



Meeting site: USDA Service Center,
1680 N. Franklin Avenue
Glenwood, MN 56334
BA-Board Action
I-Information

MEETING Minutes
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
August 20, 2019

Attendance: Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Pederson, Randy Mitteness, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Holly Kovarik, Jessica Hoheisel, Nicole Brede, Kelly Erickson, Jeff Hellerman

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

a) *July 2019 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.				

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>
WS04-19	LWM	Tom Haus	Well Sealing	Leven 4	\$500.00	
WS02-19	LWM	Greg Gillham	Well Sealing	Glenwood 32		\$500.00
WS03-19	LWM	Thelma Searcy	Well Sealing	Glenwood 8		\$500.00

Randy Pederson 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.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- Discussed the Chippewa River Watershed Project meeting and that they are looking to restructure moving forward.
- He mentioned that the North Fork Crow River Watershed District is looking to expand its boundary.
- The new commissioner starts today and that is Nan Haggerty.

5. Old Business

- Cancellation of Buffer Cost Share Contracts Joan Maus BCS06-17, Gerry Maus BCS07-17, and Jackson Family Trust BCS08-17, Leczy Companies Inc BCS03-17-were noted to the board.

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- Weather Station installation of rain gauge and the other instrumentation installation will happen in September.
- 2016 Lake Minnewaska Phase III grant 40% Payment Request-updates on the project/Shift of funds from engineering to project implementation
- Dean Paulson contract amendment for rodent guard -D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the amendment to the 2016 Lake Minnewaska Phase III grant as described to shift funds from engineering to project implementation and to encumber the funds remaining in this grant to the Dean Paulson project. This motion also included encumber the rest of the needed funding for the rodent guard from the 2019 Local Capacity grant. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Copier discussion-Kovarik shared the quote with the board. The board had a few follow up questions that Kovarik will find answers for and report back. Kovarik is also researching if Local Capacity Funding could be used to purchase the copier.
- Governance 101 training-Randy Mitteness is registered for the training.
- Kernza Demonstration Plot (4-5 acres) discussion-D. Gary Reents made a motion to plant up to 5 acres of Kernza for the trial and as a demonstration at the Rosholt Farm. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Shirts-Randy Mitteness made a motion to cover the cost for the staff but that the board members would pay for their own shirts. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

6. New Business

- PERA Rate Aid will no longer exist in future years.
- MASWCD Outstanding Conservationists selection-Randy Pederson made a motion to recognize Donald and Shari Opdahl as the 2019 Outstanding Conservationists. Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- MASWCD Teacher Nomination-Randy Pederson made a motion to recognize Kaley Poegel as the 2019 Outstanding Teacher nomination. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Officially appoint Supervisor to Chippewa River Watershed Project Policy Committee
- Officially appoint Staff to Chippewa River Watershed Technical Advisory Committee Randy Pederson made a motion to appoint Randy Mitteness to the policy committee and Holly Kovarik as the primary and Jessica Hoheisel as the secondary members to the technical advisory committee. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

7. Reports

- a. Treasurer Report-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report as submitted and subject to audit and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - ii. Monthly Checking Account Report #11247
 - iii. Monthly Savings Account Report #870903

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iv. Treasurer Report (3-year comparison)

