

POPE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING Minutes
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am June 19, 2018

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

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, Randy Pederson, Mike Billehus, D. Gary Reents, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Jeff Hellerman, Laurie Aaberg, Nicole Brede, Kelly Erickson, Holly Kovarik, Rachel Holmes

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

a) *May 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> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| FY2019 | DNR Observation Well Grant Agreement | \$2,940.00 |

d) **Appropriations/Payments-None**

| | <u>Payee</u> | <u>Description of Payment</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Payment Code/Description</u> |
|----|-------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| 1. | Marloo Mill Pond | Spring treatment in Swift County CWMA work | \$1,103.40 | CWMA-MDA grant |
| 2. | Houston Engineering | PTMApp assessment for the Leven, Villard, Amelia, Gilchrist watersheds | \$16,300 | District Capacity Funding |
| 3. | University of Minnesota | MDA Rosholt Grant work | \$31,402.00 | MDA Rosholt grant research work |

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> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| WS01-18 | LWM | Ken Pipcher | Well Sealing | Glenwood Sect 7 | \$2,500 Total Cost | |

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| | | | | | \$500 to encumber | |
| WS02-18 | LWM | Ken Pipcher | Well Sealing | Glenwood Sect 7 | \$1,200 Total Cost \$500 to encumber | |
| WS03-18 | LWM | Laurie Hagen | Well Sealing | Glenwood Sect 18 | \$825 total Cost \$500 to encumber | |

Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented and Mike Billehus seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Jeff Hellerman (NRCS) gave his report early on the agenda.

- He has been working on 1026 requests, drainage concerns, CRP, CSP, EQIP, and WRP.
- He has 3 WRP projects designed and ready for construction.
- There are 11 easements he will be inspecting this summer.
- The Ultima position is vacant again.
- He will be attending cover crop training in Fergus Falls.

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde

- Jim Barchenger has been reappointed to the North Fork Crow River Watershed District Board.
- Emma Bolz was hired for the Chippewa River Watershed project.
- They held their County Equalization meeting.
- He discussed information about the Pope Douglas Solid Waste facility and that the County is working on updating its solid waste ordinance.

5. Old Business

- a. Rosholt Farm MDA Grant/Prairie Lakes Coop updates
- b. Chippewa River Watershed project Board and LWG meeting discussions

6. New Business

1. Soil Investigation Assistance Agreement for the Pope SWCD with Stearns SWCD-FYI
2. Rosholt Field Day scheduled for August 16th
3. North Fork Crow River 1W1P Implementation Partnership Agreement-**Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the agreement contingent on the county approving the agreement. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
4. MASWCD Nominations Information
5. Area II District MAWQCP Agreement for review-**Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the agreement as presented and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
6. Area II District MAWQCP Engineering Agreement-**D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the agreement as presented and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**

7. Reports

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a. Treasurer Report-Mike Billehus made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and subject to audit. 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)

b) Holly Kovarik, Manager

- MDA MAWQCP-17 Farms Certified in County 10,284 acres/Signed up 2 new operators
- Quarterly billable is being completed.
- SRWD Consultants to be interviewed for 1W1P
- MAWQCP event June 25th at Lakeside Ballroom-D. Gary Reents plans to attend this event on behalf of the board.
- Building Remodel updates were shared with the board.
- Buffer Program updates were shared with the board. The wet spring has delayed some buffers from being established. As long as landowners are working with our office there will be some grace in getting the buffers in place.
- CWMA Program updates were shared. The committee is working on the plans for spraying parsnip and pasture management.
- RIM/SWAP Updates were shared. We should have official word from BWSR in July.
- WCTSA lead contacts meeting was held. Several memorandum of agreements were discussed along with workload and new grants to fund workload.
- Rosholt Kernza LCCMR-finalist (presentation scheduled June 20th in St. Paul)-Kovarik and Erickson will attend along with Stearns SWCD staff. The proposal made the first cut and we are hopeful that it will be funded. This will mean a new plot at Rosholt.
- Stewardship week materials distributed to the area churches.
- Kovarik mentioned that Jessica Hoheisel is on maternity leave and that they had a boy named Sawyer.
- Kovarik shared that the Farmbill grant request was submitted for the next cycle.
- Kovarik stated that our annual meeting with the County board has been set for July 10th.
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c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Wetland Conservation Act program updates were shared.
- There was one finding of fact for a project issued.
- There was one site for WCA reviewed involving a water appropriation permit.

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- Sales Program Updates-the drills have been in use, working on CRP seedings, buffer seedings, observation well monitoring, and irrigation management

- d) Rachel Holmes, Intern-provided a brief update of her activities at Rosholt.

- e) Nicole Brede, District Technician
 - CRP update was shared. The program is now open for enrollment. There is a one year extension option there are about 300 expiring contracts. 88 of those were already sent a letter that have no options for reenrollment. The rest will need to be reviewed to see if they fit into a continuous practice at all. All landowners should have received a letter. The CRP opened for enrollment on June 1st and closes on August 17th.
 - The poster contest was finished and we will have posters for the Area II meeting to be judged as well.

- f) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-see above
- g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA-They have been working on certifications and she talked about CRP enrollment progress.

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed 1W1P policy meetings, Glacial Lakes Trail
There was no policy committee meeting for this group and the Glacial Ridge Trail met.
- Mike Billehus-Chippewa River Watershed Board meeting
He shared updates from one of the last Local Work Group Meetings. The next meeting is June 27th. The group has been discussing a joint powers agreement to include SWCDs. There was some discussion about the budget and the requests made to the Counties for funding to aid in the budget till year end 2018.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed 1W1P Policy Committee meetings
He attended this meeting and the group had a kickoff meeting and discussed priority issues and concerns as well as reviewed stakeholder comments. There will be 4 meetings held for the public and on June 26th we will be interviewing consultants to do the plan. The SRWD website has a link for all the 1W1P planning activities.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

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

10. FYI Items

- Area II meeting is June 21st in Alexandria

11. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m. and Mike Billehus seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

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Justin Lee

7-17-18
