

Please call office at 651-560-2053 or email susan.cerwinske.wabashaswcd@gmail.com if you have any questions on attending physically or by phone.

We have call-in capabilities for up to 10 people. Phone# 651-560-1088 Access code # 0147478#
If you plan on attending in person and are not fully vaccinated, wearing a mask and social distancing will be required.

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
District Regular Board Meeting
July 22, 2021
8:15 a.m.
County Board Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Meeting called to order by Lynn Zabel, Co-Chair at 8:15 am
Supervisors present: Lynn Zabel, Co-chair, Larry Theismann, Secretary, Chet Ross, member
Staff present: Terri Peters, District Manager
Others present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner
Attending by phone: Sheila Harmers, Winona County Water Planner, John Benjamin, NRCS, (left meeting 8:40 am), Brian DeVetter, NRCS and Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Admin. Assist.

- II. **PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE**

- III. **AGENDA**
One addition to the agenda under new business – Approve Pete Weis voucher payment for contract 21-CS-1 in the amount of \$3,423.53 for grassed waterway
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve the Agenda with addition
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker

- V. **CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action**
 - A. Fee-for-Service-Work Order between Wabasha SWCD ad Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa Project Number# 501-12979 Effective date 7-01-2021 and Expiration date 12-31-2021
 - B. Lars Polson AgBMP Loan application for \$10,000.00 for IMR portable mixer
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- VI. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**
 - A. June 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes-Board Action
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve the Secretary's Report
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Terri went over program funding sheet informing board on what funds were left to use. Some state cost share. Olmsted grant for \$8,600.00 available for water treatment. 319 funds \$42,429.77 left, administered by Goodhue Cty. \$2,077.03 left for small feedlot fixes. Moved funds around \$2,500.00 available for CWMA

A. District Financial Statements-Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve the Treasurer's Report

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$86,270.87 -Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve payment of the monthly bills in the amount of \$86,270.87

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Terry Helbig – *Not present*

B. County Commissioner – **Bob Walkes**

Thanked Terri for the invitation to the Local Work Group next week

Attended new Commissioner's training in the cities

C. District Manager Report – **Terri Peters**

Submitted MRBI application for EQIP funds. Worked with NRCS on projects in the W. Indian to get shovel ready if funding is approved.

State Manager's meeting in Brainerd 6-29 to 6-30-2021

Talked about staffing, recruiting, workloads. MCIT talked about managing risks and changes to open meeting law.

Zumbro 1W1P Last meeting for final approval stage. 8-12 public meeting at Olmsted County Campus building meeting room

WinLac 1W1P planning group going forward. Houston finalized.

Booth at the Wabasha Cty Fair – Survey on WinLac watershed.

Few people interested in projects. Staff working on those.

Lake City Arts – Presentation on 1W1P

Walk with NRCS, Brian DeVetter, Bill and Nicole (state engineer) the W. Indian Trout Unlimited project.

Worked on Local Work Group meeting with John Benjamin, NRCS

D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – Report in packet – *presented at meeting*

E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – Report in packet

F. Ecological Technician Report – Henry Stelten – Report in packet

Drone testing in Rochester, 7-16-21

G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske – *Report given at meeting*

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Conservation Project – Lynn Zabel
Waiting for MAWQCP sign up.
- B. Change Order #2 for WSB Project No. 014051-000, North Fork Zumbro River at Mazeppa Channel Restoration. Scope Expansion Lange Property \$57,145.01 Substantial completion date 12-31-21 and new Final completion date 6-30-22
- Board Action (Signature)
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve and signature for the Change Order #2 for WSB Project No. 014041-000, North Fork Zumbro River at Mazeppa Channel Restoration. Scope Expansion Lange Property \$57,145.01. Substantial completion date 12-31-21 and new Final completion date 6-30-22
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. Environmental Troubleshooters Inc. Pay Voucher #5 for \$7,601.37 for work done up through 6-23-21 – Board Action (Signature)
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Theismann to approve signature of Environmental Troubleshooters Inc. pay voucher \$5 for \$7,601.37 for work done up through 6-23-21
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Whitewater 319 Nonpoint Source Reduction Grant Sub-Agreement between Whitewater Joint Powers Board and Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation District – Board Signature
This sub-agreement was approved at last meeting. It just needs a board member signature.
- E. Local Work Group Meeting 7-27-2021 – Board Discussion
Terri said SWCD setup meeting for NRCS with partners to get input on resource concern priorities. Worked with John Benjamin on the scoring sheet for priorities. NRCS will lead the conversations through the scoring sheet. Terri will go over work SWCD has done over the last year of two. NRCS scoring sheet will rank priorities and get consensus from the group. When completed it will go up chain to rank EQIP projects for local priorities. Brian noted that it will be sent up to area office and then up to state technical committee for consideration.
VFW meeting room on 7-27-21, 9:00 registration
W. Indian committee meeting will follow. Go over resource concerns. Set up different committees. Grant for \$324,000.00 over 4 years. Requires 40% match. Hoping to get match from some of our partners.

