

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 Regular Board Meeting
November 17, 2022
1:00 pm
County Conference
Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Lynn Zabel, Chair

Supervisors Present: Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Dag Knudsen, member, Lynn Zabel, Chair and Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer arrived at 1:15 pm (Larry Theismann, absent)

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others Present: John Benjamin, NRCS and Frank Klennert, citizen

Attending by phone: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, Brian DeVetter, NRCS, Sheila Harmes, Winona County Water Planner, Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Admin. Assistant

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Knudsen to approve the agenda with changes.

Affirmative: Ross, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker

V. CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board and may be enacted through one motion. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed by any of the Board members for separate consideration.

- A. Daniel Sell voucher payment for Contract# 22-Capacity-1 in the amount of \$17,546.40 for 412 Grassed Waterway, 340 Critical Area Planting and 484 Mulching.
(Funding source FY22 Capacity)
- B. Chad Schumacher voucher payment for Contract# 2022WAGZ-WC-11 in the amount of \$4,000.00 for 340 Cover Crops – First year payment of 3.
(Funding source WAGZ Watershed Based)
- C. John Miller voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-4 in the amount of \$900.00 for 340 Cover Crops – Final Payment (3 of 3).
(Funding source FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN)
- D. Theodore Mehrkens voucher payment for Contract# 1-DWP-CC-7 in the amount of \$900.00 for 340 Cover Crops – Payment year 2 of 3.
(Funding source FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN)
- E. Larry Stromness voucher payment for Contract# 20-CWMA-10 in the amount of \$2,100.00 for 314 Brush Management.
(Funding source FY20 CWMA \$1,541.88, MDA Weed Grant \$558.12)

- F. Scott Sexton voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-3 in the amount of \$900.00 for 340 Cover Crops – Final Payment (3 of 3)
(Funding source FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN)
- G. Eugene Betcher voucher payment for Contract# 2022WAGZ-WC012 in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 340 Cover Crops – First year payment of 3.
(Funding source WAGZ Watershed Based)
- H. Bernard Sheehan voucher payment for Contract# 19-Capacity-11 in the amount of \$1,000.00 for 351 Well Decommissioning.
(Funding sources FY19 Capacity \$375.44 and FY22 Capacity \$624.56)
- I. Mulholland Farms voucher payment for Contract# 19-Capacity-9 in the amount of \$900.00 for 340 Cover Crops – Final year payment (3 of 3)
(Funding source FY19 Capacity)
- J. Allan Marking voucher payment for Contract 21-Capacity-7 in the amount of \$540.00 for 340 Cover Crops – First year payment of 3.
(Funding source FY21 Capacity)
- K. Adam Graner voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-5 in the amount of \$900.00 for 340 Cover Crops – 2nd payment of 3
(Funding Source FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE MN)
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda.
Affirmative: Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. October 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes – Board Action
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Ross to approve the Secretary's Report
Affirmative: Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. October District Financial Statements
- B. September & October Program Records
Terri went over Financials, Programs and Program Funding available for cost share.
Discussion on the funding and projects.
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Knudsen to approve the Treasurer's Report
Affirmative: Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$85,300.40- Board Action
(Note: After 11-25 PR is ran, MNPEIP and VSP will be paid online.
Auditor/Treasurer \$559.85 will be paid by check. Please sign check today. (total of all three is \$6,210.31)
Dag would like copies of the invoices for check run in the packet.
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$85,300.40 and payment for insurances of \$6,210.31 after the 11/25 PR is ran.
Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel
Lynn asked about Health Insurance. Terri and Larry met and went through the health insurance plans. Lynn read through the information. Personnel’s decision for employee insurance. Need to confirm insurance decision to the County for approval at their Tuesday meeting.
Discussion: Terri went over each of the four options that employees can pick from.
- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes
Working on the budget for next year. Highly concerned on projects with the increased cost of everything. Black top, fuel for moving dirt and building roads. Hard to budget not knowing where the costs will go.
- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
Health Care
Attended BWSR Academy
Working on corrections for on the reporting for NFWF final report. Reimbursement request for work done \$36,000.
WinLaC – Planning work group, comments
Training – Working with others on Forestry general training for NRCS and SWCD staff.
Work Plan 2023 BWSR Grants reporting
Gorman – Working on RFB to get bid request out.
Discussion:
Dag had a question on the 2023 work plan associated with BWSR
Terri replied that the funding is there for 2023 Capacity, 2023 State Cost Share and Soil Health Funds. She has to go in and put in activities and divide the budget.
Dag also would like have us look for opportunities for funding for Outreach to show farmers about financial gain or similar to adopt conservation practices.
- D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – (in packet) *John at meeting went over report.*
- E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger (in packet)
- F. Natural Resources Conservation Technician Report – Henry Stelten (in packet)
- G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske (in packet)
- H. BWSR Report – None
- I. Other agencies – Sheila Harmes, Winona County Water Planner
Sheila reported that in respect to Wabasha County, Whitewater working on the local advisory for groundwater for DWSMA for Elgin. Meeting on 12/13 for landowners operating within that DWSMA (Drinking Water Supply Management Area)

X. OLD BUSINESS

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

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Photos – Board Supervisors. Wear your SWCD shirts, if you have any. Terri will bring camera to take group photo.
Move until end of meeting

- B. Approve Valyn Adler Amendment #1 to Contract# 21-Capacity-4 to change Install Date to 11-30-2023 from 11-30-2022 – **Board Action**
 (Unusually dry conditions prevented construction from taking place this year)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Approve Valyn Adler Amendment #1 to Contract# 21-Capacity-4 to change install date to 11-30-2023 from 11-20-2022.
Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. 2020 SWCD Local Capacity and Buffer Law Implementation - Grant Amendment Wabasha SWCD requests extension to 12-31-2023 (for the purpose of allowing additional time to implement the grant work plans due to extended staff leave and recent project cancellations.) – **Board Action**
Buffer Law Discussion
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the 2020 SWCD Local Capacity and Buffer Law Implementation – Grant Amendment for Wabasha SWCD extension to 12-31-2023 for purpose of allowing additional time to implement the grant work plans due to extended staff leave and recent project cancellations.
Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Upcoming Events:
- i. MASWCD 2022 Annual Convention & Trade Show Dec. 12 – 14, 2022
Talked about who was attending.
 - ii. December 15 Board Meeting at 8:15 am

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
Sheila reported that in respect to Wabasha County, Whitewater is working on groundwater for DWSMA for Elgin. Meeting on 12/13 for landowners operating within that DWSMA (Drinking Water Supply Management Area)
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Larry (alternate Dag)
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
Sheila reported that comments have been received and closing date for that is 12/5. Having a public hearing sometime in January. Next WinLaC meeting is 12/12 at the City Council Chambers. Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Committee reviewing comments.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB - Larry
- E. County Board Meeting – Larry (alternate Sharleen)
- F. Hiawatha Valley RC&D – Lynn

Talked about donating for trees for Terry Helbig Terri will watch for obituary and see what the family wishes

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to recess at 2:35 pm until MASWCD meeting December 13 and 14th

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

Respectively Submitted by:


Sharon Klennert for
Larry Theismann, Secretary