



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

## MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held via Zoom due to the Pandemic  
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am  
April 21, 2020

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

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:10 a.m.
2. By consensus of the board the agenda was approved.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President

a) *March 2020 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-NONE*

<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>

Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as noted and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- He shared updates on the County legislative matters including the bonding bill.
- He mentioned that a Chippewa River Watershed Project meeting was held with good discussion. The Joint Powers Agreement will be on the County board agenda at the May meeting.

5. Old Business

- Chippewa River Joint Powers Agreement-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the Joint Powers Agreement as presented and pending the County Board's approval. Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor.



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### 6. New Business

- Sauk River Special Assessments on Rosholt Research Farm Discussion-The Board members discussed the special assessment received for the Rosholt Research Farm parcels. Kovarik shared that she had sent a notice to the Sauk River Watershed District that the parcels are exempt from property taxes through the County. This assessment is different than the ditch assessments as well which the SWCD has asked for an exemption as well. The Pope SWCD is a unit of government that does not have taxing authority. The SWCD is dependent on grant funds, general fund appropriations for programs that they administer, and county financial support. The SWCD has limited ability to pay assessments. The Rosholt Research Farms main purpose is for research and utilizes grants to support itself and to cover the facilities expenses. It was also shared that the Pope SWCD does not profit economically from the Rosholt Research Farm. The goal is to cover the expenses to operate the farm and to utilize the site as much as we can for research. Keith Nygaard made a motion to ask for an exemption from the special assessments from Sauk River Watershed District and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor. Kovarik will follow up with Sauk River Watershed District and report back to the board.
- Kimberly DeMorett New Hire for Rosholt Hydrologist Internship started on April 20, 2020. She introduced herself to the board.
- Pope County Fair Booth-The board discussed the fair booth and a registration should be submitted for 2020. Kovarik will follow up and get a booth.
- Jessica Hoheisel Computer Purchase \$1,607.25 Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the purchase of the computer as discussed and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Johnshoy Amendment #1 CWF17-03 add \$5,000 to funds for project-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the amendment to the contract for CWF17-03 to add \$5,000 to the Johnshoy project. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor.

### 7. Reports

- a. Treasurer Report-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report as prepared and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. 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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- Cost Share Contract Updates Authorized to execute at 3/17/2020 Board Meeting: Norman Nissen CS 20-3 \$1,265.80 (split), Paul Freeman #CS20-02 (split) \$10,430.75, Tom and Todd Johnshoy Lake Emily 2017 CWF #17-03 \$52,736.75
- Buffer Cost Share Contract Updates Authorized to execute at 3/17/2020 Board Meeting: Tim Kannegiesser #BCS23-17 \$1,000 executed 3/11/2020, Brian Bennett #BCS24-17 \$300 executed 3/13/2020, Norman Nissen #BCS21-17 \$10,472 (split), Paul Freeman BCS#23-17 \$7,652 (split)
- Buffer Cost Share Grant Log was shared with the board.
- State Cost Share Grant Logs 2018, 2019, 2020 (Wrolson, Reents) were shared with the board.
- Lake Emily Targeted Implementation Grant Log 2017 was shared with the board.
- MAWQCP Financial Assistance set up for Anderson and Freeman
- Pope County LRM Shoreland Permits: Nissen and Freeman were completed.
- Chippewa River Watershed 319 Funding-Woodke WASCOP project update
- Local Work Group Meeting Update was shared with the board. The Chippewa River Watershed Project will be holding a conference call coming up this week and the Local Work Group met via Skype. Kovarik is working with Paul Wymar on the next meeting.
- Area II Meeting Update-Kovarik shared that she has been communicating with Chuck Rau and that they are waiting to decide on status of the meeting scheduled in June.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Reporting
- Linc pass updates were completed for Kovarik and Erickson.
- North Fork TAC Meeting was held, and they are working on a new cooperative working agreement (MOCA). Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the agreement pending the County Board's approval. Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; and Mitteness, Aye. The motion passed with all in favor.
- MASWCD has announced this year's resolution process. The staff have no resolutions to present currently.
- Kovarik mentioned the DNR Johnshoy agreement that Kovarik signed. The project is moving forward this spring and we have approvals from the DNR on the part of the structure that is on the Selix property.
- The Board packet included the 2019 Non-Point Engineering Report.
- Kovarik mentioned she is working on the next CREP Farmbill request.
- Kovarik shared that she has secured funding through MASWCD for 20 CRP contracts.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician



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- Sales Program Updates-Tree Pickup set for May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Will be done in a drive thru format.) Tree pickup will be held like a drive through. He has about 5 sites to plant.
- It has been a slower month but there has been some drill rent.
- Probe truck has been picked up.
- The new drill has been picked up.
- He has been working on preparations at Rosholt and the new storage room.
- The observation well monitoring has come to a stop.
- WCA items -6 to 7 wetland conservation act questions and there is 1 whistleblower complaint in process.

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician

- CRP Sign Up-95% acceptance-She will work on 20 plans. These will have to be done in the new Conservation Desktop application.
- MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program-She is learning this program. We have about 38 sign ups with around 16 in process currently.
- Poster Contest/Long Lake Conservation Camp-The poster contest presentation was shared with the teachers. We may not have a poster contest to judge at the May meeting. We will share with the board what we receive.
- Stewardship Week-Information was not shared with the churches because they are not able to meet during this time.
- She has been teleworking most of this time.

e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician

- Cooperative Weed Management updates were shared with the board. We were not successful in attaining the grant through MDA.
- City of Glenwood updates were shared with the board. Staff is working on getting estimates and preparing for projects identified in the report and grant workplan. The workplan has been finalized and approved by BWSR. The first half of the grant should be deposited in our account soon. She is working on engineering requests
- Buffer Law Stuff-She is prepping for spring field work. There are several sites that will be seeded this spring.
- She has prepped for spring monitoring if they are able to do so. This is on hold right now because of COVID-19.
- Training-She watched a cover crop webinar.

f) Jeff Hellerman-He has been working CSP there are 12 applications for 2020. EQIP has 42 applications for 2020 and 24 have been prioritized for ranking. He shared information on a program for hog producers for euthanization and disposal of hogs. This is due to the packing plant shutdowns due to COVID-19.



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g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA -No report

**8. Board Member Meeting Reports**

- a. Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail- There have been no meetings.
- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-There is a meeting coming up but nothing to report now. The board already approved the agreement.
- c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update -There have been no meetings held due to COVID-19. Kovarik noted that the Technical Advisory Committee has been meeting.

**9. Upcoming Meetings:**

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
5-19-2020	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.

**10. FYI Items**

- Annual Report Publication Sent to Legislators-Legislative Days were Canceled

**11. Public Comment**

12. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 a.m. and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Nygaard, Aye; Reents, Aye; Pederson, Aye; Mitteness, Aye; ~~and others, Aye~~ The motion passed with all in favor.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

5-19-2020

*Randall & Pederson*

5-19-2020

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