



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

MEETING Minutes

Meeting was held at the Rosholt Research Farm
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
July 21, 2020

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Mitteness, Randy Pederson, Holly Kovarik, Jessica Hoheisel, and Kelly Erickson

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:07 a.m.
2. The agenda was approved by general consensus with no additions.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President

a) *June 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.	WCTSA	Engineering	\$2,815.18	Qtr 1 2017 Lake Emily
2.	WCTSA	Engineering	\$7,576.73	Quarter 2 2017 Lake Emily/WCA
3.	Regeants of the UOFM	Rosholt IxN study	\$7,500	Qtr 2 Rosholt MDA
4.	Regeants of UofM	Rosholt Nitrogen Study	\$26,500	Qtr 2 Rosholt MDA

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>

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

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde-no report
 - Kelly Erickson mentioned that Commissioner Gerde had a few complaints about Reno and Maple Lakes water levels being high.
5. Old Business
 - Rosholt Virtual Field Day Updates-scheduled for August 20th Noon-1
 - Legislative Updates were shared.
 - Update on CREP Interest Submitted was shared with the board. The Pope SWCD has submitted for a .5 FTE.



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- Dean Paulson final invoices for payment approval-Randy Pederson made a motion to pay the final payment for the Dean Paulson project contract MCWF06-16 as completed in the amount of \$54,960.50. \$51,608.35 from the 2016 Lake Minnewaska project grant and \$3,352.15 from the 2019 Local Capacity funding. Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Kovarik shared that she has been working with the Pope County Tribune on an article. She also mentioned that Commissioner Gerde has been out to the site.

6. New Business

- Maternity Leave was discussed for Nicole Brede. Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve 6 weeks of paid leave any remaining time would need to be taken from sick or vacation accruals. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- 2020 Local Work Group Meeting set for July 22 at 9 a.m. via Zoom-The board discussed in general their priorities and were curious if a template or form was available like we have had before. Kovarik shared that this was not something provided for this time. It was discussed that there were challenges getting erosion and sediment control practices cost shared. The funding this cycle ended up in other parts of the state for management practices. The Pope SWCD has continued to place emphasis on the priorities in our Pope County Water Plan. A few of the board members plan to attend the session and will help to share these thoughts. Kovarik was a little concerned how a Zoom call will work for a Local Work Group meeting.
- 2019 Financial Presentation/Analysis was shared with the board.
- 2021 County Appropriation Request-Kovarik had prepared this year's request to the board for discussion and revisions. The only change to last year's request would be the inclusion of match and support for the Conservation Reserve Program work and funding match to the MASWCD Contribution Agreement and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Grant program. Kovarik explained in 2019 that the Farmbill Technician grant was not renewed, and we will not be able to access those funds at this time. CRP brought in \$1.8 Million in cost share and payments to landowners in the County. This is a huge economic stimulus for our residents. It is our desire to continue to help at the same level to landowners and our federal partners. It is not a great time to be asking for additional funding, but this was a conversation started in 2019 with the County. Randy Mitteness moved to approve the presentation format and the 2021 County Appropriation Request and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Vold Nutrient Management Field Day-The Board discussed this field day concept and agreed that the field day was a great idea but could not support an in-person event this fall with COVID-19. The board has directed Kovarik to work with the landowner for a virtual event if interested or encourage this to be completed in 2021.

7. Reports

- a. Treasurer Report-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the financial report as presented subject to audit and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - ii. Monthly Checking Account Report #11247



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- iii. Monthly Savings Account Report #870903
- iv. Treasurer Report (3-year comparison)

b) Holly Kovarik, Manager

- Watershed Updates-Chippewa/Sauk/North Fork were shared with the board. Chippewa is continuing to work on the Pre-Wraps grant, 319 Grant, and new JPA. Sauk River has a draft of the plan that will soon be released. Comments will need to be completed by the end of August. North Fork is working on their second workplan for implementation. Board members that had attended policy committee meetings also shared feedback.
- The newsletter has been published.
- Updates are being made on a regular basis to Facebook.
- CREP Quarter #2 report submitted AR \$9,569.33
- DNR 2021 OB Well Agreement Approved
- Audit Preparations are being done.
- DNR 2020 OB Well report submitted AR \$2,160.00
- The 2016 Lake Minnewaska grant is in process to be closed out with the Paulson project final payment being processed.
- The 2017 Lake Emily project has requested the next 40% of the grant and with the Johnshoy payment the grant should be close to 90% spent.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Sales Program Updates-The drill has been used on 200 acres this season.
- WCA items -Nathan Johnson restored a wetland and Erickson asked the board to approve the boundary and type determination as recommended by the TEP. Keith Nyaard made a motion to approve the Nathan Johnson boundary and type determination and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Solar Garden Club 3 Boundary and type determination and no loss application was described by Erickson. Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the Solar Garden Club 3 boundary and type determination and no loss application and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Erickson shared information about the additions to the Barsness park bicycle path. A grant has been received and they plan to add new paths with removing vegetation but will be avoiding wetlands. The need a letter from the SWCD for the DNR to approve the funds release.
- Erickson talked about the County Road 20 culvert lowering for the North Fork WD. It was shared that this request came in late close to when the County was intending to do the road project. The Pope SWCD did not have an application to address and the lowering of the culvert at this time would not be



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maintenance but considered an improvement. This project will be discussed again at a future meeting.

- The Sauk River watershed has submitted a WCA application for a ditch project. The TEP will be reviewing and more information will be brought to a future meeting.
- He has been operating the irrigation system at Rosholt.
- He has been doing Irrigation Water Management reports for several landowners.

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician-see written report

e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician-see written report

- She completed shoreline site checks.
- CWMA followed up on phone calls. There is no funding right now to implement but we have completed a few articles.
- She is working on the Buffer Program and preparing noncompliance information for enforcement to be sent to the County. She has a few site visits remaining.
- She has been working on a RIM upgrade of cover.
- She completed a site visit to stake a boundary on an easement.
- She is working on one CREP plan the batching period is coming up in August.
- She has assisted with the sales program.
- She has completed the lake and stream monitoring for the SWAG grant.
- She has been sampling the Kernza plot.
- She has got the first project going for the City of Glenwood grant and WSN has surveyed and is working on a project design.
- She is hoping to go out with engineering staff this summer to survey sites.
- She is working on a critical area planting project.
- She has assisted with cost share inspections.

f) Tiffany Muellner, Intern/Kimberly DeMorett, Intern-no report

g) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-no report

h) 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 but one is planned in August for North Fork.



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- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-They have met, and this update was shared earlier on the agenda.
- c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-There has been no meeting but they are waiting on being able to review the plan.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
8-18-2020	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	TBD	7:00 a.m.

The board decided to set the next meeting for at the Rolling Forks Vineyard at 7:00 a.m. and then go to the Paulson site for a tour of the project. Kovarik will set this up with Paulson and the Cihlars. If this does not work Kovarik should set the meeting for at Rosholt again so that we can maintain social distancing requirements.

- 10. FYI Items-none
- 11. Public Comment-none
- 12. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

[Handwritten signature]

8-18-20

Randy Pederson *8-18-20*