F. Outstanding Conservationist – Board Discussion

Chuck Schmitt for 2020 didn't get recognition. Will need to do interview with him.

Terri recommended White Barn Acres, LLC for 2021 Outstanding Conservationist. We have worked closely with them the last few years. Matt & Seth Tentis have implemented rotational grazing, invasive species management, cover crops and doing a stream crossing project now.

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve White Barn Acres, LLC as 2021 Outstanding Conservationist.

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

G. Outstanding Forest Steward. Carryover Ed Bauman from last year – Board Discussion

Woodland Manager usually gets named by DNR. They did not meet with many people in 2020. We will stay with Ed and get together with him for an interview.

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to carryover Ed Bauman for Outstanding Forest Steward for 2021.

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Nominations due by September, 17. MASWCD Annual Convention Dec 12-14th

H. WinLac 1W1P – Survey Information

Terri had the WinLac Survey at the Wabasha County Fair. Had a number of them filled out and Lynn had additional surveys in the afternoon. There will be a random mailing going out. Sheila commented that they had the survey out at the Winona County Fair. Information will feed into the citizen input for watershed plan. May put on survey monkey to get responses online.

I. Safe Drinking Water Grant Information

Share information if you know anyone the has higher nitrates. The grant is for under sink treatment systems. Question was asked on how much a system would cost. Terri thought maybe around \$2,500.00. Need to have certified test from the last two years. Needs to be installed by licensed plumber. Water testing kits from Olmsted County, they have a lab on site.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve Bob Sloan Contract# 20-WWDWP-1 for practice 340 Cover Crops in the amount of \$2,700.00 – Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Bob Sloan Contract# 20-WWDWP-1 for practice 340 cover crops in the amount of \$2,700.00

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- B. Resolution 08012021-1 to increase per diem rate to \$125.00 per day from \$75.00 per MASWCD successful legislative efforts to update per diem amount effective 8-01-2021 - **Board Discussion (Board Action)**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Resolution 08012021-1 to increase per diem rate to \$125.00 per day from \$75.00 per MASWCD successful legislative efforts to update per diem amount effective 8-01-2021 (MN Statues Section 103C.315 Subd. 4)
Affirmative: Theismann, Ross
Opposed: Zabel
Motion Carried
- C. Approve Lars Polson Contract # 19-319FL-3 in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Clean Water Diversion – **Board Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Lars Polson Contract# 19-319FL-3 in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Clean Water Diversion
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Approve voucher payment for Tom Leisen contract# 19-Capacity-1 for practice 340 cover crops, final payment of \$900.00 – **Board Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve voucher payment for Tom Leisen contract # 19-Capacity-1 for practice 340 cover crop, final payment of \$900.00
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- E. Seminar on “Managing the Human Resource” put on by MCIT Oct 13-14, 2021 at the Holiday Inn, St Cloud – **Board Discussion**
Terri usually goes to keep up on what is going on. She recommended two people go, one staff employee and 1 from personnel committee.
Looking for MCIT to gear one specifically for SWCD’s this year.
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve 2 people to go to “Managing the Human Resource” seminar specifically for SWCD’s given by MCIT. If no specific seminar is offered for SWCD’s than approve for 2 people to go to the original seminar from MCTI on Oct 13-14, 2021.
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- F. Approve George Meyer voucher payment for contract# 21-Capacity-2 for practice 410 Grade Stabilization in the amount of \$9,061.64 – **Board Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve George Meyer voucher payment for contract# 21-Capacity-2 for practice 410 Grade Stabilization in the amount of \$9,061.64
Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

F1. Approve Pete Weiss voucher payment for contract 21-CS-1 in the amount of \$3,423.53 for grassed waterway – Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Pete Weiss voucher payment for contract# 21-CS-1 in the amount of \$3,423.53 for grassed waterway

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

G. Upcoming Events:

- i. Local Work Group – July 27th 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Wabasha VFW
- ii. W. Indian Committee Meeting – July 27th 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Wabasha VFW
- iii. Zumbro 1W1P public hearing August 12, 5:30 pm at 2120 Campus building at Olmsted County.

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB - ***Online meeting to approve 319 Whitewater***
- B. Zumbro 1W1P - ***No report***
- C. WinLac 1W1P - ***Terri said had to wait for contract to be signed between Houston and Houston***
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – ***Larry went to financial committee meeting. Regular meeting is next Thursday (8-29). Financials look better than expected. Will have report next month on the meeting.***
- E. County Board Meeting – ***Larry Terri gave report at meeting. Larry said no concerns, keeping them informed.***
- F. Hiawatha Valley RC&D – ***No report***

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Theismann to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 am

Affirmative: Zabel, Theismann, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted by:



Larry Theismann, Secretary