



Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District

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Approved Minutes of the February 13, 2020 Waseca SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting.

The Meeting of the Waseca County Board of Supervisors that was held at the Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District's Conference Room on February 13, 2020. The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Cords at 6:30 pm.

Members Present

Wayne Cords, Chairman
Scott Hildebrandt, Vice Chairman
Todd Stencil, Treasurer
Keith Morgan, Secretary
Larry Muff, Member

Staff Present

Mark Schaetzke, District Manager
Tyler Polster, District Technician
Cheri Brummund, Admin Assist

Others Present

Brad Krause, Waseca County Commissioner
Alan Kraus, Cannon River Watershed Partnership-Conservation Program Manager

Review of the February Agenda: Larry Muff made a motion to approve the Agenda and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes

Review Minutes of the January Meeting: Larry Muff moved to approve the minutes and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes

Review January Treasurer's Report: Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve the report and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes

Bills: (see back) Todd Stencil made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes

Old Business:

1. Alan Kraus-Cannon River Watershed-Alan gave a description of the CRWP Conservation Program and the current projects that are underway. They included:
 - a. Farmers Protecting Rice Creek-Project Goals and 2019 Results
 - b. Regenerative Agriculture: A Pathway for Greater Farm Profitability and Practice Adoption-Project Goals and 2019 Results
 - c. Developing Market for New Perennial Grain Crop-Kernza-Project Goals and 2019 Results
2. Other-none

New Business:

1. Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Membership Dues-\$2000.00-a motion was made by Todd Stencil to table discussion until next meeting, Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes
2. Mn Wetland Professional Certification Program Registration \$40.00-Todd Stencil made a motion to pay for Mark's registration and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes

3. GBERBA Contract #81-6-05 amend amount to \$200.00 from \$100.00 signed 12/12/19-Mark Schaetzke explained this is the second phase of the contract. Todd Stencil made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
4. SWCD Annual Report-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to accept the report and Todd Stencil seconded. All-Yes
5. Waseca County Pheasants Forever Annual Banquet March 7, The Mill-\$275.00-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve paying the Gold Sponsorship for \$275.00 and Todd Stencil seconded. All-Yes Larry Muff will be attending the Banquet and picking up the Print.
6. Day at the Capitol-March 24-25 Mark would like to attend-2 days registration and motel-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to pay for the registration and motel for Mark Schaetzke and Todd Stencil seconded. All-Yes
7. MASWCD-Legislative Priorities-attached to packet-noted
8. Tree Ordering Open House-need to buy coffee or hot chocolate, cups, napkins, cookies Larry Muff made a motion for Cheri Brummund to purchase items for the open house and Keith Morgan seconded. All -Yes
9. FYI-City of Waldorf-Wellhead Protection Plan-No action required-noted
10. Possible Soil Health 101 planning with NRCS in March approximately 2 hr meeting-Expenses coming out of Le Sueur Watershed Cycle II program. Mark Schaetzke explained that he is checking into venues. Keith Morgan made a motion to having refreshments at the meeting and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes
11. Windbreak Plan Cost Share-Keith Wheelock-Contract # Special Funds 1 \$600.00-Todd Stencil made a motion to accept the contract and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.
12. Ag Consulting for Research, Environment & Sustainability (ACRES) Consent to Release Information Form-Todd Stencil made a motion to give consent and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes
13. Distribution of Funds for the Le Sueur Civic Engagement Invoices. (2nd ½ 2019 time period) Payment to the Waseca SWCD has come from the MPCA in the amount of \$2751.64. Payment of invoice to MSU for \$1801.64 and Waseca SWCD retains \$950.00 for Inv#LSW1. Todd Stencil made a motion to distribute funds and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes
14. Other

Supervisor/Meeting Reports:

1. Larry Muff reported that he attended the New Richland Town Hall Meeting on January 30th. He stated that there was a good turnout and the Process of the Program was explained to those attending.
2. Wayne Cords attended the Area 6 Chairman's Meeting. The discussions were on the Legislative topics and notes.

Agency Reports/Commissioners:

1. Commissioners Report-Brad Krause noted that he will be attending the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Meetings in the next weeks. Discussion was made on the Legislative topics that are being addressed by SWCDs.

