

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
October 28, 2021
8:15 a.m.
County Board Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – *Lynn Zabel, Chair called meeting to order at 8:15 am*
Supervisors present: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Chet Ross, Co-chair, Larry Theismann, Secretary, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer
Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager
Attending by phone: Brian DeVetter, NRCS, Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Admin. Asst.
Others present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner

- II. **PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE**

- III. **AGENDA**

Add to agenda under new business letter L: FY 2022 State of MN BWSR Clean Water Fund SWCD Capacity Program & Buffer Law Implementation Program Grant Agreement
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the agenda with addition of letter L under new business for FY 2022 State of MN BWSR Grant Agreement
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

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

- V. **CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action**
 - A. Lars Polson AgBMP Loan for a Bedding Chopper in the amount of \$20,750.00
 - B. Lars Polson AgBMP Loan for a Used Skid Steer in the amount of \$11,000.00
 - C. Conservation Corps MN & IA Invoice# 12864 in the amount of \$1,102.50 for Bohemian Knotweed Management at Hammond Creek 9/1 – 9/30/2021.
Funding from FY21 MDA Knotweed Grant
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the consent agenda.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VI. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

A. September 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes-Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the September 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

A. District Financial Statements-Board Action

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. **PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS**

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$88,038.01-Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve payment of the monthly bills in the amount of \$88,038.01

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. **DISTRICT REPORTS**

A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel – ***No Report***

B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes - **No Report**

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Revising Personnel Policy

Staff update cost share policy for entering workplan for state grants

Working on budget/workplan for 319 program. Trying to get partners match.

MRBI grant was approved/funded. Special money for EQIP. Thanks to NRCS staff for helping to get the request in.

1W1P, BWSR approved the Greater Zumbro. Moving forward with scoring and decisions on how to setup implementation.

WinLac moving ahead, working on prioritizations. Meeting coming up to talk about prioritizations and policy committee meeting

D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – Report in Packet

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

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

G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske – Report in Packet

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Conservation Project – Lynn Zabel –

Planted Rye in Sept. Severe case of army worms. Unusually warm fall weather, they didn't die out. Cover crops fresh food supply, needed to spray pesticide to kill.

