

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#.

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
District Regular Board Meeting
September 22, 2022
8:15 a.m.
County Conference Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:15 am by Lynn Zabel, Chair

Supervisors present: Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Larry Theismann, Secretary,

Dag Knudsen, member, Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Lynn Zabel, Chair

Staff present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others present: Bob Walkers, County Commissioner, Frank Klennert, citizen

On the Phone: Brian DeVetter, NRCS, Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Admin. Asst.

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to approve the Agenda.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker

V. CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action

A. Jacob Meyer Contract# 22-319WIC-1 in the amount of \$6,000.00 for 340 Cover Crops. 50 acres for 3 years @ \$40.00/acre/year
(Funding Federal West Indian 319)

B. Chad Schumacher Contract# 2022-WAGZ-WC-11 in the amount of \$12,000.00 for 340 Cover Crops. 100 acres for 3 years @ \$40.00/acre/year
(Funding WAGZ Watershed Based)

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Theismann to approve the Consent Agenda

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. August 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes – Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve the Secretary's Report.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

A. August District Financial Statements

B. August Program Record

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

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$24,568.61 - Board Action

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$24,568.61.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

Preliminary budget set – 3%. AMC Meeting on old policies. Environmental Natural Resources – one of the hot topics was drainage ditches

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Did presentation with Sheila of Winona County on the WinLaC process to the League of Women's Voters.

Final review for WinLac – comments. Terri said she pushed for forestry.

Local Forestry working with SE Landscape and Lindberg

Application for Grants for Turkey Federation to continue Forestry League, outreach for that.

Submitted FEMA application for outreach Lower Zumbro Floodplain – Jen had worked on this. Staff time to identify some engineering projects upper upland.

DNR part funding match doing modeling of the Lower Zumbro area.

Great Zumbro group – shifted funds from structural projects to cover crops because didn't have enough planned in the cover crop pot of money.

D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – Brian DeVetter went through report.

Need to setup a conversation with Terri to talk about potential agreement between NRCS and SWCD for working on Conservation Reserve program contract status reviews. There is money there for SWCD for current and future workloads. Requires a conservation planning level JAA to write the plans.

Brian talked about the Inflation Reduction Act. Funding will be coming in the forms of CSP, EQIP and RCPP. Major amount of funding coming to NRCS for 2023

and ramping up more in 2024. W.Indian specifically for grade stabilization structures. Now paying 75% for structures to be built. Have 39% cost share for grade stabilization structures. Work with the District to piggy back on projects to get as many in as we can. Have to make practices we sign up economically feasible for the farmers

Terri asked if NRCS could raise rates? Brian said regional based docket. Need to make an appeal in February to increase structures. He sent an excel spread sheet from his research of counties to the state and then to engineer. Not going to do anything on that for 2023.

E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger (in packet)

F. Natural Resources Conservation Technician Report – Henry Stelten (in packet)

Terri added that met with Trout Unlimited and other SWCD's technical service partners on Gorman Creek. Matt has done an exceptional job on the design process, moving that forward. Henry has done very well getting cover crops ready that are coming in suddenly. Hope to move forward this fall.

G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske (in packet)

H. BWSR Report – None

I. Other agencies – None

X. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)

Lynn

Discussion on enforcing regulatory rules after a comment from the League of Women's Voters asked why there isn't more regulatory authority on nutrient and soil loss and why there isn't more people out enforcing the rules and regulations that are in place.

