

**DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, May 23, 2020

4:30 P.M.

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

***Minutes***

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Bob Pickett, Kathy Tesmer, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Christensen, Sue Wiegrefe, connected via Zoom: Duane Bakke (Cty. Commissioner), Sara West, Nikki Shaw, & Aaren Mathison.

Tesmer called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. A quorum is present.

**I. AGENDA**

Motioned by Pickett and seconded by Gossman to approve the agenda.

Affirmative: Tesmer, Pickett, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**II. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**A. Approve treasurer's report**

Motioned by Willford and seconded by Pickett to wait to approve the April, 2020 Treasurer's Report until a Special Board Meeting to be scheduled prior to the June Regular Meeting.

Affirmative: Tesmer, Pickett, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motioned by Hazel and seconded by Pickett to approve the April 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Motioned by Willford and seconded by Gossman to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Consider payment of District Cost-Share Contract WB20-02, Scott Wilson, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$425.00
- B. Consider payment of District Cost-Share Contract WB20-03, Rubianne St. Mane, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$382.50

- C. Consider payment of District Cost-Share Contract WB20-05, Tyson Ristau, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$255.00
- D. Consider payment of District Cost-Share Contract WB20-06, Bruce Johnson, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$833.00
- E. Consider payment of Root River 1W1P Contract RR1W1P19-06, Bruce Thompson, Grade Stabilization, in the amount of \$4,324.00
- F. Consider payment of Local Capacity Contract LC FY18-06, Gary Grebin, Grade Stabilization, in the amount of \$5488.90

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

#### **IV. REPORTS**

##### A. Supervisors' activity reports

Willford – nothing to report

Hazel – assisted with statement opening on May 1st

Gossman – nothing to report

Pickett – nothing to report

Tesmer – nothing to report

##### B. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets. An addendum by Willis Goll was distributed at the meeting. Doug Keene's is still not submitted.

##### C. Administrator's report

1. SE MN Regional Safe Drinking Water for Private Well Users grant – given the uncertainty of the clean water funding (MDH) funding of this program is in limbo. Its status should be known in about one month's time.
2. Residue Data Collection – Due to travel restrictions, the University of MN will not be partnering with Fillmore SWCD to collect residue data as they had in years past.
3. WCA shared services – Jen Wahls, of Wabasha SWCD, previously provided shared services but has resigned her position. Aaren Mathison will be taking over the lead on this project pending rehire of Jen's position bringing additional funds to Fillmore SWCD. It was suggested that Nikki Shaw also be brought into the program given her wetland background.
4. NACD Technical Assistance Grant Application for Area 7 JPB – this grant which would provide \$128,000 for Area 7 JPB has been written and submitted by Terri Peters from Wabasha SWCD.
5. SWCD Supervisor Election Reminder. Courthouse access protocol was explained.

D. NRCS report

A verbal report was relayed. NRCS is currently ranking EQIP applications

E. County report

1. The courthouse will be reopening June 1<sup>st</sup> with additional safety measures in place, including plexiglass screens and distancing requirements.
2. A County Board Special Meeting is expected to held in person on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Planning Committee news – they have delayed acting on a permit for a gravel pit near Chatfield. They have received a proposal for a 500-acre solar farm to be located kitty corner from the MiEnergy substation in Beaver township adjacent to the major transmission line. It would max out the carrying capacity of that line.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Discuss MASWCD resolution ideas

Interest was expressed in joining forces with Hubbard SWCD to resubmit resolution 10-2016 which is sunsetting this year. It has supported stable block grant funding for watershed-scale grants from the Clean Water Council such as the One Watershed One Plan program.

Christensen will collaborate with Hubbard SWCD' and present information at Special Board Meeting.

The desire was expressed to have an area meeting – in person or virtually – prior to submission of resolutions to MASWCD.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Consider approval of Root River 1W1P 2020-2021 BWSR CWF C20-9174 Sub-Agreement between Winona County Soil and Water Conservation District and Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District

Motioned by Willford and seconded by Gossman to approve contract Root River 1W1P 2020-2021 BWSR CWF C20-9174 Sub-Agreement between Winona County Soil and Water Conservation District and Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

B. Consider payment of dues for Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation & Development in the amount of \$300.00

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Hazel to pay dues for Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation & Development in the amount of \$300.00.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

C. Discuss Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District Personnel Policy Handbook section 3.6 Use of Vehicles and Equipment

Christensen was asked to find out: 1) if there are additional restrictions placed on state vehicle use due to liability issues, and 2) what the NRCS rules are.

D. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider Materiality Concept regarding Fillmore SWCD financials

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Hazel to set a limit of \$50.00 per calendar year on unresolved differences in the accounts.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

E. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider State of Minnesota Amendment of Lease, No. 12249, between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the Department of Natural Resources, Region 3

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Hazel to approve State of Minnesota Amendment of Lease, No. 12249, between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the Department of Natural Resources, Region 3.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

F. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider approval of BWSR Targeted Watershed Contract CC20-02 Todd Hendrickson, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$46,800.00

Motioned by Willford and seconded by Hazel to approve BWSR Targeted Watershed Contract CC20-02 Todd Hendrickson, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$46,800.00.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

G. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider approval of Exhibit A - Amendment 1 to the BWSR Drinking Water Protection in SE Minnesota sub-agreement between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the affected Soil and Water Conservation District sub-recipients of Dodge, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha and Winona

Motioned by Pickett and seconded by Willford to approve Exhibit A - Amendment 1 to the BWSR Drinking Water Protection in SE Minnesota sub-agreement between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the affected Soil and Water Conservation District sub-recipients of Dodge, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha and Winona.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

(Bakke left meeting.)

H. \_\_\_\_\_ Consider approval of Exhibit A - Amendment 2 to the BWSR Drinking Water Protection in SE Minnesota sub-agreement between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the affected Soil and Water Conservation District sub-recipients of Dodge, Rice and Wabasha

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Pickett to approve Exhibit A - Amendment 2 to the BWSR Drinking Water Protection in SE Minnesota sub-agreement between Fillmore

Soil and Water Conservation District and the affected Soil and Water Conservation District sub-recipients of Dodge, Rice and Wabasha.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

(West, Shaw, and Mathison left meeting)

I. Consider approval of Financial Report for the BWSR 2016-Targeted Watershed grant P16-9812 to closeout grant and return \$136,783.60

Motioned by Willford and seconded by Gossman to approve the Financial Report for the BWSR 2016-Targeted Watershed grant P16-9812 to close out the grant and return \$136,783.60.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

J. Consider National Association of Conservation Districts' Technical Assistance Grant Program Concurrence Document

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Pickett to approve the National Association of Conservation Districts' Technical Assistance Grant Program Concurrence Document.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

**VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Motioned by Gossman and seconded by Willford to approve the May 2020 payables.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Wiegrefe asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on June, 1<sup>st</sup> and Willford volunteered.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Christensen and Wiegrefe will let the Board know when the Special Meeting can be scheduled.

Motioned by Hazel and seconded by Pickett to adjourn the meeting.

Affirmative: Pickett, Tesmer, Willford, Hazel, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Travis Willford, Fillmore SWCD Board Secretary