



## MINUTES FROM THE JULY 15, 2020 BOARD MEETING

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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, July 15, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. via in person 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) and explained 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 7:31 a.m.  
Reviewed the Public Health Emergency Remote Public Meeting Guidance.*

**Present in the Office:**

Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann  
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards  
Treasurer: Dennis Reynolds  
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt  
Public Relations: Wayne Enger  
District Manager: Darren Newville  
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas  
District Conservationist: Bob Guetter  
Soil Conservationist: Mitch Neitge

**Teleconference:**

County Commissioner: Doug Huebsch

### Agenda

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Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to adopt the Agenda adding the following: 18a Letter of Support RCCPA. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Approve Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve the previous month Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**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.

**Bills Paid & Bills Payable:** Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: None, motion carried.



## STATE/DISTRICT CAPACITY COST SHARE

**2020-15;** Bruce Carr; Otttertail Township, Section 10, is requesting cost share assistance for eight Well Sealings. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 3,000.00 with Cost Sharing of \$ 1,500.00 or 50% per well, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**2020-08;** The City of Otttertail; Otttertail Township, Section 13, is requesting final payment for a Well Sealing. The cost of the project is \$ 340.00 with Cost Sharing of \$132.50. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**2020-16;** City of Vergas; Hobart Township, is requesting cost share assistance for a Shoreline Restoration project. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 5,034.02 with Cost Sharing of \$ 3,775.52 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Dennis Reynolds to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

## COVER CROP

**CC17;** Steve Kincade; Wadena Township, is requesting a flat rate cost share contract for Cover Crop practices. This is a three-year contract for a total flat rate in the amount of \$13,500.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**CC9;** Henry Dykhoff; Bluffton; is requesting a partial first year payment for Cover Crop practices. This is a three-year contract for a total flat rate in the amount of \$1,518.75 with the first payment of \$ 506.25. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**CC10;** Adam Minten; Butler; is requesting a partial first year payment contract for Cover Crop practices. This is a three-year contract for a total flat rate in the amount of \$13,500.00 with the first payment of \$ 4,500.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

## CITY MDH WELLHEAD COVER CROP GRANT

**MDH01;** Charlie Guck; Perham Township, is requesting cost share assistance for Cover Crops. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 7,760.00 with Cost Sharing of \$ 5,820.00, not to exceed \$40/acre. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**MDH02;** Steven & Dan Loerzel; Perham Township, is requesting cost share assistance for Cover Crops. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 1,733.33 with Cost Sharing of \$ 1,300.00, not to exceed \$40/acre. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**MDH03;** Mark Riestenberg; Perham Township, is requesting cost share assistance for Cover Crops. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 3,840.00 with Cost Sharing of \$ 2,880.00, not to exceed \$40/acre. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**MDA Weed Grant:** Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to authorize staff to approve projects for this grant. Opposed: none, motion carried.



# East Otter Tail

Soil & Water Conservation District

**Perham/MDH Wellhead:** Darren explained this contract with the City of Perham.

**District Manager’s Report:** Report written and read by Darren Neville.

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

**County Commissioner Report:**

- Court systems are back logged.
- County Highway 34 project may be delayed until next year.

## Old Business

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**Water Planning:** Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Wayne Enger to approve the Resolution to adopt Water plan/Watershed plans as SWCD Comprehensive Plans through January 31, 2023. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Department of Ag Update:** Nathan is working on NMI plots. He is also working with MDA staff on the Verndale Wellhead area.

**TSA Update:** A meeting was held last week via Skype. There was not a quorum pf the TSA board so no formal decisions could be made.

## New Business

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**Resolutions:** Resolutions for Area I was presented at the meeting and voted on. The results are as follows:

Resolution	Yes	No	Motion	2nd
State Cost-Share for Septic System Replacement	0	5	<i>Dies – lack of motion</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Increased State Cost-Share for Unused Well Sealing	5	0	Enger	Inwards
Sustainable Grazing Incentive Act	5	0	Enger	Greenwaldt
State Cost-Share for Farmstead Windbreak & Living Snow fence Establishment	5	0	Enger	Inwards
Pollinator Habitat on Public Land	5	0	Inwards	Greenwaldt
Supervisor Per Diem	5	0	Dittmann	Enger
Leveraging NRCS Federal Program Funding to Implement 1W1Ps, not Supplanting them with State Watershed Implementation Funds	5	0	Inwards	Greenwaldt
Maintain or restore co-mingling of NRCS & SWCD staff within field offices	5	0	Inwards	Greenwaldt



**Meetings/Trainings:**

- Board/Staff Retreat – It was decided to postpone any retreats until next year.
- Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Lyle Dittmann to approve those wishing to attend the Soil Health Conference September 10-11, 2020. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**RCCPA:** Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve a letter of support. Opposed: None, motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None

**Adjourn:** 9:16 a.m. Meeting adjourned.

\* *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