



MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held at the Rolling Forks Vineyard
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 15, 2020

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Pederson, Randy Mitteness, Kelly Erickson, Holly Kovarik, and Commissioner Paul Gerde

1. The meeting was called to order by President Talle at 7:04 a.m. at Rolling Forks Vineyard.
2. Approve the Agenda-The board by general consensus approved the agenda with the addition of a well sealing project approval for Merlyn and Jackie Ast.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*

a) *August 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.	WSN	City of Glenwood Stormwater grant	\$4,437.00	City of Glenwood grant project

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*
 - They are currently working on the budget and in negotiations with 4 unions.
 - They had a couple of presentations from Bonnie Keehler from the University of Minnesota and Carrie Jennings from the Freshwater Society.
5. Old Business
 - Rosholt Virtual Field Day Updates-Kovarik provided a brief update. The virtual field day had 150 registered for the event with an average of 90 on the call at a time. The event went well, and the audience was largely agency and University staff along with a few producers. Most of the board members were able to attend the training and it was noted that the presentations can be found online and watched at any time along with a recording of the event.



MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held at the Rolling Forks Vineyard
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 15, 2020

- 2021 County Appropriation Request Follow up-Kovarik shared that this was completed via the telephone. Supervisors that participated included Randy Pederson and Keith Nygaard. We submitted all of our materials in advance and just did a quick recap of the request and now we wait to see what the County decides.
- Fy20-21 CREP Agreement Approved Workplan set-Kovarik shared that this workplan has been completed and submitted to BWSR.

6. New Business

- MDA Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Grant CY 2021-Kovarik shared that the application this time is for \$5,000 with most for treatment of larger areas and some staff time. She asked if the board had questions on the application. There were no questions currently. The staff will proceed to finalize the application and to submit it by the deadline.
- Pope-Swift Strategic Plan and MOU discussion-Kovarik shared that a few updates to language were being discussed by the many partners in this MOU. The changes are nothing substantial and Jessica is working through the edits. This agreement has been in place since 2006 with all the partnering agencies. A final draft of both documents will be shared when available with the board members.
- MASWCD CRP Sign Up Conservation Plan reported AR \$8,800-Kovarik shared that our work on CRP is finished and that she is working on the invoicing for this funding to MASWCD. This should be wrapped up by the next board meeting.
- Kovarik shared that Nicole Brede is officially on maternity leave, she had a baby girl on Saturday. They are all well.

7. Reports

a. Treasurer Report-D. Gary Reents made a motion and Randy Mitteness 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

- Clean Water Council working on FY 22-23 updates-Kovarik shared the details she has been working on with the Clean Water Council for the upcoming budget recommendations. MASWCD last week announced that they would now be suggesting in the short term that the Capacity funding for SWCDs be budgeted by the Clean Water Council and a part of the recommendations. In the long term that they would advocate for an alternative funding source. The current pandemic has worsened the budget outlook and no new funding sources are likely to be determined. Kovarik shared that they were able to cut approximately \$10 million out of the recommendations eliminating some and then spreading out the cuts to various organizations programs by about 3%. There was not a amount figured in for SWCD Capacity funding at this time. This will be discussed for several months yet and the legislature will not have a



MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held at the Rolling Forks Vineyard
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 15, 2020

bill to discuss until this spring. If a solution is not reached for SWCD funding, this would put our SWCD in jeopardy of losing about \$140,000 including County Matches to support staff position funding.

