



Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District

300 North State Street
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Approved Meeting Minutes for the March 10, 2022.

The Meeting of the Waseca County Board of Supervisors that was held at the Waseca County SWCD Office Area, 300 North State Street, Waseca. The Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Cords at 6:40 pm. The reason for lateness of meeting, the staff reviews went a little longer than anticipated.

Members Present

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

Staff Present

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

Others Present

DeAnne Malterer, Waseca County Commissioner
Ciara Ahrens, NRCS-on phone

Agenda

Review of March Agenda – Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve agenda with agenda and Todd Stencel seconded. All-Yes.

Consent Agenda

1. February Minutes
2. Treasurers Report
3. Approval of Bills
4. Annual 4-H Program Request Donation \$50 (Blue Ribbon Donor)
5. Other
A motion was made by Todd Stencel to approve Consent Agenda, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.

Old Business:

1. Other

New Business:

1. Staff Reviews-The Personnel Committee recommended a Step + 2 ½ % COLA increase for staff after doing reviews prior to the meeting. This increase would go into effect 1st pay period in April. Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan Seconded. All-Yes.
2. Approval of Disbursement of Funds for Le Sueur 1W1P Grant (January Bills):

Inv Date	Invoice #	Invoice Amount	10% Payment withheld	Disbursement Amount	Partner
January 2022					
1/31/2022	Inv#79049	\$ 10,190.00	\$ 1,019.00	\$ 9,171.00	ISG
2/10/2022	2-2022-WC	\$ 859.84		\$ 859.84	Waseca County

Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes

3. Approval of Disbursement of Funds from MPCA to partners of the LSCE:

2nd Half 2021	Inv Amt	Balance	Invoice #	Partner
Deposit 2/8/2022		\$ 12,839.72		
	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,839.72	21-2-BESWCD	Blue Earth SWCD
	\$ 1,842.68	\$ 997.04	21-2-WSWCD	Waseca SWCD Retained
	\$ 200.00	\$ 797.04	21-2-FaSWCD	Faribault SWCD
	\$ 797.04	\$ (0.00)	21-2-MSU	Minnesota State University, Mankato

Keith Morgan made a motion to disburse funds and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes.

4. GBERBA- Mn Ag Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP)- \$300 incentive for Farmamerica. Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.
5. WASCOD-Russ & Mel Guse Contract (3)20– total project est \$25,000—50% of 75% total cost would \$9375 for SWCD Cost Share using 2020 Cost Share Grant \$4415.40 and 2021 Cost Share Grant \$4959.60. Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
6. WASCOD-Russ & Mel Guse Contract 2022-1 SWCD recommendation for Riparian Funding- total project est \$25,000—50% of 75% total cost would \$9375. Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Scott Hildebrandt seconded. All-Yes.
7. Area VI Meeting April 6 – registration \$21/person, New Ulm. Scott Hildebrandt made a motion to approve anyone that wants to go, Todd Stencel seconded. All-Yes.
8. Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist-Ciara Ahrens went over the Checklist with all attendees. The checklist was signed by all Board Members and Mark Schaezke will be sending it to Ciara Ahrens.
9. Local Work Group-NRCS-Ciara Ahrens inquired about having the SWCD host a Local Work Group Meeting again this year, preferably the end of June. Wayne Cords made a motion to approve and Larry Muff seconded. Vote: Scott Hildebrandt-denied, Todd Stencel-abstained, Larry Muff-yes, Keith Morgan-yes, Wayne Cords-yes. Motion passed 3-2.
10. FYI-SWCD Aid update-Mark Schaezke asked for ideas on what the aid would be used for, suggestions were: #1-personnel, the reason being—you can have all the projects and dollars to cover them, but if you don't have the personnel to implement them-you have nothing.
11. CRP Contribution Agreement with MASWCD-Mark Schaezke reported that he agreed to 30 CRP plans so far with MASWCD. Todd Stencel made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
12. GBERBA-County Ditch 19 Cost Voucher \$8340.00-Larry Muff made a motion to approve and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
13. Other

Supervisor/Meeting Reports:

1. Scott Hildebrandt attended the Hwy 14-Soil Health Workshop at Farmamerica. He stated the speaker, Dorian Gatchell was very interesting and knowledgeable and that he covered many topics.
2. Todd Stencel also attended the Hwy 14-Soil Health Workshop at Farmamerica. He stated the Don Reicosky was a good speaker speaking on Carbon and how tillage effects it. Todd also was also a participant in the Farmer Panel along with Dorian Gatchell. He thought the event was very informational and had good response from attendees.
3. Larry Muff spoke about the Policy Meeting for the Le Sueur 1W1P. He stated on how information was coming together through ISG Consulting.
4. Wayne Cords reported that he attended the Janesville Township Meeting, giving them information on what the SWCD was doing throughout the county.

Agency Reports/Commissioners:

1. Ciara Ahrens, NRCS reported that they should be starting to gradually get staff back in the offices beginning April 18, 2022. She is hopeful that the doors will be open to public by the end of June.
2. DeAnne Malterer, Waseca County Commissioner reported that she has been attending the Le Sueur 1W1P Meetings and that things seem to be going smoothly.

