

MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held USDA Service Center at 1680 Franklin Street North, Glenwood, MN 56334
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
February 15, 2022

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Mitteness, Randy Pederson, Kelly Erickson, Jeff Hellerman, Kimberly DeMorett, Alex Fellbaum

1. The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:02 a.m. by Chairman Nygaard.
2. The agenda was approved with one addition by Kovarik by general consensus of the board.
3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President*
 - o *January 18, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes*
 - o *Resolutions-None*

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
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- o *Contract/Applications for Approval-None*

<u>Number/Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Application \$\$</u>
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- o *Appropriations/Payments*

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.				

- 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>
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Tom Talle made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde-No report*
5. Old Business
 - o Kimberly DeMorett hired as Resource and Outreach Technician
6. New Business
 - o 2022 Legislative Days at Capitol March 9-10-Kovarik shared that it is not certain we will be able to meet with legislators in person. It may be a bit problematic trying to find a location to Zoom with legislators. We typically have saved on hotel in more recent years and met with legislators prior to the briefing event. The group by general consensus directed Kovarik to set up Zoom meetings with legislators early in the morning on March 9th.
 - o Area II Meeting March 15th, 2022 hosted by Stevens-Kovarik shared that our regular meeting is scheduled at the same time. It is not clear what we will all have for business but she will work to make sure we do not have a lengthy agenda. Board members and

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staff will leave from the board meeting to attend the Area II meeting in March. Those who will attend include Reents, Nygaard, Pederson, and Mitteness along with staff.

- County Conflict of Interest Statements were distributed to the board members and Kovarik will turn them in to the County.
- Irrigation Clinic Planned McKinneys Benson March 17th-Kovarik shared that she would provide the link for the registration and those interested should log on or let her know if they wish to attend. She would then get them registered. A tentative agenda was shared with the group.
- IAM Conference February 17th Freeport-Erickson and DeMorett will attend the conference on Thursday in Freeport. We will not have a booth but will set out card for our upcoming event.

7. Treasurer Report-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Randy Mitteness 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
 - Quarterly invoicing-Kovarik shared she has been working on invoicing with most of that work now complete.
 - Billable Time Tracking has been completed through the end of the year.
 - 2022 Wage Detail Reporting was completed and sent in which is what we reviewed before making payroll and other adjustments this past year. This is a good reference tool for SWCDs.
 - Grant Reporting updates:

2021 Local Water Management Grant	Closed Out	Final Report	
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Kovarik shared information about the David Peters project Randy Mitteness made a motion to authorize Kovarik to execute a contract with the landowner once bids are received. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- Kelly Erickson, Technician
 - Sales Program Updates: He is working on tree plans and has had some calls for drill rentals.
 - WCA: Hauge-participated in evidentiary hearing and now we must wait for next steps.
 - He has been out of the office some this month.
- Nicole Brede, District Technician-
 - RIM working on a foodplot request and conservation plan rewrite.
 - CWMA working on grant application from BWSR.
 - Registered for license renewal.



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- MAWQCP -1 new certification, 6 in process
 - Ecosystem Mark Consortium was mentioned, and Nicole is working on training.
 - Walk In Access has a program sign up coming up.
 - She is working on conservation plans that she is writing as well as learning how to design alternative tile intakes.
- Jeff Hellerman, NRCS
 - He shared information about CRP, CSP, and EQIP. There are approximately 20 applications for EQIP.
 - They have had a lot of calls for wetland compliance lately.
 - Alexander Fellbaum, FSA CED
 - County Committee meeting will be held 2/17/2022
 - USDA Service Center staffing capacity has increased to 50% capacity as of 2/14/2022
 - Working on completing the Livestock Forage Program (LFP) and Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm, sign-up for Agriculture Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)
 - Discussed FSA’s program deadlines in February and March
 - Discussed USDA news release “USDA Provides Update on Implementation of Forthcoming Disaster Assistance” dated February 3, 2022
 - Provided fact sheets on the Pandemic Cover Crop Program, 58th General Enrollment Period Environmental Benefits Index (EBI), and ARC & PLC

9. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail -No meeting this past month. The next meeting is coming up in March.
- Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-Randy shared updates from the January meeting including annual business items. The offices stayed the same. Kovarik and Mitteness shared updates on the meeting to be held this Friday. The contract with BWSR is complete. The contract with Houston is executed. The TAC has begun planning with the consultant. The JPB will have a website redesign proposal for Friday along with other updates. A Sharepoint site has been set up. More will be shared after that meeting is held.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update -He indicated he was not able to attend the meeting. The group is talking about a citizenship norm and a logo for the partnership. Kovarik just attend an education committee meeting yesterday.

10. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
3-15-22	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	USDA Service Center Building	7:00 a.m.



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11. FYI Items: Kovarik shared that elections are coming up and Mitteness, Nygaard, and Talle are up for election and they should file during the time frame that is noted starting May 17th. Kovarik shared that the office is continuing to bring landowners in by appointment and that is working.
 12. Public Comment-None
 13. Adjourn-Randy Pederson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Karen Nygaard

3-15-22

Randy Pederson

3-15-22