Committee meeting**

11. **Adjourn**-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 a.m. and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.


7-18-17  


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7/18/17  


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