Staff Reports:

1. Tyler Polster reported on the Emerald Ash Bore Field Day he attended. He also reported attending the Hwy 14 Workshop. The Tree orders for this year are the same number of orders, but with an increase in revenue of over \$34,000 with expenses of approx \$24,000.
2. Cheri Brummund reported that she had completed annual reporting. She also stated that the New Richland Star, Janesville Journal, Mankato Free Press and The Land Magazine have all been printing information sent to them. Also working on the Hwy14 Workshop and day to day duties.
3. Mark Schaetzke highlighted items on his attached report.

Adjourn:

Todd Stencil made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by Board Chairman, Wayne Cords.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 6:30 pm. at the SWCD Offices.

Upcoming events:

- GBERBA Policy - March 11, 1:00 pm Virtual
- South Central TSA Meeting - March 22, 9:00 Virtual
- LS 1W1P Policy - March 25, 10:00 am Mankato
- LS 1W1P Mid point Public Meeting – April 4, 5:30 Pemberton Plaza, Pemberton
- Cannon 1W1P Joint Powers Board - April 6, 9:00 am Rice County Fair Grounds
- Area VI MASWCD Meeting – April 6, 2022, 8:30 am Turner Hall, 102 S State St. New Ulm

FYI-reminder the Filing for Election will be coming up in May. Scott Hildebrandt, Todd Stencil and Larry Muff terms are all up at the end of the year.—Scott Hildebrandt stated he was not going to run again. Inquiries to someone in the District 4-St Mary & Woodville Townships who may want to fill the position.

March Bills:

First National Bank	Tyler-Cheri-Mark H S A (\$300.00 ea)		\$	900.00
Bock's	Truck Gas	None	\$	-----
Tree World	Planyskydd-Tree Expense	1892263	\$	236.64
Tree Pro	Tree Tubes-Tree Expense	468523	\$	102.50
Dewitt	Tree Mats & Pins-Tree Expense	342966	\$	423.90
Scott SWCD	Bundle of White Pine	13319	\$	39.00
Blue Earth Cty SWCD	3 Bundles Norway Spruce	105079	\$	60.00
Mark Schaetzke	Voucher 2022 MS1		\$	95.84
			\$	1,857.88

Hwy 14 Soil Health workshop

Good weather, ~40 attendees, no major issues. Speaker bills are pending – Sharing expenses with other three stops – Cottonwood SWCD is coordinating.

Waseca High school

I have been involved in discussions on how to make a 5 acre chunk of natural Waseca High School property into a space conducive to teaching high school classes. Current concepts include making trails, having some sort of open air meeting space, storage building, and utilities. MN DNR involved through school forest program that provides some guidance and resources. Process is at the beginning stages and seems to have good support from the school.

CD19 MDM Easement

Drainage Authority attorney and BWSR's Rita Weaver met to review changes to easement template from BWSR. Since there are changes, MN Attorney General needs to review and approve easement language. We don't have a timeline on when that would occur. Grant ends 4-30-22 with GBERBA deadlines before that.

Le Sueur River Watershed Network

Effort to apply for a Fishers and Farmer's Grant to supply agronomic assistance and cover crop seed and planting for select watersheds in the Le Sueur including Iosco Creek. Goal of 12 farmers on 40 acres each. Assisted in presentation. MSU Water Resources Center (WRC) is the applicant.

Cannon 1W1P

Staff met to discuss and recommend changes to the cost share policy and work plan items for the next WBIF grant. Multipurpose Drainage Management should be at 75% cost share to follow CWF guidelines. Fund balance was discussed with no recommendations made other than to find other examples. There is some opportunity to create peer to peer soil health groups in the watershed that we may consider later. Le Sueur County is starting the process of septic inspections. Some of the lake management effort is now being taken on by MPCA and additional costs are determined eligible for WBIF.

LS 1W1P

Finishing up TAC review of last two issue statements on leadership and bacteria. All issue statements and associated goals, targeting, desired future conditions, and strategies have been reviewed by the policy and seem to have support. Staff are turning their attention to completing the huge implementation table. ISG provided some more refined targeting maps based on the targeting we provided. We are planning to have MCIT do a presentation on future plan administration and I intend to supply the board with that meeting info so you can attend if you like. Midpoint planning meeting and public survey planned for April.

3-9-22 – MASWCD Legislative effort

Making a push for \$22 Million annually in SWCD aid because 1: more stable form of SWCD state support, 2: budget surplus, 3: Gov has in budget, 4: some key lawmakers are willing to support it now. Currently proposed to come from Dep of Revenue instead of BWSR with Capacity funds. Currently have bills in house and senate. I have reached out to 3 of the 4 house and senate members that represent us to try to set up meetings to inform them of the good stuff the SWCD does and why SWCD aid is important. This form of funding would be able to cover all of the SWCD essential services instead of limiting to CWF requirements.