

MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held USDA Service Center at 1680 Franklin Street North, Glenwood, MN 56334
 Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
 May 16, 2023

Attendance:

1. **Call To Order & Pledge of Allegiance**-*President Keith Nygaard*-The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by the Chair Keith Nygaard.
2. **Approve the Agenda**-The agenda was approved by general consensus.
3. **Introductions New Staff** were made. Abigail Meyer and Mason Stewart were introduced to the board and guests. They are two of our season hires.
4. **Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)**-*President*.
 - o *April 18, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes*
 - o *Resolutions-None*

<u>Number</u>	<u>Description</u>

- o *Contract/Applications for Approval-None*

<u>Number/Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Application \$\$</u>

- o *Appropriations/Payments-None*

	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description of Payment</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Payment Code/Description</u>
1.	Houston Engineering	Lowry	\$3,637	21 Capacity

- 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>
WS01-23	LWM	Lee Tangen	Well Sealing	WBL 36	\$500.00	
NF-FY20-38	NFWBIF	Jeff Henriksen	Well Sealing (2)	GL 34	\$700.00	
Emily 01-2023	FY23 Emily	Les Kalina	WASBOB	Reno 1	\$23,922.23	

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

5. Kim DeMorett Report was moved to this point on the agenda so they could get to Rosholt for sampling. Kimberly had provided a written report to the board which was included in their packet. She went through the main points of her accomplishments this past month. In summary she has had a lot of preparations for season at Rosholt and educational programming.
6. Kelly Ericksons report was moved to this point on the agenda so that they could go to the field for weed fabric installation. He shared that trees had come in and pick up went well. She stated that all trees are planted, and they are working on fabric installation. He has had a few



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requests for CRP and drill rentals. WCA-He has worked on two ag mitigations. He has had a few shoreline site inquiries that he has had to review. He has reviewed a gravel mine for wetland conservation act applicability. Earl Hauge had reached out to Steve Hofstad who redirected Earl back to the local office. He was inquiring again about a dug pit project. It sounds like a previous site that we had already discussed previously. He has worked on tillage at Rosholt with use of the Baileys equipment at Rosholt. He sprayed the Kernza on Monday evening to terminate it. He finished the observation well monitoring. Irrigation Water Management has had no activity.

7. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*

- He mentioned the local board of equalization meeting coming up on June 12th.
- He shared an update on the Broadband project status for the county.

8. Old Business

- Contract for Services with the City of Glenwood (waiting on City approval)/DNR CPL Barsness Park Phase II grant fully executed. Kovarik shared the details of the contract with the City and the SWCD. We are waiting for the City to approve the agreement.

9. New Business

- Juneteenth Holiday add to policy. The board discussed the change to the personnel policy handbook related to this holiday. It has been added as a state holiday and now guidance has been provided by Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust that we need to have this adopted and to observe the holiday this year. Now that this is a state holiday officially, we need to address this. **Tom Talle made a motion to approve the additional holiday along with the policy update provided. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
- Jeff Henriksen Well Sealing North Fork contingent on the North Fork approval on 5/18. Kovarik shared a few more details on how the contracts will work for projects funded through the Watershed Based Implementation funding through the North Fork of the Crow. This project will be fully approved after the North Fork meeting on Thursday.
- Judge Posters-moved to the end of the agenda.
- Outstanding Conservationists Begin Discussion 2023-Kovarik shared that she will work with NRCS staff to review the previous list and to make recommendations at the next meeting for this years selection.

10. Treasurer Report-Kovarik shared updates on the treasurer report with the board. **D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report as presented and Randy Mittness 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)

