

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Friday, June 14, 2019

8:30 A.M.

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Bob Pickett, Kathy Tesmer, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Christensen, Jeanette Serfling, Sue Wiegrefe, Duane Bakke (County Commissioner)

Gossman called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Pickett to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Tesmer, Pickett, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Everyone present introduced themselves to the new Administrative Assistant, Sue Wiegrefe.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Willford to approve the May, 2019 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Willford to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Secretary's Report – May 16, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Secretary's Report – May 22, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
3. Payment of District Windbreak Cost Share Contract WB14-18 Ben Snyder, Windbreak Restoration, in the amount of \$306.00
4. Payment of District Windbreak Cost Share Contract WB14-22, Brigid Eickhoff, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$603.50
5. Payment of Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FY17-06 Randy Johnson, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$4,108.75

6. Payment of Root River FSP Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FSP BC19-01 Johnson Rolling Acres, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$4,415.40
7. Payment of Root River FSP Conservation Practice Assistance Contract FSP BC19-02 Johnson Rolling Acres, Contour Buffer Strip, in the amount of \$13,200.00
8. Payment of Root River FSP Conservation Assistance Practice Contract FSP BC16-03 Steve Oian, Grassed Waterway, in the amount of \$7,020.00

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity reports

Willford reported attending a Special Board Meeting on May 22.

Hazel had nothing to report.

Gossman reported attending a Special Board Meeting and Interviews for Administrative Assistant on May 22.

Pickett reported attending a Special Board Meeting on May 22.

Tesmer reported attending the Special Board Meeting and Interviews for the Administrative Assistant on May 22. She came in for the statement opening on June 3. On May 20 she attended a RC&D meeting. She noted the goat project for the control of buckthorn had received television coverage.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. Conservation Building "woods" improvement report.

Christensen reported DNR is planning a crop release of the black walnuts and control of invasive species (buckthorn, honeysuckle, and garlic mustard), and doing a prescribed burn on the native planting. Gossman suggested the use of Sentence-to-Serve labor and asked that before and after photos be taken.

b. Classification and Compensation Study Update

Four market surveys had been received and eight additional surveys have yet to be returned.

4. NRCS

A written report was provided by Bronson and read by Pickett.

5. County

Commissioner Bakke reported on the following:

- The one remaining landowner who has been non-compliant on the riparian buffer law has been contacted. Because there currently exists vegetation on the area it is being considered compliant although it is not planted vegetation.
- He had been a speaker at the SWCD Leadership Academy at Eagle Bluff sharing his experiences and interactions in conservation and leadership.
- The county GIS person has resigned and the county is in contact with other counties about providing those services.
- Audrey Inglett from the county Coordinator's office is retiring. In searching for a replacement, web management skills are of high priority.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Acknowledgement of the approval to hire Susan Wiegrefe, Administrative Assistant, per the decision of the Personnel Committee

The Board acknowledged the approval to hire Susan Wiegrefe as Administrative Assistant at a starting salary of \$17.5516 per hour, effective June 12, 2019, per the decision of the Personnel Committee.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to acknowledge approval to hire Susan Wiegrefe as the Administrative Assistant, per the Personnel Committee's decision. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider adding Susan Wiegrefe to the Corporate Authorization Resolution and remove Jeanette Serfling effective June 21, 2019

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Willford to add Susan Wiegrefe to the Corporate Resolution and remove Jeanette Serfling effective June 21, 2019. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of Bank of America Business card account administrator change from Donna Rasmussen to Laura Christensen

Motioned by Willford seconded by Tesmer to approve the Bank of America Business card account administrator change from Donna Rasmussen to Laura Christensen. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider extension of Field to Stream Partnership (FSP) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) through July 31, 2019

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Willford to approve the extension of the Field to Stream Partnership (FSP) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) through July 31, 2019.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider approval for Laura Christensen to sign FSP JPA extension via DocuSign

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Pickett to approve Laura Christensen, District Administrator, to sign the FSP JPA extension via DocuSign. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider approval of 319 Feedlot VII sub-recipient Grant Agreement with Goodhue SWCD

Motioned by Willford seconded by Pickett to approve the 319 Feedlot VII sub-recipient Grant Agreement with Goodhue SWCD. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider approval for Administrator to sign 319 Feedlot VII sub-recipient Grant Agreement with Goodhue SWCD

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Willford to grant approval for the Administrator to sign the 319 Feedlot VII sub-recipient Grant Agreement with the Goodhue SWCD. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The Administrator will review the document and act in the best interest of the District.

6. Reconsider Resolution 19-01 Crop Insurance Incentive for Cover Crops

Board discussed the progress in this area by other groups and recommended the wording be changed to include development, not merely study, and to include the additional organizations involved that may desire collaboration.

7. Consider staff recommendations for 2019 Outstanding Conservationist

Two staff recommendations were presented. Christensen will contact the recommendations to see if they are willing to participate. This will be brought back to the next board meeting.

8. Discuss Fillmore County Fair Booth and radio interview

The Board discussed the importance of a continued presence at the fair. Youth activities were encouraged as a way to increase visitation. The Administrator will do the radio spot with KFIL.

9. Consider approval of MN DNR Groundwater Level Monitoring Agreement #158770

Motioned by Willford seconded by Tesmer to approve the MN DNR Groundwater Level Monitoring Agreement #158770 in the amount of \$240.00. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Consider renewal of Civil 3D Commercial single-user software

The Board recommended checking with other counties to determine the options available to share services and also requested a report from staff as to whether training is happening so that the software will be utilized beyond the Engineering Specialist's current contract.

11. Consider approval of FY2019 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN Sub-Agreement between Fillmore SWCD and Rice SWCD

Motioned by Willford seconded by Tesmer to approve the FY2019 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN Sub-agreement between Fillmore SWCD and Rice SWCD. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Tesmer to approve the June, 2019 payables. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Serfling asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Monday, July 1st. Willford volunteered.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Pickett seconded by Tesmer to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Pickett