

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
June 22, 2023
8:15 am
County Conference
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, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Dag Knudsen, Secretary and Seth Tentis, member

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, John Benjamin, NRCS and Frank Klennert, citizen

On the Phone: Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Admin. Assistant

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

- *Change amount of Monthly bills to pay to \$166,293.70 and add Legislative Update under New Business, letter G.*

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the agenda with the change to monthly bills total to \$166,293.70 and addition of letter G. under New Business

Affirmative: Ross, 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. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB additional MAWQCP funding for 2023 in the amount of \$25,000.00. Grant ending 12/31/2023.

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. May 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Board Action

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

A. May District Financial Statements

B. May Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

(Knudsen abstained – Did not have time to look over statements)

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$166,293.70 - Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve payment of the monthly bills in amount of \$166,293.70.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

No closure yet for Hiawatha RD &D

Meeting WinLaC in Winona – Jen Wahls gave presentation.

JPB District property tax for good practices.

B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

Tax Board of Equalization meeting, no one present.

Assessors fielded calls on questions about valuation. Needed to give explanation so they could understand their valuations.

Brought plan for WinLaC

Good Start to Budget Cycle

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Budget request to Gwen at the County

Manager's meeting – New legislation funding

HR – questions on IT security

Gorman Creek – issues with invoice for payment

Hiring process with Shawn Huth, doing interviews

Meeting in Lake City with Katie Himanga and City staff on Americorps position/Katelyn to see if they wanted more help. They do.

West Indian meet with partners

Meeting in Kellogg with Army Corp of Engineers – Rolling Prairie plan – dredge material.

Meeting in Kellogg someone wanted to plan a National Park in southern MN.

Worked on Resolutions

Star Tribune Reporter – Interview

Get ready for Local Work Group meeting

AgBMP waiting list. MDA added more funds

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

John went through his report

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

F. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant -Sue Cerwinske

Put in budget for 2023. Getting information together for 2022 audit.

NACD educational articles. Normal daily/monthly duties.

G. BWSR Report – None

H. Other agencies – None

X. OLD BUSINESS

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

Lynn reported on an article he read about planting winter rye and then planting beans the following year. Kill off with herbicide or cut & bale it to feed cattle. Generally got 10 bushels more. Shared ideas on his own fields for this year.

B. Report on West Indian activities

Monitoring setup. Installed two lysimeters at Jake Meyers. One treated and one not. Two more coming, will install in different fields for comparison. Purpose to see how much nitrate is leaching. Outreach targeted area.

C. Resolution - Cooperative Weed Management Area Funds – Additional Legislative Funding to Support Existing CWMA Groups -Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Resolution for Cooperative Weed Manager Area Funds – Additional Legislative Funding to Support Existing CWMA Group to go on to MASWCD for reviewal.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- D. Resolution – Environmental Quality Incentive Program – Allocate block of Funding to Field Office/Team for Local and Timely Decision Making – **Board Action**
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to approve moving Resolution for Environmental Quality Incentive Program – Allocate block of Funding to Field Office/Team for Local and Timely Decision Making to go on to area meeting for reviewal.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DNR Grant with Grantee: Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District for \$10,000.00, grant period 6/15/2023 to 6/30/2024. Wabasha SWCD allocated \$1,000.00 for administrative assistance costs in support of the Southeast Landscape Committee. - **Informational**

Wabasha SWCD is the fiscal agent. We will be doing the Invoicing and purchasing of remote meeting options. SE Landscape does not have fiscal accounting setup.
- B. 2024 Budget – County request submitted – **Informational**
- i. Written documentation and Request
 - ii. 2024 Estimated Wabasha SWCD Budget
 - iii. County Allocation History
- C. Gorman Creek
- i. Approve accepting further funds from the DNR – **Board Action**
Bid did not include SWPP (Stormwater Protection Plan)
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve accepting further funds from the DNR.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
 - ii. Approve Change order No. 1 for Miller Gorman Creek Stream Restoration in the amount of \$33,010.06 – **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Change order No. 1 for Miller Gorman Creek Stream Restoration in the amount of \$33,010.06.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- iii. Danckwart Landscaping & Excavating Invoice 18358 \$149,349.26 less 5% Retainage = \$141,881.80 amount paying on June 22 check run- **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve payment of Danckwart Landscaping & Excavating Invoice 18358 less retainage. Payment amount for 6-22 check run \$141,881.80.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Resolution - Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) 2023 Guidelines on Use of SWCD Aid Payments – **Board Action**
Don't need to follow BWSR's clean water guidelines.
Legislative action. SWCD's will receive \$160,115.03. This will replace Local Capacity Funding.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve the Resolution for Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) 2023 Guidelines on Use of SWCD Aid Payments.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- E. Approve Patricia Livingston voucher payment for Contract# 2023WAGZ-WC-01 in the amount of \$549.47 for 412 Grassed Waterway – **Board Action**
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve Patricia Livingston voucher payment for Contract# 2023WAGZ-WC-01 in the amount of \$549.47 for 412 Grassed Waterway.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- F. Hiring – HR Discussion
Shawn Huth helped doing interviews and onboarding binder. Offered Jenna Rasmusson the position and she will be starting on June 26th.
- G. Legislative Outcome
Aid coming in, BWSR on grants coming in. Soil Health funding. How to manage more money. More staff. Inflation Reduction Act. Legislative changes to SWCD's includes Family Leave, Juneteenth recognized as State Holiday.
NRBG Block Grant increase funding for 2 years and revert back after that.
Capacity – no funding. Watershed based funding increasing. Water retention grant.

H. Upcoming Events:

- i. June 27th Area Supervisor Meeting – Stewartville
**Resolution meeting. Sheila Vanney and LeAnn Buck will be there.
Talk about SWCD aid and more.**
- ii. August 9th West Indian Creek Social at the Theilman Opera House

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – (Dag) - **Next meeting in August**
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
Talked about Winona meeting that Jen Wahls gave a presentation.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – (Dag)
Meet two times a year. The next meeting will be July 26th or 27th
- E. County Board Meeting – (Sharleen)
Two meetings in June, next one June 27th and only one meeting in July on the 18th.

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

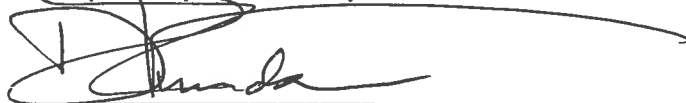
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to adjourn meeting at 9:45 am

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Knudsen, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted by:



Dag Knudsen, Secretary

Note: If meeting is not finished by 10:00 am, we will need to recess and start the Local Work Group meeting at 10:00 am