



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
May 19, 2020

ATTENDANCE: Keith Nygaard, D. Gary Reents, Randy Pederson, Tom Talle, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Holly Kovarik, Kelly Erickson, Kimberly DeMorett, Jessica Hoheisel, Nicole Brede

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Tom Talle at 7:05 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. The board by consensus approved the agenda as presented. There were no new additional items presented.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*

a) *April 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.	UofM	MDA Rosholt Nitrogen Study	\$28,000	MDA JPA Grant
2.	UofM	MDA Irrigation Nitrogen Inter	\$2,500	MDA JPA Grant

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>
CAP01-19	2019 Local Capacity	Jeff Trunnell	Critical Area Planting	Lake Leven	\$1,208.59	
CWF17-02	2017 Lake Emily	Todd and Tom Johnshoy	WASCOB	BM 8		75% Total Cost but NTE \$38,752.12
CWF17-03	2017 Lake Emily	Todd and Tom Johnshoy	WASCOB/Diversion	BM8		75% Total Cost NTE \$57,736.75
CS18-02	2018/2019 State Cost Share	Carlton Wrolson	WASCOB	Nora 35		75% Total Cost NTE \$5,696.25



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting will be held via Zoom due to the Pandemic
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
May 19, 2020

BCS21-17 & CS 20-3	State CS Buffer CS	Norman Nissen	WASCOB/Diversion	Walden 17		75% Total Cost NTE \$11,737.80
CS19-01	State CS	D. Gary Reents	WASCOB	Glenwood 12		75% Total Cost NTE \$15,051.56

Keith Nygaard made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented and Randy Pederson. Chairman Talle mentioned that a correction would be needed for the minutes on the roll call vote. The motion passed with all in favor based on the roll call, but his vote should not be listed. Kovarik will make the correction to the minutes. Roll call vote was taken Keith Nygaard (aye), Randy Pederson (aye), and D. Gary Reents (aye). The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- They have delayed any penalty on property taxes till July.
- They have set up drop boxes and it is appointment only for working with County employees.
- He mentioned the Chippewa River Watershed meeting and that the County has approved the agreement.
- He mentioned that USFWS has a few easements coming to the board in June.

5. Old Business

- RCPP Irrigation Proposal was not selected for funding.
- Rosholt Spring Work Updates-the Rosholt Nitrogen study is up and running and Kimberly has been doing the weekly samples. The Kernza plots are being worked on with instrumentation being installed. Vasu's three trials are all being worked on and the instrumentation is being installed in the next couple of weeks.
- Rosholt Field Day is still being planned for August. Staff has been waiting to see what decisions may come from the state and University staff before deciding to cancel the 2020 event.
- Area II Meeting- This is still in a holding pattern with a likely decision the end of the month to defer to July or hold via alternative means.

6. New Business

- Quick Legislative Updates were shared with the board. The legislative session ended with many things undecided. This will be taken up in a special session in June. Some decision if not approved could end up affecting budgets starting on July 1 the new state fiscal year. Kovarik encouraged board members to watch for details coming from MASWCD and that she would inform them as this continues to evolve.
- Elections Updates-D. Gary Reents and Randy Pederson are up for election in 2020. Filing opens on May 19th and closes within two weeks.
- Poster Contest details were shared with schools. There were no submissions for judging this year. COVID-19 has altered the way that these schools were in session and this made it a challenge for schools to do the contest. The teachers did share the information with the students.



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting will be held via Zoom due to the Pandemic
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
May 19, 2020

- Stewardship Week was the end of April. Churches have not been meeting due to COVID-19 so it was challenging to be able to share this information with them. Staff will share the Stewardship information in other ways. This year the theme is on pollinators.
- Water Fest (September 18)/Conservation Day (September 24)-The Pope SWCD staff have set a date for these two events but understand that some adjustments may need to be made. The Science Museum of Minnesota is not answering calls right now and it is uncertain if we will be able to book them for the event. Kovarik mentioned as an alternative the event could be bumped to the spring of 2021 so that this grade can still participate in the events. More information to come as COVID-19 evolves.
- Field Day Discussion with UofM Staff Precipitation/Climatology-Kovarik shared that the University staff discussed with her an event of some type maybe even held virtually. They are looking for 25-50 people to participate and wanted to hold the event at Rosholt after our field day. Kovarik will share more details as they become available.
- LCCMR Long-term Nitrate Mitigation by Maintaining Profitable Kernza-Kovarik shared that the next phase of this project needs to be sought after now. This is a new grant through the LCCMR that has been applied for to continue the Kernza plot work. The grant application has been submitted which includes Rosholt and we will have to wait and see if the funds are awarded.