B. MASWCD Annual Convention - Resolutions – Board Information

Upcoming ballot for the resolutions that were discussed at the June meeting. They go to state. Resolution ballots should be coming out in October and voted on and due by November 1st

XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Approve BWSR Academy Attendance and Payment for Oct 25th -Oct 27th

Terri, Matt and Henry class registration - \$165.00 each for the three days = \$495.00, check#11679. Hotel \$261.60 each for the 3 nights (\$784.80) this will be charged to credit card upon check-out- **Board Action**

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Theismann to approve BWSR Academy Attendance and Payment for Oct. 25th - Oct 27th

Terri, Matt and Henry class registrations - \$165.00 each for the three days = \$495.00 Ck# 11679. Hotel \$261.60 each for the 3 nights \$784.80) this will be charged to credit card upon check-out.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- B. Approve Klavetter Family Farm Amendment #1 for Contract# 22-Capacity-2, to change authorized amount to \$5,250.28 from original amount of \$12,835.96 – **Board Action/Signature**
(Funding sources change to FY21 Capacity \$321.26 and FY22 Capacity \$4,929.02)
(Change is for decreasing cost share amount to reflect newly approved EQIP funding for the project)

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve Klavetter Family Farm Amendment #1 for Contract # 22-Capacity-2, to changed authorized amount to \$5,250.28 from original amount of \$12,835.96

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- C. Approve Roller-Crimper Storage Space Lease and the Roller-Crimper Rental Agreement – **Board Discussion/Action**
Make sure renter has right equipment to haul. Olmsted, Winona and Wabasha.

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Klennert to approve the Roller-Crimper Storage Space Lease and the Roller-Crimper Rental Agreement

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- D. Approve check to Dennis Shea for Storage Space Lease for Aug- Dec. of 2021 \$62.50 and Jan – Dec. of 2022 \$150.00 for a total of \$212.50 check# 11680. - **Board Action**
(2023 Lease payment of \$150.00 will be paid January 2023)

Motioned by Theismann and seconded by Ross to approve check to Dennis Shea for Storage Space Lease for Aug – Dec. of 2021 \$62.50 and Jan – Dec of 2022 \$150.00 for a total of \$212.50 check# 11680

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- E. Approve Sharon Schumacher Contract# 21-SWD-2 in the amount of \$445.00 for Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System & Installation – **Board Action**

(Funding FY21 Safe Drinking Water for Private Well Users)

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Theismann to approve Sharon Schumacher Contract# 21-SWD-2 in the amount of \$445.00 for Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System & Installation.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- F. Approve FY 2023 State of MN BWSR Soil Health Cost Share Grants

Grant Agreement P23-2743 2023-Soil Health Cost Share (Wabasha SWCD)
\$14,175.00 – Board Action

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Ross to approve acceptance of the FY 2023 State of MN BWSR Soil Health Cost Share Grants. Grant Agreement P23-2743 2023 Soil Health Cost Share (Wabasha SWCD) \$14,175.00

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

G. Upcoming Events:

- i. Fall MASWCD / MACDE Employee and Supervisors Meeting Tuesday Sept. 27th.
Registration at 9:00 am at the Hokah Fire Station
- ii. BWSR Academy at Cragun's Resort on Gull Lake Tues-Thurs. October 25th– 27th
- iii. MASWCD Annual Convention & Trade Show, Mon-Wed. Dec. 12 - 14th

XII. **Board Reports**

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
August meeting minutes. U of M Soil Health Scholarships. Adult Field Management.
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Larry (alternate Dag) – **No Meeting**
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn – **Oct 3 next meeting**
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Larry - **No Meeting**
- E. County Board Meeting – Larry (alternate Sharleen) – **Sharleen gave our minutes report. Brian Gohl asked why Olmsted County pays more for soil health practices. They got more money from their County. Bob Walkes explained.**
- F. Hiawatha Valley RC&D – Lynn – **No Meeting**

Terri reported that all of the nominations had been sent to the state (MASWCD) How do we want to present Wabasha County local awards? Present at SWCD board meeting or County Board meeting? Outstanding Conservationist, picture of the farm by drone and copy for office. Better picture if we do when everything is green. Write up in the paper. Jen had done most of Helen Myers write up and Terri interviewed the Hein's family. Dag said the Sustainable Farming Assoc. had a format for write ups.

XIII. **Adjourn – Board Action**

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 am

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Theismann, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted by:



Larry Theismann, Secretary