Staff Reports:

1. Cheri Brummund reported that all 2019 reports have been completed for BWSR and the State have been completed. She also stated that she completed the Annual Report and will be sending to BWSR by the end of the month.
2. Mark Schaetzke handed out a report on the many activities and meetings he has attended in the last month. (Attached to minutes)
3. Tyler Polster reported on the progress of the Non-Compliant Buffers Final Chance letters have been sent out for the east 4 townships of Waseca County. 15 Letters were sent out and he has received 7 responses so far. The remaining have until March 1st, before information is passed on to the County.

Adjourn:

Todd Stencil made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm by Board Chairman, Wayne Cords.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

February 14-16, 2020 National Pheasant Fest, Minneapolis Convention Center(passes)

February 21, 2020 SWCD Tree Ordering Open House-8:30-5:30-SWCD Office

February 25, 2020 Cannon River Watershed MPCA Cycle II Kick Off, 2:00-3:30 pm-
Buckingham Memorial Library, 11 Division Street E., Faribault, MN

February 27, 2020 I-90 Soil Health Tour, Farmamerica 8-3

March 13, 2020 GBERBA Meeting, Mankato Tech/Policy 9:30

March 24-25, 2020 MASWCD Briefing & Day at the Capital-Best Western Capital Ridge, St. Paul

February Bills:

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| Clemons Properties | Rent | Mar Payment | \$ 665.00 |
| First National Bank | Tyler-Cheri-Mark H S A (\$283.33 ea) | Mar Payment | \$ 849.99 |
| Sportsman Stop | Truck Gas | February Statement | \$ 74.20 |
| Innovative Solutions | Postcards | SO#2856701 | \$ 103.04 |
| Tyler Polster | Voucher #2020 TP1 | | \$ 33.78 |
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| | | | \$ 1,726.01 |

12-13-19 – Le Sueur Civic Engagement – MPCA office Mankato

Discussed status of work plan activities and future steps. The Water Resources Center is looking for content to post on the “Story Map” page. Things like photos, videos, case studies, timeline milestones, or interview quotes that help tell the story of the watershed in relation to water quality. To date projects that have been started include: Soil Health Workshop, Le Sueur Watershed Network, Le Sueur Story Map, Faribault Co Targeted Sub watershed, and Waseca Co Targeted Sub-watershed (started but do not plan to bill to this grant). Staff will be working on a semi-annual report and reimbursement request.

12-13-19 – Le Sueur 1W1P – MPCA office Mankato

Partners within the Le Sueur discussed the potential of pursuing a 1W1P planning grant. MPCA and BWSR updated us on how the process of working on the 1W1P and WRAPS could potentially work at the same time. We had a lot of discussion on hiring a consultant vs doing the work with existing staff and who may have the time and ability to do certain tasks. Waseca Co staff has indicated interest in being the day to day contact. We have discussed being the fiscal agent for the grant. This would mean that we would be the grant applicant, responsible for paying any bills, and do reporting. Costs for this could be charged to the grant. Partners are to discuss this with their respective boards to see if there is support for a 2020 planning grant effort.

12-20-19 – GBERBA tech – Mankato

Normal business of reviewing completed projects and new applications. It is noted that there are copious funds left in the MPCA grant for cover crops, alternative tile intakes, and side inlets. This grant has a deadline of 8-31-2020. It was recommended that the policy on this grant be changed to increase the cost share percentage and increase the acres cap on cover crops. Due to match requirements it looks like the percentage can't be increased, but the 80-acre cap on cover crops can be removed.

1-7-19 – NRCS Conservation Desktop Training– Oronoco

NRCS is switching to a new planning software called Conservation Desktop. It is a new program with a lot of new capabilities and different steps than what we are used to. NRCS has created a very good step by step directions to refer back to when we have issues.

1-9-2020 – Civic Engagement and public participation – Mankato

I attended this work session today with other county, SWCD, and state agency employees. We worked on project design and discussion topics based on actual situations of the attendees related to civic engagement and public participation.

Cannon 1W1P

Revisions to the plan were submitted to BWSR by their Dec 16th deadline to be considered for the Jan 22 BWSR Board meeting. To date we have not heard back if the revisions will satisfy the 7 conditions of the Southern Region BWSR Committee. Rice and Dakota SWCD have both expressed interest in being the fiscal agent and day to day contact for the CRWJPB for 2020.

Soil Health Workshop – Feb 27th

Expenses: Rick Clark - \$300 plus 1/5 of his mileage, hotel, and meal expenses for the week; Matt Alford - \$500, Farmer Panel Speakers - \$25 thank you/gas money?; advertising – unknown; materials and copies – minimal; potential shipping of soil health display.