- Quarterly reporting will start again at the end of September with the 3rd quarter now coming to a completion.
- Sauk River IWIP Plan review have till August 21 and responses to comments-crafting sections of the plan-Kovarik shared she has had several meetings to work on the plan review. The TAC has been responding to over 600 comments and determining if changes are needed in areas of the plan. Gary Reents commented on the last policy committee meeting. Todd County partners seemed to have some reservations during the last meeting, but the plan was moved forward. The plan is set to go out for public comment on October 1st.
- MAWQCP Financial Agreements for landowners-Kovarik has been working with landowners on setting up these financial agreements for landowners.
- LCCMR Kernza Phase II status and updates-Kovarik shared that the LCCMR committee did approve funding for the Kernza Phase II project but that we had a reduction. All partners have been meeting over Zoom to discuss budget reductions. A final submitted budget and workplan is due in the next week or so. Kovarik shared that this will need to be approved yet by the legislature and that should happen sometime in early 2021. She will provide more updates and information becomes available.
- 2019 Audit preparations-Kovarik shared that she has been working on the audit and it is being handled remotely. This has required more staff time to scan and provide documents electronically for the accountant to review. She has submitted all the documents needed as of last week and the accountant is set to begin review this week. She will provide more details as they become available.
- North Fork TAC meeting-Kovarik participated in a TAC and Policy committee meeting for the North Fork. The group worked on approval of projects. She shared a little about how well the Sharepoint site works and we all can see the documents as we are discussing projects.
- Chippewa River Watershed work including 319 grant updates and reporting and the public participation plan draft-Kovarik shared that she has been working on updates to the 319 grant tracking log. There have been payments submitted to process to the MPCA. She shared she has been working on the Public Participation Plan as well as the prioritization section for the report. She shared that the TAC met last week and a subcommittee has met as well to continue to refine this plan. She shared that we are waiting on a County Attorney signature from Douglas County but otherwise have an executed document for the new JPA. Commissioner Gerde mentioned if a budget had been discussed for 2021. Kovarik shared that the TAC has discussed next steps but there are a few that need some answers how to proceed. The current group



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

MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held at the Rolling Forks Vineyard
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 15, 2020

will need to continue to finish up the old grants while the new structure forms including review of bylaws and setting of a budget as first steps for the new organization. She is not certain how we smoothly dissolve one group and transfer funds to the new structure. She shared that these were items that would need to be discussed with the Chippewa River JPB on Friday. She shared that the TAC discussed that the Public Participation Plan and Prioritization work they have done are good first steps in preparing us for a IWIP application in early 2021. She shared that the group is in a good place and needs to continue to lay the foundation for everyone in the partnership. The group will be meeting via telephone on Friday.

c) Kelly Erickson, Technician

- Sales Program Updates-He shared that he has been moving equipment to Westport. He has had a few fall tree sales and is waiting on price lists from the nurseries to set 2021 prices. We have not received this information yet so there was nothing to share yet with the board. It was mentioned that we did increase prices in 2020.
- WCA items: He mentioned he has been working on a violation and a potential violation.
- RIM Inspections are completed and were split between Kelly and Jessica.
- He mentioned that it might be a good idea to replace disc blades on the old drills. He will attain a quote it was estimated that this was done in 2013. Staff will do some work to determine when this work was done and to attain an estimate for future discussion.

d) Nicole Brede, District Technician-see written report

e) Jessica Hoheisel, District Technician-no report

- RIM Inspections have been completed.
- CWMA Application/Strategic Plan-This was discussed earlier on the agenda.

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

g) Jeff Hellerman, NRCS

- Shared updates on his work with CRP and CSP.

h) Laurie Aaberg, FSA-no report

8. Board Member Meeting Reports



MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held at the Rolling Forks Vineyard
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 15, 2020

- a. Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail- He did not have anything further to report as this was discussed earlier on the agenda. There wasn't a Glacial Lakes Trail meeting this past month.
- b. Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-There was no meeting last month and the next meeting is on Friday.
- c. D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-The meeting updates were discussed earlier on the agenda.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
10-20-2020	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	USDA Service Center	7:00 a.m.

- 10. FYI Items-Kovarik mentioned that she is working with Stearns SWCD and MDA on another virtual field day for Volds. The application will happen on the 29th of September and will be recorded. Stearns SWCD staff will be doing this work and we will coordinate a virtual event later this winter.
- 11. Public Comment-none
- 12. Adjourn-Keith Nygaard made a motion to adjourn and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

[Handwritten signature]

10-20-20

[Handwritten signature: Randy Pederson]

10-20-2020

