

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
March 23, 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: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Dag Knudsen, Secretary and Seth Tentis, member

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

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

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Klennert, 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. Peter Klapperich voucher payment for Contract# 19-DWP-CC-1 in amount of \$900.00 for final year practice 340 cover crops.

(Funding source Drinking Water Protection in SE MN 2019 Grant ID C19-2811)

B. Jon Steffenhagen AgBMP Loan Application – Septic drain field replacement for home \$25,000.00

Discussion on AgBMP: AgBMP is a revolving loan through MDA. It comes through SWCD to determine that the practice is eligible and allowed for the loan. The application is then signed and sent over to the lender they are working with. Practice should be for clean water benefit.

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

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. February 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Board Action

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

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

A. February District Financial Statements

B. January Program Record – Informational

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

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$10,267.48 - Board Action

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to approve Payment of the Month

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

WinLaC approved. No news for County.

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Work out staff hours -Need to do new work Plan. Talked to Shawn about job positions, rescaled pay. What is needed for advancement. What level JAA to move up a grade. Riley, new Fillmore Mgr. also brought up new wage scale. Area-wide discussion with Adam.

WinLaC presentation with Sheila to SE Regional BWSR board meeting and now up to the main BWSR board meeting

Locally-Led Flyer took to legislators. 2 Winona, Lynn and Terri talked to legislators.

West India-teams Forestry meeting with DNR Forestry, NRCS Forestry, all together.

Contracting with Jen Wahls. Need to line up work.

Meetings – BALMM and Groundwater Forum

Jim Warholl is the new Game/Wildlife, contacted Terri. New Conservation Focus Manager. They are working on buckthorn, have issues, follow up. Work with them, figure projects with funding.

AgBMP - Sat in on advisory committee meeting.

Katelyn is working with Katie Himanga on a management plan for burial grounds in Lake City. Plan to turn it over to the Prairie Island tribe.

Katelyn is putting together tree planting information on each of the trees we are selling.

- D. NRCS Report – John Benjamin – (in packet)
- E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger (in packet)
Dag complimented Matt on the West Indian Creek Watershed Outreach Status maps. Terri played a video that Matt made on the progress of the Gorman Creek project.
- F. Natural Resources Conservation Technician Report – Henry Stelten
Working on the mailer. Ready for printing. Trouble with USPS for nonprofit mailing.
- 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)
- B. Update on Legislative Day – Informational
The reason to attend was to lobby for SWCD Aid to come directly from the State to use locally. Tuesday night, Terri, Lynn and two Winona supervisors met with our state representatives Pelowski and Altendorf. Discussed Need to have more funding for pond upland storage clean-out. Not able to do clean-out ponds with the current funding. To meet current standards, need to rebuild, rework or a new pond. Pelowski wants to write a bill, which will include Wabasha, Fillmore, Winona, Goodhue and Houston. Terri went to managers and talked about a proposal. \$1.25 million. 2 years, \$250,000.00 per county. After two years someone would need to report back to legislators. Note to Bob that the bill is written for the funds to come through the county.
- C. West Indian Creek Outreach Update – Informational
Matt furnished maps of outreach in the board packet. Terri went over the maps pointing out critical areas to work on and answered questions from the board. Need to figure out the next step. Money there for projects now. Working towards projects getting 90% cost share. We had sent out cost estimates and the actual amounts that came in were a lot more expensive. Mississippi River Basin funds we can use to piggy back on federal funding, from NRCS.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Contract for Services between Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District and Jennifer Wahls, Landscape Connections LLC for 2023 – Board Action/Signature
Jen will be doing WIC monitoring coordination, forestry practice outreach and newsletter. Also, for WIC, landowner outreach and education. National Wild Turkey Federation, coordinate private forest management for turkey habitat. Rate per hour will be \$60.00. Private Forest Management grant from MN DNR.

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Contract for Services between Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District and Jennifer Wahls, Landscape Connection LLC for 2023.

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- B. Approve Patricia Livingston Contract# 2023WAGZ-WC-001 in the amount of \$860.72 for 412 Grassed Waterway – **Board Action**

(Funding Source 2023 Greater Zumbro Watershed Based Funding)

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve Patricia Livingston Contract # 2023WAGZ-WC-001 in the amount of \$860.72 for 412 Grassed Waterway.

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- C. Approve purchase of ArcGIS Professional Basic Software \$765.00/yearly. Will be an operational expense– **Board Action**

ArcGIS maps to track implementation. Enable mapping system documents to be uploaded and accessed out in the field. Track implementation of plans we are working on. Matt will be setting it up. Cost will be calculated in our billing rate for next year.

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to approve the purchase of the ArcGIS Professional Basic Software \$765.00/yearly.

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- D. 226484 Wabasha SWCD Landowner Survey Lower Zumbro Grant Agreement

- i. Federal Subrecipient Grant Agreement Wabasha SWCD
- ii. Attachment A FEMA Grant Contract Agreement
- iii. Attachment B Conflict of Interest for Grantees Wabasha SWCD
- iv. Attachment C Work Plan
- v. Attachment D Budget Detail
- vi. Attachment E MN Subrecipient Handbook

FEMA Grant Work Plan. Our portion is \$28,736.25.

- E. Approval for Terri Peters to move ahead with a separate contract with Jen Wahls based on the work plan – **Board Action**

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve Terri Peters to move ahead with a separate contract with Jen Wahls based on the work plan.

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- F. Upland Storage Cleanout Bill at Legislature – **Informational**

Talked about earlier with legislative update.

G. Upcoming Events:

- i. April tree delivery – No date yet.
- ii. 5th Grade Conservation Day. Tuesday, May 9th, 2023

Kevin Siewert, dairy barn and Springer for DNR Fisheries, Forestry and Water.

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn – **No Meeting**
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag - **No Meeting**
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
Approval process. Terri and Sheila's presentation.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Dag/**Meetings twice a year July and Dec.**
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen - **Bob earlier**

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

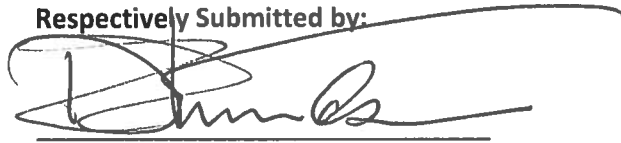
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to Adjourn the meeting a 9:19 am

Affirmative: Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dag Knudsen', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Dag Knudsen, Secretary

