



MEETING Agenda

Meeting will be held USDA Service Center at 1680 Franklin Street North, Glenwood, MN 56334
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
September 19, 2023

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, D. Gary Reents, Randy Pederson, Randy Mitteness, Commissioner Paul Gerde, Steve Hofstad, Kimberly DeMorett, Chris Borash, Nicole Brede, Holly Kovarik, Alex Fellbaum, Jeff Helleman, Ron Cin, Earl Hauge

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nygaard at 7:00 a.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-*President.*
 - o *August 15, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes*
 - o *July 25, 2023 Strategic Planning 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.	WSN	5 th and 6 th Ravine Project Engineering	\$16,903.09	City of Glenwood Stormwater grant
2.				

- 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>
Emily 04-2023	2023 Lake Emily CWF	David Edmunds	WASCOB	WBL Section 8	\$15,497.36	
M08-21	2021 Lake Minnewaska CWF	Joe Cihlar	WASCOB	Glenwood 34	\$19,004.37	

Tom Talle made a motion to approve the consent agenda items and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-*Paul Gerde*
 - He shared that the County is working on the budget for 2024. He shared that the state conference for AMC will be at Arrowwood.
5. Old Business



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- Rosholt Field Day August 17th-The board and staff took a few minutes to chat about how the event went. The day was well attended and we were glad to have Commissioner Peterson in attendance.
- BWSR CWF Grant applications update-Kovarik shared that the two grants have been submitted. **Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the applications as presented and that were submitted and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
 - City of Glenwood 2024 Stormwater Implementation Phase II CWF
 - 2024 East Branch Targeted Sub watershed Phase II CWF
- Thank you from Kaylee Martin sponsorship for Long Lake Conservation Camp was shared with the board.
- 3010 Tractor Repair Follow up after Joe Zweig took a look. We do not yet have a list of the repairs suggested from him. When we do get this information that will be shared with the board.
- No-till drill for sale update. We had an offer at \$3,000 for the drills and decided to pass that offer up. Bakko Bros is still working on trying to help us sell the two drills.
- Reschedule Strategic Planning Session #2-The board agreed to meet at 7:00 a.m. on September 26th for the second meeting.
- Keith Nygaard Well Sealing-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the payment for the cost sharing for the well sealing project completed Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

6. New Business

- End of 3rd Quarter Per Diems
- Local Water Management Plan 1 year extension request has been made.
- Sauk River Collaborative Fiscal Agent Agreement Amendment was shared with the board. **D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the agreement and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.**
- MCIT 2024 Estimated Contribution notice Property/Casualty \$7,200 and Workers Compensation \$4,261
- Condition of the Equipment Report has been tabled to give Chris Borash more time to finish the report.
- Approve Nicole Brede and Chris Borash additions to Districts Credit Card Use-Tom Talle made the motion to authorize the additions for credit cards and Randy Mitteness seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Approve entering contract for cell phone plan for Chris Borash-Randy Mitteness made a motion to authorize a company cell phone for Chris Borash and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Pope and Stevens County Water Fest September 22-Kovarik asked for additional help from board members if they are available.
- Pope and Stevens County Conservation Day September 28



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- Approve Storage Option for Equipment-Kovarik shared that they have room at her farm if storage is needed. The board agreed by general consensus that this would be a good option.
 - 2021 Lake Minnewaska CWF grant amendment 1 year extension requested-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve both extension requests as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - 2020 Local Capacity Grant CWF grant amendment 1 year extension requested
 - Park Board request for assistance on grant writing for Prairie Management Plan for Barsness Park-Randy Pederson made a motion to authorize Kovarik to work with the Park Board as needed and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - Purchase air compressor for Rosholt-Randy Mitteness made a motion to authorize staff to purchase an air compressor and toilets for Rosholt and D. Gary Reents seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - Toilets for Rosholt
 - West Central Irrigation to winterize machine request-Randy Pederson made a motion to enter into contract for winterization of the machine and Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - 2024 DNR Observation Well Agreement\$3,180
 - Mark Schuman/Kevin Lundebrek project approval-D. Gary Reents made a motion to authorize staff to enter into a contract for this project when the paperwork is ready and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
7. Treasurer Report-June and July-D. Gary Reents made a motion to approve the treasurer report 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
 - BWSR CWF Story East Branch Project Area update was provided to the board.
 - Managers Meeting Attended
 - Kimberly DeMorett, Resource and Outreach Technician (see attached report)
She has been spending a lot of time at Rosholt. She has been training Chris on the work at Rosholt.
 - Nicole Brede, Habitat Resource Specialist (see attached report)
She has been working on RIM inspections. She is finishing up IWM site visits. She has been assisting at Rosholt some. She has been working on a few MAWQCP sign ups and worked on a grant application for the MDA for the CWMA program. She has worked on water fest and conservation day preparation. Randy Pederson made a



