POPE SOIL & WATER



MEETING Minutes

Meeting will be held USDA Service Center at 1680 Franklin Street North, Glenwood, MN 56334
Supervisory Board Meeting 7:00 am
October 15, 2024

Attendance: Keith Nygaard, Tom Talle, Randy Pederson, Randy Mitteness, Holly Kovarik, Nicole Brede, Kimberly DeMorett, Chris Borash, Jeff Hellermann

- 1. The Meeting was called to order by President Nygaard at 7:02 a.m. and the Pledges were recited.
- 2. Agenda-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the agenda and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- 3. Consent Agenda (approved by one motion)-President.
 - o September 17, 2024- Board Meeting Minutes
 - o Resolutions-None

Number	Description	- A rolling with easy in all of the

Contract/Applications for Approval-

Number/Name	Description	Total Application \$\$
P25-0630	FY2025 Buffer Law Grant Agreement	\$20,000

O Appropriations/Payments-None

	<u>Payee</u>	Description of Payment	Amount	Payment Code/Description
1.	UofM	MDA Nitrogen Study	\$35,000	MDA JPA
2.	UofM	MDA IXN	\$5,500	MDA JPA

o Grant Payment/Project Approvals-None

<u>Contract</u> <u>Code</u>	Grant Name	Landowner	Type of Project	<u>Project</u> <u>Location</u>	Amount	<u>Payment</u>
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Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the consent agenda items and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. Commissioner Update-Paul Gerde

5. Old Business

- 2022 Local Capacity Grant Closed Out-Kovarik shared she is waiting on BWSR review to finish this closeout.
- O Strategic Plan Review-Jason Weinerman BWSR-comments collected for revisions The board discussed giving another month to review the report. Many of the board members are busy with fall harvest.
- o Area II Meeting Follow Up-The members shared updates about the Area II meeting with the other members who were unable to attend this meeting.

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- o MASWCD Convention December 2-4th follow up (registrations completed)-The board members discussed Tuesday evening details at convention and decided to stay for the appetizers and silent auction event at the hotel. This is because our Outstanding Conservationist is unable to attend the convention this year.
- Irrigation RCPP Follow up new application-Kovarik shared an email received from Darrin Newville about the current application for this program. We do not know details at this time if the project has been funded.

Chris and Kimberly went through their reports at this time on the agenda. Christopher has been going through several trainings both in person and through Ag Learn. He has been working on tree sales, MAWQCP, Irrigation Water Management, drills, and other equipment repairs, and assisting at Rosholt. Kimberly has been mainly at Rosholt, working precipitation and observation well monitoring, a couple of well sealing projects, and education and outreach events.

6. New Business

- o Resolutions Discussion-This item was moved to the end of the agenda.
- o 2025 Board Meeting Schedule-The board discussed moving the meeting start time for our winter meetings. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the change to the January 2025 to March of 2025 to 8:00 a.m., April 2025 to October 2025 to 7:00 a.m., and November to December 2025 to 8:00 a.m. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Randy Mitteness made a motion to move the November and December 2024 meetings to 8:00 a.m. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The group discussed that in November we are meeting with the County Commissioners and that it would be best to leave the November 2024 meeting at 7:00 a.m. Everyone was in agreement for this change. The motion was approved with the November meeting remaining at 7:00 a.m. and the December 2024 meeting moving to 8:00 a.m.
- O 2025 Soil Health Workplan-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the Soil Health Workplan as shared by Kovarik \$20,000 encumbered for shelterbelt and tree practices and \$60,000 encumbered for cover crops and tillage practices as examples. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Holiday Gathering-NRCS turn to host and we will share more details when available.
- 2025 Sales Order Form-Kovarik and Borash went through that there were no changes being recommended for 2025 at this time. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the 2025 Sales Order Form pricing and Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- O December 18th Open House-Kovarik discussed that staff were wanting to have an open house event. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve having an open house event on December 18th. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- o Minnesota Paid Leave-Kovarik shared information about Minnesota Paid Leave changes that will be taking effect in January of 2026. There were be policy handbook