7. Reports

Treasurer Report D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Roll call vote was taken Keith Nygaard (aye), Randy Pederson (aye), and D. Gary Reents (aye). 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

- Grants Officially Closed Out: 2017 Local Capacity, 2016 Lake Emily Targeted, 2019 Conservation Delivery, 2019 Wetland Conservation Act, 2019 Buffer Law (BWSR has finished reviewing our reports for the 2/1/2020 deadline.)
- SRWD has responded to our request on the assessment. They will be discussing at one of their next meetings. Kovarik will report when she knows more about their position.
- CREP Request for Interest was submitted for the next phase which would begin July 1, 2020.
- Letter of support submitted to MDA for LCCMR Project Application for Nitrate Testing equipment updates.
- Precipitation Observer information was distributed.
- MAWQCP 1st Quarter Invoice 6,104.13
- CRWP Pre-Wraps 1st Quarter Invoice \$2,367.42



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting will be held via Zoom due to the Pandemic
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
May 19, 2020

- Irrigation Methods 1st Quarter Invoice \$139.26
- Irrigation Nitrogen Interaction Study 1st Quarter Invoice \$4,995.10
- Nitrogen Study 1st Quarter Invoice \$32,670.89
- LCCMR Kernza 1st Quarter Invoice \$1,094.71
- Provided feedback to MN Erosion Control Association of Annual Meeting ideas.
- Glacial Hills Educational Day to be held spring 2021.
- Well Sealing Application for Paul Swenson was shared with the board to seal three wells. Keith Nygaard made a motion to encumber funds for the 3 wells NTE \$1,450 total (75% cost per well not to exceed \$500 per well). Randy Pederson seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken Keith Nygaard (aye), Randy Pederson (aye), and D. Gary Reents (aye). The motion passed with all in favor. The funds used will come from the 2020 Local Water Management Plan funding received from the County. The SWCD can seal about 5 wells per year with the funding that we have in this program.
- Staffing updates-Kovarik shared that the staff had through 5-15-2020 most SWCD staff were working from home due to COVID-19. She has been mainly in the office and Erikson has been coming in and out prepping for spring work. In the past couple of weeks, Hoeheisel has been coming in and helping with field work. Starting Monday 5-18-2020 the Governor has changed the Stay at Home Order to a Stay Safe Order. The Pope SWCD has a walk-up window service option that provides protections for the employees. All staff are reporting to the office and conducting work now some are active in the field. The walk-up window option will work for the summer months. The front door remains locked at this time and we will follow USDA on opening the front door to the public. When staff are meeting in the field with customers, we are maintaining social distancing protocol. Staff may wear a mask if they choose to do so. Staff will continue to monitor the pandemic situation and keep the board informed as this continues to evolve over the next several months.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Sales Program Updates-The trees are all sold and are all planted. The equipment servicing was completed for the spring. The tree pickup event was held using a drive through theme. The Highway Department was generous enough to borrow the SWCD a few cones to set up for the event. Staff instructed people to stay in their cars. There are 3 sites left to get weed fabric installed. There are 7 sites to complete buffer seeding on. There are 3 pivots signed up for Irrigation Water Management at this time.
- WCA items-There has been some wetland activity this past month with a couple of potential violations and a cease and desist that was ordered. The board was made aware of another violation for Earl Hauge which is in process for a restoration order.



*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
May 19, 2020

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician

- 38 MAWQCP Applications (Approximately 16 in process)
- Mentioned that she is working on getting information for the water fest from schools.
- She will work on 20 CRP contracts.
- She is learning the new Conservation Desktop application.
- She help prep lysimeters at Rosholt.

e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician

- Helped to set up Rosholt and to train Kimberly DeMorett for the first couple of weeks of sampling.
- She has assisted with tree planting and installation of weed fabric.
- She has been working on RIM grazing plans.
- She has been working on cover upgrades.
- She is working on CREP Easement Title work.
- She is prepping for site visits for 22 parcels that need to be finished in implementing their buffers. There will likely be 2-3 sites sent for enforcement action by the County.
- She mentioned the City of Glenwood project grant and sties she has visited. She is working on engineering requests on these sites.
- She has been working with WSN the City Engineer to finalize a cost estimate for completing a design on the ravine repair and well sealing.
- MDA FY 2019 CWMA Grant Closed Out

f) Jeff Hellerman

- No report

g) Laurie Aaberg, FSA -no report

8. Board Member Meeting Reports

- a. Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail - Glacial Ridge Trail will hold a scavenger hunt this month. The North Fork Crow River will hold a policy meeting on the 13th.
- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-A meeting was just held and the agreement is being approved by the various entities.
- c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-there will be a meeting held on the 22nd of May.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
6-16-2020	Pope SWCD Regular Meeting	USDA Service Center	7 a.m.



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting will be held via Zoom due to the Pandemic
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
May 19, 2020

6-18-2020	Area II Meeting	Rosholt Research Farm	9 a.m.
-----------	-----------------	-----------------------	--------

10. FYI Items

- Walk Up Window Created
- Rosholt Storage Room Finished
- Chippewa River JPA was signed by the County

11. Public Comment-none

Adjourn-Randy Pederson made a motion to approve to adjourn and Keith Nygaard seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Roll call vote was taken Keith Nygaard (aye), Randy Pederson (aye), and D. Gary Reents (aye). The motion passed with all in favor.



6-16-2020



6-16-2020