

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
April 27, 2023
8:15 am
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: Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Dag Knudsen, Secretary, Seth Tentis, Member and Lynn Zabel, Chair

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others Present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, Frank Klennert, Citizen

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

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the Agenda with the amount changed for payment of the monthly bills and take off February program record.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, 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. Arendt Holstein's Resort, LLC AgBMP Loan Application in the amount of \$63,500.00 for an Artex Manure Spreader for better coverage/spreading.
- B. Joe Reinhardt Voucher payment for Contract# 22-SDWGPh2-1 in the amount of \$2,500.00 for Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System and Installation.
- C. Mark Graner AgBMP Loan Application in the amount of \$12,250.00 for a Manure Spreader to do a better job of spreading and the amount per site.
- D. Mark Graner AgBMP Loan Application in the amount of \$11,750.00 for a Skid Loader to load and spread animal waste in a timely manner.
- E. Adam Graner Voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-5 in the amount of \$900.00 for 3rd year - final payment of cover crops in advance.
(Funding FY19 Drinking Water Protections on SE MN)

- F. Theodore Mehrkens Voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-7 in the amount of \$900.00 for 3rd year -final payment of cover crops in advance.
(FY19 Drinking Water Protections on SE MN)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. March 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Board Action

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

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. March District Financial Statements

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Ross to approve the March District Financial Statements

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$272,621.85 - Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$272,621.85.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

JPB Meeting. Tom Anderson, Area MN Farm Business Management. Copies of Statistics on Farms for board members. Talked about manure processor/digester by Lewiston. Discussion from board members and Walkes about the main goal of the digester and how it will be removing or neutralizing the nitrogen from manure. Attended Executive board meeting for Area 7 in Rochester. Talked about Resolutions and inviting politicians to speak. Also talked about if the 2.2 million is approved that more employees will be needed.

- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

Flooding, but the river is on the way down. Resolution for FEMA funds declaration next Tuesday. Lot of time spent on Emergency Management. Starting budget process in June.

- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Dividing up Henry's projects. Shawn Hutch helping on HR. Working on job description revisions for position.

Newsletter out – April/May

5th Grade Conservation Day – May 9th

Envirothon for High School students May 3rd– notifying teachers. Topics to study/presentations. Not a good response from Wabasha County schools to attend. WIC 319 Monitoring. Monitoring equipment. Jake Meyer doing some practices and comparison fields. UWRF Professor and students will be doing monitoring. Watershed based meeting – WAGZ remainder of funding. Encumbered funds. WinLaC policy meetings and partner meeting. Talked about policy, budget and tracking implementation items.

SE Landscape committee meeting working toward local forestry concept. Meetings with BWSR incorporating RIM

MN Forest Resource Assn. and SE Landscape. SE Landscape would like us to be fiscal agent for funding. Working on contract.

Trees – bagging. Newsletter generated a lot of calls.

D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – (in packet)

Brian DeVetter went over NRCS monthly report. A lot of money coming for EQIP.

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

F. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske

Time spent on tree orders. Delivery, bagging trees and handing out trees.

G. BWSR Report – None

H. *Sharleen attended the Supervisors Orientation Meeting. They went over what a SWCD is and what the roles and responsibilities are of Supervisors. BWSR makes sure that the SWCD's comply.*

X. OLD BUSINESS

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

Associated Press article from Story County Iowa, picture of a trench lined with plastic and put wood chips in for drainage. Treats nitrates before it enters a creek.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bank Signatories -- Board Action

Peoples State Bank – Entity Authorization - All Sign

B. WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona La Crescent) Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Sub-Agreement for Watershed Based Implementation Funding.

A sub-agreement between Root River and Water Conservation District and Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation District – **Board Action/Signature Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Foss to approve the WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona La Crescent) Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan Sub-Agreement for Watershed Based Implementation Funding. A sub-agreement between Root River and Water Conservation District and Wabasha County Soil and Water Conservation District.**

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

C. Approve Diane McNallan Amendment #1 to Contract 2022WAGZ-WC-04 to change the install date to 11/30/2023 and change the amount to \$8,366.35 – **Board Action** (Date change to allow for fall construction and amount changed due to increased costs since the time of the original contract.)

(Funding source Greater Zumbro Watershed Based Funding)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Diane McNallan Amendment #1 to Contract# 2022WAGZ-WC-04 to change the install date to 11/30/2023 and change the amount to \$8,366.35.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- D. Approve Eversman Brothers Farms Site 1 Contract# 23CWF-WIC-2 in the amount of \$6,357.67 for 410 Grade Stabilization – **Board Action**

(Funding source 2023 West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection)

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve Eversman Brothers Farms Site 1 Contract# 23CWF-WIC-2 in the amount of \$6,357.67 for 410 Grade Stabilization.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- E. Approve Eversman Brothers Farms Site 2 Contract# 23-CWF-WIC-3 in the amount of \$8,370.38 for 410 Grade Stabilization – **Board Action**

(Funding source 2023 West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection)

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve Eversman Brothers Farms Site 2 Contract# 23-CWF-WIC-3 in the amount of \$8,370.38 for 410 Grade Stabilization.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- F. MASWCD Supervisors and Staff Members – Call for Resolutions for 2023 Resolution Process. July 21, 2023 is the deadline for area resolutions to be received by MASWCD office. (Resolution area meeting is generally held in June)- **Discussion**

Resolution meeting will be June 27 in Stewartville. Bring ideas for resolutions.

Need to put together and discuss at next board meeting. Will be put on agenda for area. Sheila Vanney than goes over each and then groups will discuss to see if the resolution goes on to be a bill. Discussion on making resolutions.

- G. Approve University of Wisconsin-River Falls Standard Research Agreement – **Board Action**

Bahar Hassanpour, Professor at UWRF and students will be doing monitoring.

Lysimeters will be installed (buried) in three different fields. One field with practices and one that is untreated. Collection of samples in the fields after a rain event.

Samples will go to the lab and analyzed. WIC 319 funding covers the monitoring which is required as part of the grant.

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve University of Wisconsin-River Falls Standard Research Agreement.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- H. Approve hiring a Conservation Technician – **Board Action**
Need to revise the job description for the position. More expectations, need beyond secondary education in a related field and be able to do reports. More Agronomy skills or familiar with farming and ag practices. Shawn Huth will help by scoring applications. Writing samples and GIS are important. Need to be able to carry out project from beginning to end. Board discussion on education and salary. Motioned by Ross and seconded by Knudsen to approve hiring a Conservation Technician.

Affirmative: Klennert, Ross, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- I. Upcoming Events:
- i. First Newsletter Mailer went out Tuesday, April 18, 2023!
 - ii. Tree Pickup Day – April 28 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
 - iii. May 3, 2023 – Envirothon in Byron – Terri
 - iv. 5th Grade Conservation Day. Tuesday, May 9th, 2023
 - v. Local Work Group meeting June 22, 2023, 9:00 am recess regular meeting and reconvene regular board meeting after.
(Note: We will recess regular meeting at 9:00 am for this)

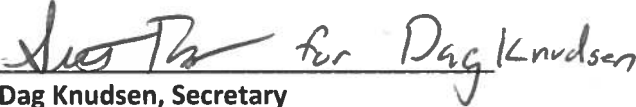
XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag May 11th next meeting.
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Dag Jan/July meeting
Grant for feedlot assistance. Brian talked about feedlot going through.
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

Zabel adjourned meeting at 10:00 am

Respectively Submitted by:


Dag Knudsen, Secretary

