



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
June 18, 2019

Attendance: Keith Nyaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Mitteness, Randy Pederson, Holly Kovarik, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Kelly Erickson, Jessica Hoheisel, Nicole Brede, Laurie Aaberg, Mark Ritter, and Jeff Hellerman

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle at 7:05 a.m.
2. There were no additions/or corrections to the agenda items.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President

a) *May 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.	Houston Engineering	PTMPapp	\$4,264.50	Capacity

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>
WS02-19	LWM	Greg Gillham	Well Sealing	Glenwood Section 32	\$500.00	
WS03-19	LWM	Thelma Searcy	Well Sealing	Glenwood Section 8	\$500.00	

Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as read. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde

- He mentioned the county equalization meeting and that Chippewa River Watershed project has a meeting this coming Friday.
- There was discussion about FEMA and that some neighboring counties did have a disaster declaration. Pope County was not included in this declaration.
- There are USFWS easements that the board will be reviewing this morning.
- Sauk River Watershed needs a manager from Pope County the announcement is out now. The incumbent is not reapplying.

5. Old Business



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- 70th Anniversary of Pope SWCD/Rosholt Field Day set August 27-draft agenda/meal/logistics were discussed with the board. Kovarik will create a budget for the day including the meal, advertising, tables, and chairs. The Cattleman's have agreed to cook for the day and we plan to have sweet corn. Kovarik is working on a post card to advertise the event and will also determine what we have in the research grants for the event. The board agreed that this is a public education event and that there is a strong public purpose for the event. There will be no fee to attend but registration in advance will be important. Mitteness will give the Cattleman's a count of around 200 to attend the event. There will be 3 main presentations along with 2 other spots for speakers. Kovarik asked for suggestions from the board. She will continue to coordinate the event with advertising starting in late July.
- CREP Application submitted for Farmbill Funding 50% time starting July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020-Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the contract and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

6. New Business

- Office Remodel updates were shared with the board. The remodel is almost complete we have moved into our space and NRCS has moved across the hall in the past week. We will be working on moving our shed back soon.
- Lease printer discussion was shared with the board. Our main printer on the network now has moved across the hall. We will not have access in a government shutdown or after they close their doors at the end of the day. The board provided direction to Kovarik to research leasing or owning our own so ensure we have access to a printer.
- Budget discussion-start planning for 2020 budget-Kovarik shared that she will be working on the budget with information on that coming in the next couple of months.
- Observation Well Program-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the contract and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Soil Health Network-Membership Forms was discussed by the board. Randy Mitteness made a motion to sign Pope SWCD up as a member for the \$25.00 fee and Randy Pederson 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 Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - ii. Monthly Checking Account Report #11247
 - iii. Monthly Savings Account Report #870903
 - iv. Treasurer Report (3-year comparison)

b) Holly Kovarik, Manager

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- SRW IWIP planning process was shared with the board. They are working on goal statements and eventually this will go before the policy committee to approve.
- NFCRW IWIP planning process-They are working on finalizing details to begin implementing the plan and block grant.
- Irrigation Scheduling-setting up we have 15 pivots this year. -Kovarik is working on setting up the spreadsheets and Kelly will plan to go out in the next week or so for soil moisture checks.
- Board Picture needed so we can update for our records. -Kovarik discussed new shirts. She will look for a new shirt that we can wear at our Rosholt event in August.
- Governance 101 training interest for fall-Randy Mitteness is interested in attending this event.
- Area II meeting June 19th at Lakeside (all board members are registered)-The meeting is scheduled for June 19th.
- Annual Report meeting set with the County Board for July 9. Keith and Gary will attend with Kovarik to present.
- Pope County Fair is July 16-20-The SWCD will have 1 booth this year.
- Outstanding Conservationist needs to be selected a list will be drafted for the board to review in July.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Wetland Conservation Act program updates-Earl Hauge withdrew his application for a no loss. He is working on a boundary and type determination, and a wetland determination.
- Sales Program Updates-It has been a tough year for sales with only 4 tree sites planted. He is working on seeding buffers and CRP as well as no-till drill rentals.
- The board discussed the challenges with the no-till drills and how they are getting old. Kovarik and Erickson will be working on a quote for a new drill for discussion with the budget.
- He will be working on irrigation water management.
- He has observation well monitoring to accomplish.
- The wheat has been sprayed in Westport.

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician

- Farm bill Updates were shared. CRP is now open with limited practices. There were 130 total contracts to review and they will be worked. Several qualify for a 1-year extension option. Letters have been sent out by FSA to landowners with expiring CRP.
- She assisted with tree planting and at Rosholt.

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e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician

- Buffer Updates were shared with the board. She is working on staking and verification of sites. It has been tough though with how wet things are and lateness of crops being planted.
- Monitoring Updates-This program has been going well.
- Easement Updates-She is working on the Schmidgall/Carruthers swap. The foodplot was too large and they are working on fixing this on their existing CRP contract.
- She has a landowner interested in a pollinator planting.
- Doug Schleifs CREP site was finally planted.
- She has had a few inquiries for CREP.
- She has been working with Melissa on the grazing tour. There is a \$500 scholarship and the Pope SWCD will administer and receive the funds.
- CWMA-She is working with the Ag Inspectors on this program. They are working with a contractor for an estimate for the spraying. There are two people interested in the pasture/spraying cost share.
- She is going to be working on coordination with the City for the stormwater project that has been discussed.

f) Tiffany Muellner, Intern-no report

g) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS

- Civil Rights was discussed with the board and the MOU. They all reviewed and signed the agreement.
- Shared information on compliance checks for HEL lands. He had 18 tracts that were visited.
- He shared information about CRP, CSP (9 applications), EQIP, and WRP. We are waiting to hear on the 2nd round of EQIP what was funded. There will be 4 WRP burns this year, 1 seeding, and 1 wetland restoration project.

h) Laurie Aaberg, FSA

- Introduced the COT Mark Ritter to the board. He has been in our office learning FSA programs.
- She has been authorized to replace Wendy. She is currently advertising for this position.
- Landowners are working on certifying.
- There will be a farm program sign up this fall.
- There are no incentives for CRP, limited practices, and no mid contract maintenance.
- 41 farms so far have prevent plant acres. They are only at about 40% reporting completed for certification.

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- a. Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP policy meetings, Glacial Lakes Trail-nothing to report
- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board-meeting will be held this Friday.



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c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Policy Committee meetings-nothing to report

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
7-16-19	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

10. FYI Items

- Summer Newsletter has been sent to the printers.
- Conservation Planning Training-Jess, Nicole, Holly

11. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