b) Holly Kovarik, Manager

- PTMapp for last project area is wrapping up. The final report will be ready in the next month. Swift SWCD billed and they have paid.
- SRWD CD6 project Quarter 2 Invoice- \$856.85 submitted for reimbursement
- Rosholt Field Day August 27th 9-1 and we have about 60 registrants currently.
- Kovarik spoke on KMGK Radio for 70th Anniversary and Field Day.
- IAM Newsletter went out advertising the Rosholt Field Day.
- Individual Invitations to Field Day/Post Card distribution/Newspaper Article
- Annual Report/Appropriation Request was given to the County Board.
- CREP Outreach and Implementation grant executed \$43,067 grant \$4,306 match
- Furniture updates were shared with the board. We will likely be getting a few desks from Farm Service Agency at the end of September.
- Conservation Planning Training was attended by Kovarik, Hoheisel, and Brede.
- Spectrum Business Quotes were shared with the board. The SWCD does not have a router for internet access outside of the USDA system. We have a hotspot or mifi unit which has limitations. Quotes were received to determine what a new line would cost for internet access. This would be helpful for interns as well as any computers that are not on the USDA network. The mifi unit does not work for the two wireless printers that the SWCD owns but if we had an internet line coming in we could have a separate router for this. There will need to be permissions looked at on how this would work in a USDA building. Kovarik will continue to research the options and report back at a later meeting.
- Accountants were here on August 14th-final preparations for completing 2018 Year End Audit were done.
- Bob Peterson project update was shared with the board.
- Calvin Kalina, Todd & Tom Johnshoy, Shane and Jessica Blair, Zavadil Project are all progressing this month. These projects should mostly be wrapped up by this fall and will help in closing out grants.
- Pope/Stevens/Grant Water Fest Planning is underway. This will be held on September 13th at the Pope County Fairgrounds. There is an estimate of about 380 people that will be in attendance at this year's event.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Wetland Conservation Act program updates-8 landowner contacts this month including boundary and type determinations. He has had 3 whistleblower complaints to follow up on but no violations.
- Sales Program Updates were shared. He has finished up billing on projects so that this could be mailed out.



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- Rosholt the irrigator has been run twice so far this summer.
- The wheat was harvested at Rosholt yesterday.
- He has been completing Irrigation Water Management on 15 pivots this summer.
- Earl Hauge request to meet with the Board. He mentioned this project in Chippewa Falls Section 26.

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician

- Farmbill Updates-Quarterly report submitted \$20,472.82-deadlines for CRP eligibility is this Friday and September 13th are when the conservation plans need to be finished.
- Authorize to sign Contribution Agreement if it materializes
- RIM Inspection Letters to go out end of the month.
- She attended Conservation Planning Training and Cover Crop Training this past month.

e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician

- Buffer Updates-She stated that she still needs to go out and verify buffers this fall.
- Monitoring Updates-Monitoring is going well.
- Easement Updates-The SWAP proposal is still being worked on through the agreement process.
- She has been working on cover updates on RIM sites.
- CREP there is one new site possibly in the works.
- Grazing Field Day re-cap/Payment received/Processing bills and final report are being finalized.
- Cooperative Weed Management she has been working with landowners to execute contracts.
- She attended a couple of trainings this past month including cover crops and conservation planning training.

Earl Hauge who had requested time on the agenda arrived at the meeting at about 8:30 a.m. He has a different project that he wanted to discuss with the board. He wants to build a road across a wetland. Staff explained that the wetland boundary would need to be delineated and then the site would have to follow the steps in the Wetland Conservation Act (Avoid, Minimize, Mitigate). Erickson shared the letter with the board that he provided to Mr. Hauge explaining this process. Mr. Hauge asked the board what authority that they have in the decision process and if they could approve his request without having to follow the steps in the letter he received. Staff explained that if the organization failed to implement the law that the state would step in. Mr. Hauge explained that he had concern over the expense to have a wetland delineated and to buy credits if needed. The board stated that they need to follow the law and thanked Mr. Hauge for coming to the meeting.



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- f) Jeff Hellerman-He shared that he has had a few new 1026 determinations. He has been working on CSP applications. He talked about pasture practices and cover crop practices and certifications. He also mentioned the Grazing Tour that was held.
- g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA no report

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- a. Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP policy meetings, Glacial Lakes Trail-There were no meetings in the last month.
- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board-He was unable to attend the last meeting but Kovarik and Commissioner Gerde provided an update on the last meeting.
- c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Policy Committee meeting-He shared updates from the last meeting.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
9-17-19	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

10. FYI Items

- Campaign Finance contact information for board members was updated.
- 2019 MCIT Dividend Notice \$1,257 Workers Compensation/\$694 Property/Casualty

11. Adjourn-Randy Pederson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