- B. Change Meeting Dates for November and December to the third Thursday of the month instead of fourth. November 18, 2021 and December 16, 2021 – **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve changing meeting dates to the third Thursday of the month, November 18, 2021 and December 16, 2021.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. MASWCD 2021 Resolutions -**Board Discussion**
- D. SWCD Board Vacancy Update. Candidates? Application period open until November 15th – **Board Discussion**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. National Association of Conservation Districts dues for 2022 – Recommend at least Bronze Level (\$101 - \$500.00) – **Board Action**
(\$350.00 paid for 2021)
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to pay NACD \$400.00 bronze level for 2022 dues.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- B. Cancel Bob Sloan Contract# 20-WWDWP-1 for cover crops in the amount of \$2,700.00 (Timing does not work for him) – **Board Action**
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to cancel Bob Sloan contract# 20-WWDWP-1 for cover crops in the amount of \$2,700.00
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. Approve Grant Amendment for Grant ID# P18-7145, 2018 SWCD Local Capacity Services to change expiration date to 12-31-2022 and reporting date to 2-21-2023 - **Board Action**
(FY 2018 State of MN BWSR 2018/2019 SWCD Programs and Operations Grants - Wabasha SWCD Grant Amendment)
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve grant amendment for Grant ID# P18-7145, 2018 SWCD Local Capacity Services to change expiration date to 12-31-2022 and reporting date to 2-21-2023
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- D. MASWCD 2021 Annual Convention & Trade Show Dec. 12 – 14, 2021 at the The Doubletree Hotel, Bloomington, MN. Who will be attending? Silent Auction donations – **Board Discussion/Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to have Terri and Lynn attend the MASWCD Convention for Sun., two days and two nights. Terri 's discretion on if staff attendance for Monday and whether to stay overnight. Also approve Tuesday luncheon up to 5 people.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- E. Approve Mike Rahman voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-2 in the amount of \$900.00 for practice 340 cover crops 2nd year – **Board Action**
(Funding source FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Mike Rahman voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-2 in the amount of \$900.00 for practice 340 cover crops 2nd year.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- F. Approve White Barn Acres LLC voucher payment for Contract# 21-Capacity-3 in the amount of \$961.47 for practice 578 stream crossing – **Board Action**
(Funding source FY21 Capacity)
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve White Barn Acres LLC voucher payment for Contract# 21-Capacity-3 in the amount of \$961.47 for practice 578 stream crossing
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- G. Approve Rachel Walkes Contract# 21-Capacity-5 in the amount of \$2,700.00 for practice 340 Cover Crops – **Board Action**
Funding source FY21 Capacity
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to approve Rachel Walkes Contract# 21-Capacity-5 in the amount of \$2,700.00 for practice 340 cover crops.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- H. Approve Eugene Schnell Amendment for Contract# 20-Capacity-5 to change expiration date to 6/30/22, contingent on approval of amendment of P18-7145 SWCD Local Capacity Services to extend expiration date to 12/31/22 – **Board Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Eugene Schnell amendment for Contract# 20-Capacity-5 to change expiration date to 6/30/22, contingent on approval of amendment of P18-7145 SWCD Local Capacity Services To extend expiration date to 12/31/22
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- I. District State Cost Share Policy for Approval – **Board Action**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to approve the District State Cost Share Policy
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- J. Personnel Policy – **Board Discussion**
Discussed policy and board member said that it looked good. Spells out in black and white the personnel policy. Policy applicable for the District. No vote. More input will go into final policy.
- K. Approve Steve McNallan voucher payment for Contract# 17-CAP-WS-13 in the amount of \$1,000.00 for Well Decommissioning -**Board Action**
(Funding source FY18 Capacity)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Theismann to approve Steve McNallan voucher payment for Contract# 17-CAP-WS-13 in the amount of \$1,000.00 for Well Decommissioning
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- L. FY 2022 State of MN BWSR Clean Water Fund SWCD Capacity Program & Buffer Law Implementation Program Grant Agreement - **Board Action/Signature**
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve the FY 2022 State of MN BWSR Clean Water Fund SWCD Capacity Program & Buffer Law Implementation Program Grant Agreement
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

N. Upcoming Events:

- i. MASWCD resolution ballot deadline for submittal is November 1, 2021

XII. **Board Reports**

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
Interesting discussion on contract with State of MN JPB working with fertilizer management – problem supporting regulation. Took paragraph out and then contract was approved.
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Larry
Meeting next week 11/4, but Larry has jury duty. Sharleen volunteered to be alternate. Meetings are every other month. Meetings held in person at Rochester Campus building.
- C. WinLac 1W1P – Lynn
Lynn participated by zoom. Using \$10,980.00 of contingency fund to do more modeling, to completed watershed plan, water flows. More graphing. Forestry presentation.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Larry
No report. Meet only 2 times a year.
- E. County Board Meeting – Larry (alternate Sharleen)
Sharleen filled in for Larry at meeting. Presented Terri's report She was asked about water testing, if it is random.
- F. Hiawatha Valley RC&D – Lynn
No meeting. Richard Harris promised report. He sent an update by email. Busy looking into the carbon management program.

- XIII. Adjourn Regular Board Meeting to go into Closed Session – Board Action
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to adjourn Regular Board Meeting to go into Closed Session at 10:30 am
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- XIV. Open Session for Health Insurance Discussion – Board Discussion
Discussed
Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to Open Session for Health Insurance
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- XV. Closed Session – Board Action
Motioned by Larry and seconded by Ross to go into Closed Session
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XVI. Open Regular Meeting – Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to Reopen Regular Meeting

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

M. MN PEIP Health Insurance renewal and County Benefits – Dental, Life and Long-term disability –Board Action on Closed Session Meeting Decisions

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross approved to keep the Health Insurance HSA Advantage Coverage option with district paying 90% of premium and employee paying 10%; and approve dental coverage through the County with Single covered by district, amount over that for family the employee pays. HSA contributions to employees will stay the same. \$1,500.00 Single and \$3,000.00 for Family for the year.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

XVII. Adjourn – Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to adjourn meeting at 10:34 am

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Theismann, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted By:



Larry Theismann, Secretary