

**POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**MEETING Minutes**  
 Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am September 19, 2017

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

**Attendance:** Mike Billehus, D. Gary Reents, Kelly Erickson, Holly Kovarik, Keith Nygaard, Randy Pederson, Tom Talle, Nicole Brede, Jessica Hoheisel, Dalton Herrboldt, Jeff Hellerman, Commissioner Paul Gerde

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle.
2. Additions/or corrections to the agenda items were presented.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*

a) *August 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>

d) Appropriations/Payments-None

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.	UofM	Rosholt Research	\$22,364.00	MDA grant
2.	WCTSA	Engineering work	\$6,821.87	Multiple

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>

Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Jim Barchenger's pit closure project was added for reimbursement CS16-02 \$5,897.50 D.Gary Reents moved to approve and Mike Billehus seconded the payment approval. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- Discussed the budget and that they would be approving the preliminary levy today.
- Policy meetings at Breezy Point regarding the environment and natural resources was held by AMC and there were topics including funding for SWCDs and public land management.

5. Old Business

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- a. Rosholt Research Farm update was provided to the board and that we will need to apply for AFRAC funding when the application announcement is released. The budget shortfall is about 50%.
- b. Area II meeting updates were shared with the board including information about the state convention.
- c. Office Concerns/Basement/Lease-Kovarik explained that we currently have mold concerns in the basement and that work is being done with the landlord to address and review the situation. All files have been removed from the basement at this time.
- d. 25 by 2025 Meeting in St. Cloud-Kovarik/Erickson-Kovarik and Erickson attended the meeting in St. Cloud and shared what they experienced at the meeting.

**6. New Business**

1. West Central Technical Service Area meeting update/contract revisions were discussed. **Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve signing the agreements as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
2. RMB water testing program was shared with the board. The SWCD has kits on hand and RMB is making regular stops to pick them up.
3. Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan KSAT map was shared with the board.
4. RIM program discussion regarding potential request from Carruthers -Kovarik/Hoheisel- Staff described that they had been working with a landowner who was potentially going to be presenting a RIM land swap proposal. There has been nothing received yet but this item has been discussed for several months with the landowner. They have all the information in what they need to provide to the SWCD for the request to be brought to the board. When this information is received it will be presented to the board for review.
5. 2017 Resolutions process was moved to the end of the agenda.

**7. Reports**

**a. Treasurer Report-Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Keith Nygaard 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)

**b) Holly Kovarik, Manager**

- MAWQCP-13 farms certified 7,060 acres total/2 supervisors now certified
- 2018 Budget process/appropriation meeting was attended and our request was the same as 2017.
- Tom and Ann Beuckens application submitted for 2017 Outstanding Conservationist of the year
- 2016 Audit-I have been working on preparing all documents they need to finish the audit and loading the files to an online sharepoint system.
- City of Lowry Wellhead Protection Plan was mentioned.
- City of Starbuck Wellhead Protection Plan was mentioned.
- 2018 & 2019 SWCD Operations and Programs Grant Agreement-\$202,038 for approval-**D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the agreement and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

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g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA-no report

**8. Board Member Meeting Reports-no report**

Resolutions were discussed by the board and votes were taken from each board member. They approved the form by signing on the 2017 Resolution ballot provided. Kovarik will submit the form as reviewed and voted on.

**9. Upcoming Meetings:**

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
10-17-2017	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

**10. FYI Items**

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



10-17-17



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- Lynn Peterson Well Sealing project for payment approval-Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve \$498.75 payment for the well sealing project be made and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
  - PERA Rate Increase Aid-\$550.00
  - Clean Water Council Tour of Duluth-update was shared with the board. Kovarik shared the sites she toured on the stop including a river restoration and Lake Superior reclamation projects.
  - Rainfall Monitoring program-need volunteers in Leven, Nora, New Prairie, White Bear Lake, Walden, Langhei, Lake Johanna, Bangor, Barsness was mentioned.
  - Educational events in the works in September (15<sup>th</sup> is Water Fest and the 28<sup>th</sup> is Conservation Day) was mentioned.
- c) Kelly Erickson, Technician
- Wetland Conservation Act-1 violation that was mentioned that is on Lake Reno. He also mentioned a project at Baycrest that has been reviewed by the staff. There is also a site in Barsness Township that has been reviewed.
  - Sales Program Updates-Drill rentals, well observations, irrigation management, clipping of CRP, Rosholt Meeting, and attended Water Fest and Crop Advisor Training
- d) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician
- RIM program updates were shared including conservation plan changes and ownership changes
  - CWMA program-finishing up work this fall.
  - CREP Information general we have 1 potential application thus far.
  - Buffer implementation updates were shared with a letter going out again. There are a few waivers starting to come in.
  - Assisted with waterfest and conservation day.
- e) Dalton Herrboldt, District Technician Intern  
Rosholt work in progress, attended Area II meeting, Crop Advisor training, Water Fest, site visits and clipping for CRP.
- f) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS  
Completing HEL determinations 72 currently in the back log.  
There are 10-1026s left to be completed right now in our county.  
They have one new contract for CSP for 2,700 acres  
There are 12-13 contracts in Swift for CSP.  
There are 4 contract renewals for CSP in Pope.  
There will be one big WASCOB project in Pope led by NRCS this fall.  
There are completing site visits.  
There are 24 applications for EQIP right now.  
They are working on moving from the basement.  
He is continuing shared management with Swift County.