



## **Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District**

300 North State Street

Waseca, MN 56093

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[www.wasecaswcd.org](http://www.wasecaswcd.org)

Approved Minutes of the March 11, 2021 Waseca SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting.

The Meeting of the Waseca County Board of Supervisors that was held at the Waseca County Community Meeting Room. This meeting room provided ample space for safe social distancing. 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 6:40 pm. The meeting was late due to employee reviews taking longer than anticipated.

### **Members Present**

Wayne Cords, Chairman  
Scott Hildebrandt, Vice Chairman  
Todd Stencel, Treasurer

### **Staff Present**

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

### **Others Present**

Doug Christopherson, Waseca County Commissioner  
Ciara Aherns, NRCS Team Lead

**Review of the March Agenda:** Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve the Agenda and Todd Stencel seconded. All-Yes.

**Review Minutes of the February Meeting:** Todd Stencel made a motion to approve the Minutes and Wayne Cords seconded. All-Yes.

**Review February Treasurer's Report:** Todd Stencel moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.

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

### **Old Business:**

1. Other-None

### **New Business:**

1. Annual Staff Review-After staff reviews completed, Wayne Cords made a motion to give staff a step increase plus 2% COLA, Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes. (See attached sheet.)

- Tree Order Reimbursements-A motion was made by Scott Hildebrandt to approve reimbursements and seconded by Todd Stencel. All-Yes

Name	Reimbursement	Tax	Total	Minus changes	Total Check
Bruce Frank	\$ 170.00	\$ 12.54	\$ 182.54	\$ 20.00	\$ 162.54
Jessica Born	\$ 300.00	\$ 22.13	\$ 322.13	\$ -	\$ 322.13
Justin Manthe	\$ 40.00	\$ 2.95	\$ 42.95	\$ -	\$ 42.95
Larry Sexton	\$ 80.00	\$ 5.90	\$ 85.90	\$ -	\$ 85.90
Pat Lienmann	\$ 95.00	\$ 7.01	\$ 102.01	\$ -	\$ 102.01
Joel Weber	\$ 510.00	\$ 37.61	\$ 547.61	\$ 69.01	\$ 478.60
<b>Total Reimbursements</b>	<b>\$ 1,195.00</b>	<b>\$ 88.13</b>	<b>\$ 1,283.13</b>	<b>\$ 89.01</b>	<b>\$ 1,194.12</b>

- GBERBA Contract 319-TMDL-81-15 Randy Sorg – Cover Crop total cost \$7215 CS cost \$3607-Todd Stencel made a motion to approve contract and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.
- Area Newspaper Yearly Subscription Prices-Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve newspaper subscriptions to the Waseca County News, New Richland Star/Eagle, Janesville Journal, and The Land. Todd Stencel seconded. All-Yes

Newspaper Yearly Subscription Rates		
includes internet access		
Waseca County News	\$ 59.30	weekly
New Richland Star Eagle	\$ 37.00	weekly
Janesville Journal	\$ 39.00	weekly
The Land	\$ 49.00	weekly
Mankato Free Press	\$ 222.00	5 day wk

- Cost Share Limitations-Mark Schaetzke went over a few topics for consideration on Cost Share Contract Limitations to write up a new Cost Share Policy. He will bring more information to the next meeting.
- Other

**Supervisor/Meeting Reports:**

- None

**Agency Reports/Commissioners:**

- Doug Christopherson spoke of the BWSR & DNR approvals on County Ditch 19 and also about the extension granted by BWSR to be into 2022.
- Ciara Ahrens spoke of Cover Crops, CSP funding, and also a new program CIC and also RCCP. She is also planning on a work group session to be June 10 at 6 pm. This will be before the Waseca SWCD regular Board Meeting.

**Staff Reports:**

- Cheri Brummund reported she has been working on reports, tree orders, and reports.
- Tyler Polster reported on working on trees, buffer planning.
- Mark Schaetzke wrote a summary of the meetings he has participated in. (see attached)

**Adjourn:**

Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Todd Stencel seconded. All-Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm by Board Chairman, Wayne Cords.

**Next Board Meeting: Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm.**

**Upcoming events:**

- March 12-GBERBA Policy Meeting 1 pm
- March 16-SCTSA 10 am
- March 18-Day at the Capitol
- March 25 Area IV Chairs – 10am – Turner Hall, New Ulm
- CRWJPB – April 7 - 9am

**March Bills:**

First National Bank	Tyler-Cheri-Mark H S A (\$283.33 ea)	April	\$ 849.99
Sportsman Stop	Truck Gas	No Bill for Feb	-0-
			\$ 849.99

Wage increase for 2021 beginning 1<sup>st</sup> pay period in April. (April 11, 2021)

**2% COLA Increase + Step**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current Hrly wage</u>	<u>COLA 2%</u>	<u>Hrly Wage W/COLA Only</u>	<u>Step Incr</u>	<u>W COLA &amp; Step</u>
Mark Schaetzke	\$ 34.58	\$ 0.69	\$ 35.27	\$ 1.76	\$ 37.04
Tyler Polster	\$ 22.66	\$ 0.45	\$ 23.11	\$ 0.69	\$ 23.81
Cheri Brummund	\$ 18.17	\$ 0.36	\$ 18.53	\$ 0.92	\$ 19.45

### **Iosco Creek Debris Removal**

Project was completed when cold snap was over. 5 total days of work by contractor. I felt it went well and all parties seem to be satisfied with the work completed. Some trees will need to be replanted and a couple of small areas should be reseeded. Tree piles plan to be burned with the understanding if the vegetative cover on CRP or RIM is destroyed it needs to be reseeded.

### **GBERBA Tech Committee – 2-24-21**

Normal business of financial report, contracts, staff reports, and agency updates.

### **Cannon Implementation Group (CIG) (formerly known as Cannon Planning Work Group) 3-3-21**

We discussed the importance of focusing on Tier 1 areas first for implementation. This makes sense for other counties but leaves Waseca in a bit of a grey area since we only have Tier 3 areas. It was suggested that we wait until June of this year to assess interest in non-structural practices to evaluate if we should use funding for Tier 2 & 3 areas. Dakota County SWCD is doing a great job of creating an online storage area for documents that we can all access and an online GIS database.

### **PTMAPP training - 3-4-21**

Training was provided by BWSR and Houston Engineering staff and was open to Cannon 1W1P staff. One of our goals was to learn how to use PTMAPP to get pollutant reduction estimates for practice locations not identified in PTMAPP. Care needs to be taken at what scale you are comparing things and what is the modeled watershed outlet.

### **Le Sueur 1W1P Policy Committee – 3-8-21**

The Policy Committee hit the ground running by adopting by-laws and electing chair, vice-chair, and Secretary Positions. They recommended submitting the grant work plan, timeline, and budget as proposed. Haley and I will coordinate with Jill Sackett-Eberhart on getting this approved by BWSR. These are important steps in finalizing the grant agreement so that we can start using the grant to reimburse expenses. They also recommended that staff work on putting together a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to start the process of selecting a consultant.

### **CD-19**

The Final Engineers report was approved by the Waseca Commissioners on 2-16-21. The improvement project received some critical comments from the MN DNR which has caused BWSR to ask for more information as well. I received word from BWSR that they are open to another one year extension on the GBERBA Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant. GBERBA plans to start the process of grant extension and we will plan to have a contract extension at the April meeting. This is good news and came as a welcome surprise to me.

### **CREP**

The next batching period is open from April 12 to April 30. I have one good application from last year and am looking for more interested applicants. Maximum payment rates have stayed the same.