

**POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am July 18, 2018**

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

ATTENDANCE: Keith Nygaard, D. Gary Reents, Kelly Erickson, Tom Talle, Mike Billehus, Holly Kovarik, Jeff Hellerman, Paul Gerde, Nicole Brede

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m. by Chairman Talle and the Pledge was recited.
2. Additions/or corrections to the agenda items were made.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*

a) *June 2018 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.	Houston Engineering	PTMApp Gilchrist watershed	\$6,073.00	District Capacity funding
2.	CROW	Rain barrels	\$1,100	COGS for resale
3.	West Central Irrigation	Rosholt variable rate technology	\$44,830.16	MDA Rosholt grant and \$10,000 District
4.	Stoen Farm Supply	Lawn mower	\$7598.81	MDA Rosholt Grant

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.

Jeff Hellerman Report- He gave his report early on the agenda as he needed to leave for another meeting.

- Wetland Determinations were mentioned.

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- CRP is a big workload for the office right now.
- CSP-working on 5 applications right now along with paperwork.
- EQIP there has been new WASCOB interest. Melissa is working on 6-7 projects right now.
- New State Conservationist is Troy Daniel and he will start in August.
- Gary Watson is set to retire on August 3rd.
- WRP projects are waiting on the contractor to start.
- There is a big Ag Waste System going in at Dorrich Dairy.

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde

- The budget process is starting.
- Preliminary budgets are due by September and will be final in December.
- There was a public hearing on changing animal units from 300 to 500 with the exception of swine operations.
- CRWP meeting was mentioned and they have a new employee that started (Emma Volz).
- They are discussing the joint powers agreement in August.
- The courthouse remodel projects continue.

5. Old Business

a. Well Sealing updates

- Ken Pipcher to authorize payment for well sealing projects of \$500 for Contract WS01-18 and \$500 Contract 02-18-**Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the payment for the completed project and Mike Billehus seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
- Laurie Hagen well sealing project of \$500 for contract WS03-18-**Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the payment and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

6. New Business

1. Rosholt Field Day scheduled for August 16th
2. 2019 County Appropriation Request was provided with no changes from last year. The board reviewed the request and will discuss the request further at our August board meeting.
3. 2018 Outstanding Conservationist Discussion was mentioned-Kovarik will provide a list of landowners that could be selected at our August board meeting.

7. Reports

a. Treasurer Report-Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and D. Gary Reents 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

- Quarterly billable is being worked on.
- Invoiced SRWD for 1st quarter CD6 project \$565.04
- Invoiced Stearns SWCD 1st quarter MAWQCP \$1,196.40
- LCCMR presentation for new plot at Rosholt was June 20, 2018

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- MAWQCP event June 25th at Lakeside Ballroom update
 - CWMA Program updates were shared. Kovarik has been coordinating with both ag inspectors.
 - RIM/SWAP Updates were shared. The proposal was approved. More will be provided as we learn more how to execute this process.
 - Sauk River 1W1P meeting discussion and updates to the board. The consultants were narrowed down to RESPEC and EOR. The policy committee will meet again to make a final decision.
 - Sauk River WCPI meeting updates were shared. A person has been hired by Stearns SWCD and they are on staff and getting trained. We will have an agreement with Stearns SWCD to approve at our next meeting.
 - The Water Plan Task Force meeting was held.
 - Chippewa River WCPI meeting updates-There will be a new position in Douglas SWCD and they SWCDs from the watershed have agreed to move forward. More details will be provided later on the status as we know more.
 - Discussion about drills and possible updates-Kovarik and Erickson provided some estimates on new drills for the board to consider. The two drills owned are very worn and staff was looking for direction from the board. If we are to make a purchase like this we would need to begin thinking about where the funding would come from.
 - Fair Booth July 18-21
 - Nitrate Clinic Saturday July 21 Noon to 4
 - Buffer Alternative Practice Determinations are being worked on. Kovarik provided some background on the Schaefer alternative buffer determination process as an example.
 - Kovarik attended a North Fork Crow River 1W1P meeting and she provided updates on the discussion on the implementation MOA.
 - A farmbill quarterly reimbursement was submitted.
 - The AREA II meeting was held.
- c) Kelly Erickson, Technician
- Wetland Conservation Act program updates were shared. Riley Bros and Perkins creek clean out cannot place fill in the wetland. There was a boundary and type determination for the Cassiopia Community Garden that was needing approval. There are no wetlands on the site. **Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the determination and Keith Nygaard seconded that motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
 - **Gary Nohl application of an Ag Wetland Mitigation- 3/10ths of an acre and is contingent on no comments from others staff would ask for the boards approval. Mike Billehus made a motion. Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
 - We have had several drill rentals.
 - He went to St Paul for the LCCMR hearing.
 - Sales Program Updates were shared.
- d) Rachel Holmes, Intern-working at Rosholt.

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- e) Nicole Brede, District Technician
 - CRP was discussed. There are 127 with no option. We have about 300 contracts for reenrollment. There are no tree practices. They have worked through about 63% of the contracts and we have a deadline of August 17th.
 - Fair week is coming up.
 - MASWCD Area II meeting updates were shared with the board.
- f) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-see above
- g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA-no report

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed 1W1P policy meetings, Glacial Lakes Trail-updates were shared with the board.
- Mike Billehus-Chippewa River Watershed Board meeting-updates were shared with the board. Mike was unable to attend the last meeting but did share the agenda and minutes.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed 1W1P Policy Committee meetings-updates were shared with the board and RESPEC and EOR will be giving another presentation in the next month. They group will be selecting a consultant soon.


9. Upcoming Meetings:


<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
8-21-18	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

10. FYI Items

- Rosholt Field Day set for August 16
- Pope and Stevens County Water Fest set for September 14th
- Pope and Stevens County Conservation Day set for September 25th
- Annual Report given to County Commissioners on July 10th
- Payment received for quarterly invoice from SRWD CD6 project of \$565.04

11. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.


8-21-18


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