11. Reports

- Holly Kovarik, Manager



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- Open Meeting Law Virtual Meetings information from the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust were shared with the board. The North Fork Policy committee just used this for their last meeting. It may be a good option when our watershed groups need to meet but don't have a lot of content to discuss.
 - Gregg Weller Alternative Intake Project payment approval when invoice is received. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the payment once final as built and invoice are received not to exceed what is in the contract and 75% of the actual cost. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - Participated in North Fork Crow River Policy Meeting with Randy Pederson- discussion about a Midpoint Grant
 - Donation of trees to WIN Academy \$59.86 and Be Kind group \$77.31- Randy Pederson shared a thank you from Jeanne for this donation.
 - AFREC 2023 Contract \$29,985 4/1/2023 to 3/31/2024
 - Discussion with Jim Bailey Sr regarding irrigator and letter sent. There was discussion that this was an abrupt change but that the landowner understood and will be making adjustments to their system by May 31, 2023. The irrigation system will not be allowed to come over onto the Rosholt Research Farm property.
 - MDA IXN Trial \$2,991.56 AR 1st Quarter Invoice
 - MDA Nitrogen Trial \$36,547.23 AR 1st Quarter Invoice
 - CRWA 1st Quarter Invoice \$6,468.19 AR
 - Food & Ag Research Grant not funded-We provided a letter of support.
 - LCCMR 1st Quarter AR \$4,083.75
 - Update on the SWCD Cooperative Agreement FY23 was shared with the board. We have made good progress on meeting the requirements in this agreement this year. There was discussion if this will be required moving forward. There is really no insight yet on what the next fiscal year requirements will be.
 - North Fork TAC Meeting Attended
 - June 13 9:00 a.m. County Commissioner Meeting Annual Report-Keith Nygaard, Gary Reents plan to attend with Kovarik.
 - Nelson/Thompson Project- Tom Talle made a motion to authorize payment processing on this project once the final bills are received and as built. The payment should not exceed 75% of the cost of the project and should not exceed what is encumbered. D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
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- Kelly Erickson, Conservation Technician-completed earlier on the agenda see above.
 - Sales Program Updates
 - WCA



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- Kimberly DeMorett, Resource and Outreach Technician (see attached written report)- Report given earlier on the agenda. See above.
- Nicole Brede, Habitat Resource Specialist-see attached report-She shared about buffer site checks and stakings. She has several RIM projects she is working on with landowners. She has 1 landowner interested right now in CREP. She spent time assisting at Rosholt and educational programming. She also helped plant the first tree sites before Mason Stewart started.
- Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-provided a written report. They are working on CRP planning, EQIP projects, certifying practices, site visits, and mentioned the new engineer based out of Alexandria. The group visited about the Local Work Group meeting which the summarize priorities discussed are as follows:
 - Cropland-
 1. Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss
 - Sediment to surface water
 2. Concentrated Erosion
 - Classic Gully Erosion
 3. Wind and Water Erosion
 - Sheet and Rill Erosion
 - Pasture
 1. Pest Pressure
 - Plant Pest Pressure
 2. Degraded Plant Condition
 - Plant Productivity and Health
 3. Livestock Production Limitation
 - Feed and Forage Balance

Randy Mitteness moved to approve the Local Workgroup recommendations as discussed in March and as shared today. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- Alexander Fellbaum, FSA CED-no report

12. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail -He participated in a Zoom call with Kovarik and the main item discussed was a grant application.
- Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-There is no meeting this month as the TAC continues to work on revisions to the plan. Commissioner Gerde shared his frustrations regarding the Sharepoint site.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-Gary shared that there is a meeting on Thursday from 1-3 pm.



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13. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
6-20-23	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	USDA Service Center Building	7:00 a.m.

14. FYI Items-None

15. Jason Weinerman attended this meeting. There is nothing to report on the legislative session yet. It does look like there will be more Soil Health Funding available. He shared that we need to be prepared to be asked to do more.

16. Public Comment-None

17. Poster Contest Judging:

Overall Winners-

1. Cate Frey - Minnewaska
2. Kaylee Martin - Minnewaska
3. Annabelle Norsworthy – Glacial Hills

BBE Winners-

1. Rae Brower
2. Myles Lehner (5th Grade)
3. Ellie Schueler

Glacial Hills Winners-

1. Annabelle Norsworthy
2. Christian Johnson
3. Lucy Recker

Minnewaska Winners-

1. Cate Frey
2. Kaylee Martin
3. Clark Wendt

D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the awards and agreed upon and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

18. Adjourn-Randy Mitteness made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. 9:00 a.m. adjournment time.

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