

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
February 27, 2020
8:15 a.m.
County Annex Conference Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Meeting called to order at 8:15 am by Terry Helbig
Supervisors Present: Terry Helbig, Chair, Lynn Zabel, Vice Chair, Chuck Fick, Treasurer,
Nate Arendt, Member
Staff Present: Terri Peters, Sue Cerwinske
Others Present: Rich Hall, County Commissioner, Adam Beilke, BWSR, Sheila Harmes,
Sharleen and Frank Klennert**
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. AGENDA
Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to approve the Agenda
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker**
- V. CONSENT AGENDA**
- A. Freeborn SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement-
 - B. Olmsted SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
 - C. Mower SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement-
 - D. Winona County SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
 - E. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
 - F. Rice SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
 - G. Dodge SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
 - H. Goodhue SWCD 2020 MAWQCP Sub-Agreement
- Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to approve the Consent Agenda
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried**
- VI. SECRETARY’S REPORT**
- A. January 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes-Board Action
- Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to approve the Secretary’s Report
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried**

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT:

A. December 2019 – Closeout Program Record-Board Action
January Program report not done yet, will have done in a few days

Motioned by Fick, seconded by Zabel to approve the December 2019 -Closeout Program

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

B. January District Financial Statements-Board Action

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to approve the January District Financial Statements.

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$18,560.94 -Board Action

Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to approve the Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$18,560.94

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Terry Helbig

No monthly breakfast with Rolland and Tom.

Forestry Day was a tremendous success.

B. County Commissioner – Rich Hall

Good job on Forestry Day. Great turn out and interesting speakers

Attended Whitewater JP meeting. Presenter Sara Holger talked about history of Whitewater State Park. 450,000 visitors 2019.

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Program Funding Available for Cost Share – Handout

Finished end of year reporting by 2-03-2020.

Conference call for North Fork-Zumbro-Mazeppa project. Couple of questions and Engineering is about completed. Next couple of months out for bid.

Easement acquisition by DNR – for stream bank areas that need some work, fishing easements. Quite a bit of wood. Contractor will need to be sourcing.

1W1P Zumbro work group - draft of measurable goals and technical advisory group.

BALMM Meeting

MAWQCP Promo Funds – Answered questions, got sub-agreements out.

JP Meeting – Running out of funding. Raise dues to cover shortage. District used to pay \$5,000 to SE Water Resources, we don't pay that anymore. Could allocate to JP Board. Ag Certainty, we could use some funding from

Engineering fund. Built into billing rates so we can recoup.

D. NRCS Report – Phillis Brey - absent

Submitted Typed District Conservation Report

- E. Ecological Technician Report – Jen Wahls
- F. District Technician Report- Mitch Rigelman
- G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske

X. OLD BUSINESS

- i. Meeting Dates/Time 8:15 am for 2020 – List of Dates in Board Packet
These dates and time change for 2020 were approved last meeting. November meeting check with Terry Helbig for December meeting date, as he will be gone the third Thursday 12/17/20.
- ii. Annual Leave Carry Over Policy – Tabled at January 23, 2020 meeting
Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to Table the Annual Leave Carry Over Policy until next meeting.
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- iii. Trading in GMC Truck – Tabled at January 23, 2020 meeting
Check into State Vehicles Listing and Programs/Funds to use to purchase
Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to Table Trading in the GMC Truck
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. MN BWSR FY 2020 and 2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Grant Agreement - **Board Action**
Moved by Arendt, seconded by Zabel to approve the MN BWSR FY 2020 and 2021 Cooperative Weed Management Area Program Grant Agreement in the amount of \$15,000.00
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- B. William & Rosie Schmitt request for Wabasha SWCD to be co-payee on their RIM practice reimbursement checks. (WRP easement restoration) – **Board Action**

Moved by Zabel, seconded by Arendt to approve William & Rosie Schmitt request for Wabasha SWCD to be co-payee on their RIM practice reimbursement checks.
Discussion: Older project (started 2009) need to get completed. Hired contractor to get work done. Bennett who did the original dike. Money goes into our account, 25% to BWSR, we pay contractors. NRCS checks also go to contractors. Joint project with NRCS to get the project done. Meeting with Taber, the Schmitt's, SWCD and NRCS staff. We manage the money, payments. Noted not best practice, concerned about setting a precedent. We are being their financial manager. May need to look into making a policy. Adam said that easements happen occasionally.
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- C. Contract approval for Peter Klapperich on 30 acres of cover crops 19-DWP-CC-1 (\$2,700.00 total for 340 Cover Crop Practice for 3 years. Installed by 11/01/2020, 11/01/2021, 11/01/2022 – **Board Action**

Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to approve Peter Klapperich Contract 19-DWP-CC-1 on 30 acres of cover crops (2,700.00 total for 340 Cover Crop Practice for 3 years, Installed by 11/01/2020, 11/01/2021, 11/01/2022

Funding from Drinking Water Protection Plan. (Total 10,377.00 for Wabasha)

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- D. Contract approval for Jack Stamschror on 30 acres of cover crops 20-Capacity-2 (2,700.00 total for 340 Cover Crop Practice for 3 years. Installed by 10-01-2020, 10/01/2021, 10/01/2022) – **Board Action**

Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to approve Jack Stamschror Contract 20-Capacity-2 on 30 acres of cover crops (\$2,700.00 total for 340 Cover Crops Practice for 3 years, Installed by 10/01/2020, 10/01/2021, 10/01/2022

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- E. Contract approval for Swanson Family Farm on 412 Grassed Waterway Contract 20-CS-1 in the amount of \$10,600.00 – **Board Action**

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Zabel to approve the Swanson Family Farm Contract 20-CS-1 for 412 Grassed Waterway in the amount of \$10,600.00

Funding from 2019 State Cost Share and 2020 State Cost Share

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- F. Resolution # 02272020-1 to support a Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) planning project – **Board Discussion/Approval/Action**

Discussion: Sheila commented that this is the last watershed in SE MN not in 1W1P planning process. Grant application needs to be submitted by late June, 2020. If selected, 2021 planning and completed in 2023. This plan then would complete all of Wabasha County being in a watershed plan. Whitewater portion of the Mississippi River-Winona/La Crescent is 42% of the acreage. Concerns will be that this will eliminate the small boards and just be one 1W1P board. Whitewater JP Board was selected as purse for it, being it hasn't been enacted yet. Group will work together to complete. Meeting of entities who will be involved in 1W1P process before application should be submitted. 2 letters of support asking for Winona County to support it. Needs to go to Wabasha County Board. Our mission is for water quality. Need to be at meetings to get things done. Need to have all four SWCD's, two counties and watershed district to be on board. If it does go ahead, partners will need to sign a memorandum of agreement that we will proceed with this.

Moved by Zabel, seconded by Arendt to approve Resolution # 02272020-1 to support a Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) planning project 1W1P application

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- G. Letter to BWSR: Wabasha County Water Plan – 2020 plan amendment waiver request – **Board Discussion/Action**

Five-year mark for approved local management plan. Involved in Zumbro watershed 1W1P and discussing potential for Mississippi River-Winona/La Crescent plan. All of our county than would be included 1W1P. Will eliminate need for doing amendment on current water plan.

Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to approve the Letter to BWSR: Wabasha County Water Plan – 2020 plan amendment waiver request.

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- H. Easement Delivery Work Order 79-19-W099 – **Board Action**

Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to approve the Easement Delivery Work Order 79-19-W099 for \$1,450.00 from BWSR. (Work we do to inspect. Usually do 10 a year.)

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- I. 2020 District Budget – **Board Action**

Moved by Zabel, seconded by Fick to approve the 2020 District Budget

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- J. 2020 Building Lease – Mitel Schule Inc – **Board Action**

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to approve the 2020 Building Lease for \$920.43 a month or \$11,045.19 – Mitel Schule Inc. (locked in for 5 years with 60 day clause that we could get out)

Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- K. \$5,000.00 Scholarship for College Junior Level and Above Studying Fields in Sustainable Agriculture & Forestry – Application Period January 15 – March 30, 2020

-Board Information (May know someone that should apply)

XII. **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- i. Economics of Soil Health & Cover Crops, Friday, February 28, 2020 and Stewartville Civic Center 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Registration Fee \$15.00 includes lunch. RSVP by Wed. 2/26 by emailing or by calling 507-328-7070
- ii. Cover Crops 101 Monday, March 9, 2020. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Free Pizza at Brewskie's in Utica 110 E. Main St. Utica, MN55979
- iii. MASWCD Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol, March 24-25
Head Count – Need to book four Hotel rooms - Jen, Terri, Lynn, Larry

XIII. **Board Reports**

- A. WW – **Talked about earlier in this meeting**
- B. 1W1P- **No Meeting this month Work group will meet March. Bills to pay and measurable goals.**

XIV. **Adjourn and Go in to Closed Session - Board Action**

Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to adjourn and go into closed session at 9:45 am
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XV. **Closed Session – Terri and Board**

Discuss Office Structure/Personnel Meeting

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to go into Closed Session at 9:40 am
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to adjourn Closed Session at 10:01 am
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XVI. **Reopen Regular Meeting**

Moved by Arendt, seconded by Fick to open Regular Meeting at 10:01 am
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XVII. **Adjourn- Board Action**

Moved by Fick, seconded by Arendt to Adjourn. Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:02 am
Affirmative: Zabel, Fick, Arendt
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted



Larry Theismann, Secretary