



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting will be held Keith Nygaard's Shop 27820 180th Street, Starbuck, MN 56381 No Zoom Option USDA Service Center closed to public

Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am

September 21, 2021

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

1. **Call To Order & Pledge of Allegiance-**The meeting was called to order by the President Keith Nygaard at 7:03 a.m.
2. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with additions noted by Kovarik and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

3. **Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President**

- o *August 2021 Board Meeting Minutes*

- o *Resolutions-None*

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
03-2021	Resolution to Adopt and Implement the Sauk River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

- o *Contract/Applications for Approval-None*

<u>Number/Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Application \$\$</u>
FY2022 and FY2023 Programs and Operations Grants	Conservation Delivery and State Cost Share	\$77,038

- o *Appropriations/Payments*

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.	WSN	City of Glenwood Ravine	\$3,174.00	City Stormwater CWF
2.				
3.				

- o *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>
EB01-2021	East Branch CWF	Randy Mitteness	WASCOB	Langhei 23	\$8,850.03	
M01-21	2021 Minnewaska CWF	Gerry Maus	WASCOB Terrace	WBL 2		NTE \$40,068.75
TABLED TILL NOVEMBER		Nathan Johnson	WASCOB			
CAP02-19	2019 Local Capacity	Donna Hahn	Lined Channel	MAHS 6		\$27,125



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GL02-2021	City of Glenwood	City of Glenwood	Ravine stabilization	City of Glenwood		\$64,505.36
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Tom Talle made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Randy Pederson made a motion to approve payment for the batwing use to Keith Nygaard in the amount of \$1,705.60 and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve a contract with Colton Isdahl for a well sealing from the Local Water Management grant not to exceed \$500 in cost share WS04-21 Contract #. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- He mentioned that the board is working on the preliminary budget.
- He mentioned that there will be an increase in the levy.
- He mentioned that the board has passed that staff must be vaccinated by November 1st or submit to testing.
- He shared that the Chippewa River Watershed Association group has been successful in attaining a IWIP grant.

5. Old Business

- Rosholt Field Day held August 19 follow up-Kovarik shared that we had about 65 people in attendance at the field day. All that attended the event indicated that the event went well and we were glad that we were able to have the event.
- COVID updates/discussion/Certification of Vaccination-Kovarik shared updates from federal, state, and local situations and policies. She shared that USDA had provided a proof of vaccination form and that they are requesting that these be distributed to SWCD staff since we are in the same building. She shared that she did not distribute the form since it is not something that we have a policy for. She asked the board for their feedback regarding responding. Randy Mitteness made a motion to not respond to the request at this time and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Sauk River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was approved. D. Gary Reents shared with the board that the plan has been approved and now can be adopted to cover the portion of the County in the Sauk River Watershed. We will be adopting this resolution today and then will need to work on our implementation agreement with the partners. The group discussed alternates. Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the following alternates for the watershed partnerships. North Fork lead is Randy Pederson and alternate is D. Gary Reents. The Sauk River lead is D. Gary Reents and the alternate is Randy Pederson. Chippewa the lead is Randy Mitteness and the alternate is Keith Nygaard. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Fair booth DQ winners: Kaitlyn Reents, Kylie Erickson, Heather Johnson, Fryda Pico
Jon

