



MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 20, 2021 BOARD MEETING

Pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.021 the regular monthly board meeting of the East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom or Teleconference due to the Public Health Pandemic Emergency declared under Chapter 12 by the Governor. A notice of the meeting was posted on the door of the SWCD Office Location (801 Jenny Ave SW, #2) explaining how the public was able to participate in the meeting. The meeting followed all the requirements for an electronic meeting as spelled out in MN Statutes 13D.021 Subdivision 1, 1-4.

*The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:30 a.m.
Reviewed the Public Health Emergency Remote Public Meeting Guidance.*

Oath of Office was read by everyone out loud.

Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to keep the positions below the same. Opposed: none, motion carried. All other positions will remain the same. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to keep the current Committee Appointments. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Members Present:

Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt (Zoom)
Treasurer: Dennis Reynolds (Zoom)
Public Relations: Wayne Enger

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
District Conservationist: Robert Guetter (Zoom)
Wadena Liaison: Nancy Benson (Zoom)
District Manager: Darren Newville
Asst Mgr: Anne Oldakowski (Zoom)
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Nutr. Mgmt Specialist: Nathan Wiese (Zoom)

Agenda: Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to adopt the Agenda with two additions. Audit quote and Esser quote. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve the previous month Board Meeting Minutes as presented with one correction. Adding Nancy Benson as attending



the meeting via Zoom. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve renewal of CD for 7 months at .30%. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to accept the Audit proposal. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion. Final Audit was presented, no action is needed.

Bills Paid & Bills Payable: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: None, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

District Manager's Report: Report written and read by Darren Newville

District Conservationist's Report: Report written and read by Bob Guetter.

County Commissioner Report: Introduction of Dan Bucholz the new Otter Tail County Commissioner:

- Received a phone call regarding the Crookston Winter show looking for a nomination for a Farmer
- Discussed Ditch 25
- New land ordinance coming soon
- Townships have expressed the desire to no longer take care of weed inspecting

Old Business

Water Planning: Items were reviewed in the District Manager's report.

Department of Ag Update: Oak Grove Mobile home park is a Level 2 for Wellhead areas. Focus is still on Verndale area right now.

TSA Update: Managers have been meeting regarding staffing needs, especially in the area of engineering. There is another meeting coming up.

New Business

Meetings: Legislative Days is March 18, 2021 and will be virtual. Will discuss further at the next meeting.



CCP Approval: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve Nathan Wiese as a Certified Conservation Planner. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Federal Mileage Rate: The federal mileage rate has decreased from 57.5 to 56 cent per mile. No vote is needed.

Per Diem: Currently set at \$75.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to keep the current per diem rate. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Official Newspaper – Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to use the Perham Focus as our official newspaper. Opposed none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Official Financial Institution – Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to use Bremer Bank as our official financial institution. Opposed none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Esser: Quote from Esser for non-essential work. Tabled until further notice.

Public Comments: None

Adjourn: 9:08 a.m. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to adjourn the meeting. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

* *Acronyms*

- ◆ MAWQCP – Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program
- ◆ EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- ◆ CSP – Conservation Stewardship Program
- ◆ CRP – Conservation Reserve Program
- ◆ RCPP – Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- ◆ NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service