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- changes that will need to be made. There will be more information made available when we know more.
- O Rosholt MDA Agri Grant Proposal-Kovarik went through the proposal that was prepared and the letter of support for Vasudha Sharma's trail at the Rosholt Research Farm proposed. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the letter of support and budget proposal and Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
- o Rosholt MDA JPA Updates-Kovarik shared that she is continuing to have trouble settling the 2nd quarter expenses. She also shared that she has been working with MDA on the renewal of the agreements for another couple of years.
- 7. <u>Treasurer Report-</u>Randy Mitteness made a motion to table the treasurer report until Reents can review. The Board will then approve at the next meeting. 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
 - o Holly Kovarik, Manager
 - MDA Nitrogen Study Grant 2nd Quarter Report Follow up AR \$56,054.24
 - MN Forest Council West Central Landscape Committee Meeting October 1st Barsness Park Kovarik attended.
 - Irrigation RCPP 2nd quarter report In-kind \$89,544.39
 - LCCMR final report settled AR \$5,870.97
 - Sauk River Watershed Implementation Team Meeting attended.
 - MOSH Education Grant Final Report Submitted AR \$2,000
 - Computers ordered
 - Wulf Family Featured MASWCD Promotions were shared with the board.
 Hellermann met with the group.
 - Clean Water Fund current appropriations were shared with the board.
 - 2024 Conservation Delivery Grant Closeout-Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the final report as presented and Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
 - CRWA Updates were shared
 - Plan Approved
 - Workplan/Budget is being worked on and is close to being ready to submit.
 - Review of Agreements by attorney and we are waiting on a draft to review.
 - Cost share policy has been updated and is ready for the November meetings to discuss.
 - CRWA 3rd Quarter AR \$4,844.88

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- WCA program updates
 - Reported Grant SWCD share fully expended
- MAWQCP 3rd Quarter AR \$903.62
- PF CCWL 2nd Quarter AR \$5,822.93
- PF CCWL 3rd Quarter AR \$4,452.83
- MASWCD Contribution Agreement AR \$14,400 32 CRP Plans
- Hauge and Peterson project approvals-Randy Pederson made a motion to approve the Hauge Project through North Fork WBIF funding FY22. Tom Talle seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. Kovarik has authority to sign when the bid is received and to execute the contract with the landowner. Randy Mitteness made a motion to approve the David Peterson project and to not exceed the highest bid. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. This project will be funded out of the FY23 Lake Emily grant.
- o Kimberly DeMorett, Resource and Outreach Technician -see above report
 - Nitrate Clinic Follow up
 - Approve Robert Majerus Well Sealing Payment
- Nicole Brede, Habitat Resource Specialist-Nicole has been working on inspections, CREP, CRP, Buffers and education and outreach activities as shared in her written report.
- o Christopher Borash, Conservation Technician -He shared his report earlier on the agenda.
- o Mason Stewart, Conservation Technician-A written report was submitted in the board packet. He was unable to attend the meeting.
- Jeff Hellerman, NRCS-Jeff shared that they are working on fall practice certifications, CSP contract renewal planning, engineering projects, soil health training, and the MASWCD promotion interview at the Wulf farm.
- o Alexander Fellbaum, FSA CED-no report

9. Board Member Meeting Reports

- o Randy Pederson-North Fork Watershed IWIP meetings & staff update, Glacial Lakes Trail -no report
- o Randy Mitteness-Chippewa River Watershed Board & staff update-reported earlier on the agenda.



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o D. Gary Reents-Sauk River Watershed IWIP Committee meetings & staff update-no report

10. Upcoming Meetings:

Meeting Date	Meeting Description	Meeting Location	Meeting Time
11-17-2024	Pope SWCD	USDA Service	7:00 a.m.
	Regular Board	Center Building	
	Meeting		

- 11. FYI Items
- 12. Public Comment-none
- 13. Resolutions
 - o #1 Nygaard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness discuss
 - o #2Nygaard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness disapprove
 - o #3 Nygaard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness agree
 - o #4 Nygaard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness discuss
 - o #5 Nygaard discuss, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness disagree
 - o #6 Nygaard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness agree
 - o #7 Nygard, Pederson, Talle, Mitteness discuss
 - o #8 Nygaard, Talle discuss, Pederson, Mitteness approve

Randy Mitteness made a motion to authorize Kovarik to work with Reents to get his votes for the resolutions and to submit all supervisors votes electronically. Randy Pederson seconded the motion. The motion passed will all in favor.

14. Adjourn-Randy Mitteness made a motion to adjourn the meeting Randy Pederson seconded the motion at 9:20 a.m. The motion passed with all in favor.

11/19/24

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