6. New Business



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- Pope and Stevens Water fest is set for September 24th-Kovarik shared that there have been more adjustments this year due to COVID than other years. She decided to not have the Science Museum this year. They had additional protocols they wanted us to implement at an outdoor event. The Osprey Center will be coming instead.
 - Conservation Day is set for September 30th -This event as well has had challenges with presenters due to COVID. However, everything is moving forward as planned for this event. Judy is working on replacement presenters and there will be new stations at this event as well.
 - MAWQCP Promotion and Technical Assistance Application for 2022 \$24,442.34 was submitted. **Tom Talle made a motion to approve the application as submitted and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
 - 2020 State Cost Share Grant was closed out.
 - Per Diems-need to catch up through end of 3rd quarter
 - Juneteenth discussion-Kovarik shared that after visiting with the County Coordinator we do not need to adopt anything as a policy at this time. The County has not put something in their policies yet either.
 - 2022 MCIT Insurance \$6,705 Property/Casualty and Workers Compensation \$5,116
 - Houle, Baycrest, Peters Resort updates were shared with the board.
 - State Cost Share Policy-This was placed on the agenda and will be discussed more at a future meeting this year.
 - Non-Structural Management Policy-This item was placed on the agenda, but no action is needed. Kovarik was working on a particular project and misunderstood that we needed a non-structural policy. We do not currently.
 - 2022 State Cost Share Workplan was shared with the board. The 2022 cost share includes a forestry practice to accommodate for a shelterbelt. A consideration to cost share a shelterbelt under this program can be grant under certain conditions. The storm the end of August created a lot of damage for a few landowners. The remaining amounts in the workplan are for technical and administration and ag practices. The 2023 Cost Share workplan was also completed and this has ag practices, and technical and administration. **Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the workplans and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
 - 2021 State Cost Share-Once the Roger Shike project is completed, we will be able to close out the 2021 State Cost Share grant. We will not fully utilize our T&A more of that will be put into the project cost.
 - Roger Shike Project Discussion-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the CS02-2021 Roger Shike Shelterbelt project in the amount of \$10,265.49 from 2021 CS and \$6,254.76 from 2022 CS. Randy Pederson seconds the motion. The motion passes with all in favor. Randy Mitteness made a motion to delegate Kovarik to sign the contract once our grant agreement is fully executed. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - Outstanding Conservationist Application submitted



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- Bee and Butterfly habitat plot at the Rosholt Research Farm was discussed. Randy Mitteness made a motion to work with this group for a demonstration plot at the farm. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
7. 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.
- Monthly Checking Account Report #11247
 - Monthly Savings Account Report #870903
 - Treasurer Report (3-year comparison)
8. Reports
- Holly Kovarik, Manager
 - Audit scheduled week of August 30
 - Gerry Maus project payment NTE \$41,332.26 2021 Lake Minnewaska CWF grant (75% but NTE contracted amount)
 - MASWCD Area II meeting held at Rosholt follow up. The board members that attended thought that the meeting went well at the farm.
 - Presented at General Federation of Women's Club of Starbuck
 - Clean Water Council Tour Rock-Pipestone-Nobles SWCDs
 - LCCMR Kernza quarterly AR \$7,149.07
 - Completed Tax Exemption Status for the dam and Rosholt properties
 - Nate and Angie Walter Outstanding Conservationist Application submitted
 - North Fork TAC meeting participated in
 - Computer ordered
 - The board discussed the front door and opening to allow the public in the building. There was no action taken at this time. The door has been closed since March of 2019 to the public due to COVID and federal policy.
 - Kelly Erickson, Technician
 - Sales Program Updates
 - Mentioned that he has been moving the drills to customers and mowing a few CRP sites.
 - Irrigation Water Management is now done.
 - WCA -He had a whistleblower complaint for Bernie Herickhoff and it is in fact a WCA violation. He has an after the fact Sun Solar Garden decision for the board to make and it fits under diminimus. Randy Pederson made a motion to approve and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. He has a boundary and type determination that was performed by a consultant for the Jenniges Meats property. Tom Talle made a motion to concur with the delineation as presented. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. He shared that the TEP made a



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site visit to the Hauge site to check the ditch checks and progress on compliance with the restoration order.

- He mentioned that the cord was replaced on the irrigation system at Rosholt.
- He mentioned that the Kernza was baled by Kevin Duchene.
- He mentioned that he is now working on winterization of the irrigation system.
- He completed RIM reviews.
- He will complete observation well monitoring next week.
- Nicole Brede, District Technician -see written report
- Jeff Hellerman, NRCS
 - He mentioned they are working on CRP planning.
 - He shared they are certifying new EQIP and CSP practices.
 He mentioned engineering staff are out surveying for projects in 2022.
- Alexander Fellbaum, FSA CED-no report

9. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail -They are holding quarterly meetings for the North Fork group.
- Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-The updates were shared earlier on the agenda.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-He shared that the updates were earlier on the agenda.

10. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
10-19-21	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	Keith Nygaard's Shop	7:00 a.m.

11. FYI Items

- a. MCIT Biennial Report

12. Public Comment

- 13. Adjourn-Randy Mitteness made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 a.m. and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Keith Nygaard

10-19-21

Randy Pederson

10-19-21