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motion to authorize submitting the CWMA grant application to MDA. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

- Christopher Borash, Conservation Technician (see attached report)
He is working on trainings in Ag Learn. He has been working at Rosholt and delivering the drill. He is working on a condition of the equipment report for the board to review. We have one fall dormant seeding to do this fall so far.
- Jeff Hellerman, NRCS
He shared updates on projects including 3 WASCOBS and 1 Waterway site. EQIP 2024 application deadline is October 6th.
- Alexander Fellbaum, FSA CED-no report

9. Board Member Meeting Reports

- Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail-nothing new to report.
- Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-Nothing new to report.
- D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-he shared information on the Crooked Lake Tour. He talked about JD2. He shared their next meeting is November 16th.

10. Upcoming Meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Description</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
10-17-23	Pope SWCD Regular Board Meeting	USDA Service Center Building	7:00 a.m.

11. FYI Items

12. Public Comment-7:55 a.m. Earl Hauge and Ron Cin attended the meeting. Chairman Nygaard indicated that we had 15 minutes for public comment on our agenda. Ron Cin read a letter to the group. It was provided to the board members electronically and he provided a copy in writing at the meeting. In summary: Mr. Hauge is asking the Pope SWCD board at this meeting to support in writing a letter that would be submitted to BWSR asking for Lynda Ponting to be released from employment. The Pope SWCD Board took no action on his request as this is not our employee. He asked if she was still employed at BWSR and that was confirmed by Steve Hofstad. Mr. Hauge made a comment stated what he believed Kovarik had stated onsite at a site visit about a 1026 process. Kovarik stated she would want to listen to the recording from that visit to see what was said. Kovarik shared photos of the violation from 2020 on the screen for the board members. Mr. Hauge made a statement about not being heard by the Pope SWCD Board. Kovarik stated that was not true. Mr. Hauge had attended several meetings over the last several years. This is documented in our meeting minutes which are public record. The board just did not agree with Mr. Hauge. Mr. Hauge said he had no interest in suing which was contradictory to his letter received. The Pope SWCD Board and Hofstad all indicated that it was time to move forward rather than dwelling in the past. Hauge would like the Pope SWCD to pay for all his costs incurred during this violation process in



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Chippewa Falls Township Section 26 because of his excavation activities in a private ditch, wetland area, and installation of a culvert. Kovarik shared the status of the site. Hauge was allowed to mitigate and impact up to 400 square feet. When the TEP conducted the site visit in September he had more fill than allowed. Hauge needs to remove the additional fill. He had called and told Kovarik a week ago that this was done. This will be a site visit which the TEP will conduct at our 10-4-23 meeting to confirm. During the meeting and review of the pictures of the east side of the ditch and the excavation from 2020 Hauge and Reents discussed what we were seeing on the screen. It is clearly over excavated, and that fill was placed in wetlands. D. Gary Reents made mention that Mr. Hauge had come to see him over the weekend before this board meeting. Nygaard made mention that Hauge was well over his 15 minutes and that the Pope SWCD Board had another meeting to attend. Mr. Hauge at this time pounded his fists on the table and cursed several times.

- 13. Adjourn-Nygaard adjourned the meeting at 8:30 a.m.
- 14. Following the board meeting the board members and Kovarik attended the Area II Meeting at Diamond Point in Todd County.

Kees Hauge

10-17-23

Randy Pederson

10-17-23

