



Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District

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Approved Minutes of the June 11, 2020 Waseca SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting.

The Meeting of the Waseca County Board of Supervisors that was held via “Go to Meeting”, courtesy of Waseca County Water Specialist Haley Byron, hosting. The reason for this is due to the “Stay Safe” Order given by Governor Walz due to the COVID 19 Virus. The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Cords at 6:30 pm.

Members Present

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

Staff Present

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

Others Present

Brad Krause, Waseca County Commissioner
Haley Byron, Waseca County Water Specialist
Ciara Ahrens, NRCS Team Lead
Rick Berscheid, NRCS Regional DC

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

Review Minutes of the May Meeting: Larry Muff made a motion to approve the minutes and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes

Review May Treasurer’s Report: Larry Muff moved to approve the treasurer’s report and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes

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

Old Business:

1. NRCS Office Space Contract: A brief discussion on office space for SWCD employees with Rick Berscheid, NRCS commenced. Rick will contact whomever did the floor plan to meet with SWCD Board and Staff to further plan floor space for SWCD staff. He will be contacting Mark Schaezke to set up a meeting.
2. NRCS MOA-Larry Muff made a motion to table until next month, Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes
3. CRP Contribution Agreement with MASWCD-Rick Berscheid explained that agreement

would be paying Waseca SWCD (through MASWCD) \$440 per CRP Contribution Agreement done by Waseca SWCD. Mark Schaetzke stated that this would be the same as we did in 2019. Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve the Agreement, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.

4. 2021 Budget-after review of the Budget scenarios Mark Schaetzke displayed, Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve the 0% increase to Waseca County, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes
5. Other-None

New Business:

1. RIM Workorder Signature Authorization for Mark-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
2. Local Work Group Meeting with NRCS-Due by July 31, 2020.-The Local Work Group Meeting with NRCS will be conducted before the next SWCD Board Meeting July 9 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be in the Conference Room at 105 22nd Ave NE, Waseca-pending ability to have face to face meetings by that time. Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes.
3. Ecological Job Approval Authority for Tyler and Mark-review and consider approval-Keith Morgan made a motion to approve Tyler Polster for JAA, Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes. Keith Morgan made a motion to approve Mark Schaetzke for JAA, Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.
4. GBERBA CS Voucher #319-TMDL 16-81-08 Groskruetz \$315.50 (Total cost was \$631.00)-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve payment, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes
5. CS Voucher-Wheelock #Special Fund (1) \$600.00-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve payment and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes
6. Conservation Farmer Nominations-After review of the list of names of potential candidates, Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to choose Carl Guse as Conservation Farmer, should he refuse the nomination, Larry Spinler would be backup, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes. (Letter will be sent to Carl Guse within the next week.)
7. Ideas for Calendar Pages-Scott Hildebrandt mentioned that more Cover Crop information would be valuable.
8. Pheasants Forever-(State) \$23, \$42, \$64 donation-noted
9. Other-None

Supervisor/Meeting Reports:

1. Larry Muff asked Haley Byron on Boot Creek information availability. She stated that the Consultants reports are partially complete and should be available shortly. She will pass on the information as soon as available.

Agency Reports/Commissioners:

1. Ciara Ahrens, NRCS stated that the Waseca SWCD has been awarded \$500 for bus trip. 100% of the Covid 19 Emergency Animal Mortality Management Contracts for Waseca County were accepted. Also plans for EQIP 2021 were in the works.
2. Haley Byron, Waseca County Water Specialist, stated that the LeSueur 1W1P would be submitted June 12. There have been 2 Watercraft Inspectors hired for the County that will be starting this weekend. Also she was notified of a large bloom on Elysian. She forwarded information on to appropriate personnel and is awaiting feedback.

Staff Reports:

1. Tyler Polster reported he is currently working on maps for the western third of Waseca County Parcels for Compliance issues. He also reported on the completion of Wheelock Windbreak, Lau Project and Bange Terrace.
2. Cheri Brummund reported that she is still working from home maintaining and completing audit information.
3. Mark Schaetzke highlighted some of the topics on his report (see attached)

Adjourn:

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

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:**June Bills:**

Clemons Properties	Rent	July Payment	\$ 665.00
First National Bank	Tyler-Cheri-Mark H S A (\$283.33 ea)	July Payment	\$ 849.99
Sportsman Stop	Truck Gas	for May	\$ 123.53
Johns Service Garage	Plug leaks on tires-Ranger	Inv#15546	\$ 54.30
Byron Law Office	Meyer Abstract-RIM will Reimburse		\$ 1,085.00
Ramsey County	Wildflowers	approx	\$ 600.00
Morgan Behsmann	2 plugs-Wildflowers Refund		\$ 2.46
Mark Schaetzke	Voucher #2020MS1	Mileage	\$ 21.85
			\$ 3,402.13

Manager's Report – June 2020**5-18-20 – Area VI Manager's meeting - Zoom**

Manager's discussed what each office was doing to keep working and maintain a safe environment for employees during stay at home order and future plans for opening back up. Some are co-located with County, some are co-located with NRCS, and some have their own office space. Discussed how to address future meetings and outreach events.

5-27-20 GBERBA Technical Committee - WebEx

Normal business and updates. Watonwan 1W1P is out for 60-day comment. The GBERBA JPB agreement will likely be amended to include fiscal and reporting responsibilities for the Watonwan 1W1P. Most agency reports included staff working from home for the indefinite future. Some BWSR staff such as engineering staff and wetland specialists can visit the field if needed.

5-29-20 – BWSR, NRCS, MN Office of Soil Health (MOSH) Soil Health Field Day Scholarship

We applied for a \$500 grant to help with expenses of putting on an in person or remote field day. Proposed focus of the event would be short season crops such as sweet corn, peas, corn silage, and small grains and the opportunity to incorporate soil health practices with those crops. We were notified on 6-4-20 that we were one of 8 proposals that was selected.

6-1-20 – CREP Batch period

We had one application for 41.5 acres of wetland restoration. I am aware of three additional likely CREP applications for the next batch period.

6-3-20 – Le Sueur Watershed Professional Judgement Group – WebEx

The group consisting of SWCD, County, and State Agency staff reviewed monitoring findings and impairment results for the latest round of monitoring within the Le Sueur Watershed. Extensive monitoring data supports several new impairments and several existing impairments remain impaired. Several sub-watersheds within Waseca County were monitored and found to have impairments. This will be valuable information in the creation of the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) and the 1W1P. I can share additional information from the presentation to those who are interested.

6-10-20 Cannon 1W1P Planning Work Group – Zoom

The group is still ironing out the details of project ranking and eligibility forms to recommend to the Policy Board. We are also working on policy recommendations. There are a lot of details and potential loopholes to button up. The Plan is scheduled to be on the June 24 BWSR Board Agenda with many other things.

6-11-20 – Regional Soil Health Collaboration - Zoom

This was the second meeting of the group comprised of MSU Mankato staff and professors, SWCD, NRCS, and others. Intent is to identify local research needs and opportunities and increase collaboration between the research world and the real-life farm world.