



MINUTES FROM THE JULY 19, 2023, BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:29 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Public Relations: Wayne Enger
Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Others Present: County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS Team Lead: Bob Guetter
NRCS District Conservationist: Troy Baumgart
District Manager: Darren Newville
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Watershed Coordinator: Don Bajumpaa

Agenda: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards, to adopt the agenda as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid & Bills Payable: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger, to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

COST SHARE

Keith Eckhoff; Henning Township, Section 3; is requesting cost share assistance for a Pit Closure. The total estimated project cost is \$14,500.00 with cost sharing of \$ 10,875.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

REDEYE 1W1P

C21-3238-24; Jared Huwe; Paddock Township, Section 31; is requesting cost share assistance for Irrigation Water Management. The cost share amount is \$ 1,500.00 (\$500 per year) for a 3-year contract. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

C21-3238-25; Connor Dailey; Compton Township, Section 36; is requesting cost share assistance for Prescribed Grazing. The total estimated project cost is \$ 20,546.40, with cost sharing of \$ 15,409.80. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



RCPP

P23-1461-02; Ronald Palubicki; Leaf Lake & Ottertail townships, sections 8 & 34; is requesting a final cost share payment for his advanced pumping plant E533A. The total cost of the project was \$ 36,700.20 with the cost share amount of \$10,294.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8:04 a.m. Kyle Goeller entered the meeting

District Manager's Report: Presented by Darren Newville.

District Conservationist's Report: Presented by Troy Baumgart

- CSP – Continuing to work on contracting. Potentially getting additional contracts.
- EQIP – We received additional funds to obligate 4 more contracts. 3 grazing and 1 cropland. \$1.3 million being spent in EOT for applications/contracts. Working on certifying prior year projects. Application deadline for 2024-1 is October 6, 2023.
- CRP – SU60 – General has 51 accepted offers, which are split mostly between Liz and Tanner. Proactive certifications on installed projects. Status review areas are split between Liz, Tanner, and Lawrence. Assistance is also available from the DL Intern. SU59 CCRP deadline to have technical plans/paperwork in is July 30th.
- RCPP – Producers are completing projects. We are in the process of certifying variable rate, soil moisture sensors, and low-pressure conversions.
- 2 Soil Conservationist hires in Fergus Falls. Olivia Mickelson will eventually be placed in the Perham office.
- Mitch Neitge has accepted the job offer with the Grand Rapids NRCS office, his last day will be August 17th.

County Commissioner's Report: Presented by Dan Bucholz

- The Ottertail County Fair starts tomorrow.
- Today at 6:30 pm there is a meeting at City Hall to address issues. The meeting will begin with the Gettysburg Express.
- A City Engineer was hired.
- Hwy 51 should be done by freeze up.
- There are several meetings going on regarding drainage ditches with water not flowing.

Public Comments: Kyle Goeller brough his issue to the table for discussion regarding the lagoon on his property. This project needs to be completed soon as the grant ends in October.

8:40 a.m Kyle Goeller left the meeting

Old Business

TSA Update: Thing have been going well.



Watershed Implementation Fund: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve Darren & Don to request authorization from BWSR to shift funds from one work activity to another. Opposed: none, motion carried.

New Business

Meetings/Trainings: none to approve at this time.

SWCD Aid Resolution: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve signing of the Aid Resolution which spells out the 2024 funding and how we plan to use it. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Budget: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve the preliminary budget to be presented to the County. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Personnel Update: Nathan and Nicole are leaving the district. Mitch Jason from Wadena SWCD has been hired to replace Nathan. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve Nicole's resignation. Opposed: none, motion carried.

MASWCD Awards: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to nominate Steve Misegades for Conservation Cooperator for the Convention in December. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 a.m.