

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 18, 2021

4:30 P.M.

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Tesmer, Dwyane Ostrem, Travis Willford, Eunice Biel,
Tim Gossman (Zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Christensen, Anne Koliha, Mindy Williamson, Duane Bakke
(Zoom), Kirsten Zoellner (Zoom)

Vice Chair Gossman called the meeting to order at 4:39 P.M. A quorum is present.

I. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to approve the agenda.

Affirmative: Gossman, Biel, Ostrem, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

II. Treasurer's Report

A. Approve January 2021 treasurer's report

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve the January 2021 Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Biel, Ostrem, Tesmer, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Duane Bakke entered meeting at 4:41 P.M.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Secretary's Report January 21, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve the Secretary's report for January 21, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Affirmative: Biel, Tesmer, Gossman, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

B. Secretary's Report January 21, 2021 Annual Planning Minutes.

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve the Secretary's report for the January 21, 2021 Annual Planning Meeting.

Affirmative: Biel, Tesmer, Gossman, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

C. Payment of Drinking Water Protection in SE MN Nitrogen Trial Plot incentives to crop advisors

Van Larson	DWPG-CP-2020-02	\$400.00
Steve Yoch	DWPG-CP-2020-03	\$400.00
Justin Brown	DWPG-CP-2020-04	\$400.00
Rick Beltz	DWPG-CP-2020-05	\$400.00
Justin Brown	DWPG-CP-2020-06	\$400.00

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve payment of DWP in SE MN Nitrogen Trial Plot incentives to the named crop advisors.

Affirmative: Biel, Tesmer, Gossman, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried

IV. Reports

A. Supervisor's Activity Reports

Willford – Not present

Tesmer – 2 RC&D Meetings, Hiawatha Valley is hiring a new District Manager

Gossman- Statement Opening and informed the board there will be a Forestry Day July 28th at 5 P.M. at the Maynard Underbakke Trail and encouraged everyone to go.

Ostrem – Nothing to report

Biel – Nothing to report

B. Staff Reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

C. Administrator's Report

1. Windbreak Follow Up – Koliha stated she does have JA approval authority and can consult with DNR Forestry about windbreaks. Discussed distributing trees to 5th graders. The board reached a consensus to distribute trees to the schools and will likely use Black Hills Spruce.
2. Relief grant application to Fillmore County – Christensen stated she submitted a relief grant application to Fillmore County. The grant would be used for PPE supplies, equipment and other expenses incurred as result of COVID-19.

Willford entered meeting at 4:47 P.M.

3. MASWCD Virtual Day at the Capitol registration – Christensen informed board of registration and asked to let her know if anyone would like to attend.
4. MDA Noxious Weed Grant – Grant was received in 2018 and a new contractor was able to use a canoe to irradiate hops along portions of the Root River. Final reporting for the grant was done and Fillmore SWCD received the final portion of the 2018 Noxious Weed Grant. Fillmore SWCD did not receive any grant funds for the new year.
5. Letter of Support – Eagle Bluff Habitat Restoration Project – Eagle Bluff is applying for an LCCMR Grant and requested support from the Fillmore SWCD. Eagle Bluff would be using the grant money to fix the erosion problems and put in habitat with hopes of it being an educational area for restoration projects. The board reached a consensus in favor of supporting Eagle Bluff by providing a letter of support.

D. NRCS Report

Nothing to report

E. County Report

Bakke reported that Eagle Bluff was looking for support from the county. Bakke wanted to make sure monies used to fund their project wouldn't be money taken away from the Fillmore SWCD. He will make a motion for support at the next County board meeting. He also stated that the Friends of the Root River would be a good support for the project and they should be contacted. Bakke reported that the legislature and the MPCA are considering a clean car standard and to keep an eye on it.

V. Old Business

- A. Review & Update Supervisor’s “Operating Rules, Guidelines and By-laws”
Motioned by Biel seconded by Ostrem approve the update to the Supervisors “Operating Rules, Guidelines and By-Laws.”
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- B. Review & Approve the Authority to Contract Resolution
Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Gossman to approve the Authority to Contract Resolution
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. New Business

- A. Consider Payment of 2021 annual dues to SE SWCD Technical Support JPB in the amount of \$3,000.00
Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to approve 2021 annual dues to SE SWCD Technical Support JPB in the amount of \$3,000.00
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- B. Consider payment of SE MASWCD annual dues in the amount of \$500.00.
Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Gossman to approve payment of SE MASWCD annual dues in the amount of \$500.00
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- C. Consider Contract for Services between the Minnesota Land Trust and Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District in the amount of \$5,000.00
Motioned by Gossman seconded by Tesmer to approve contract for services between MN Land Trust and Fillmore SWCD in the amount of \$5,000.00.
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- D. Consider Laura Christensen as Administrator and Primary Contact for QuickBooks license number 4740-7473-3849-759 for the Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District
Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Biel to approve Laura Christensen as the QuickBooks Administrator for the Fillmore County SWCD.
Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- E. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB21-01 Windbreak, Darren Bornholdt, in the amount of \$195.50

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Biel to approve payment in the amount of \$195.50 for Darren Bornholdt Contract WB21-01.

Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- F. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB21-03 Windbreak, Holly Nelson, in the amount of \$323.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Ostrem to approve payment in the amount of \$323.00 for Holly Nelson, Contract WB21-03.

Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- G. Consider District Conservation Practice Assistance Contract WB21-04 Windbreak, Derek & Sarah Holtegaard, in the amount of \$799.00.

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Biel to approve payment in the amount of \$799.00 for Derek & Sarah Holtegaard, Contract WB21-04.

Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. Accounts Payable

- A. Approve February accounts payable

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve the February 2021 payables.

Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Ostrem, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

- B. Supervisor volunteer for statement opening and check review

Willford asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on March 1, 2021. Tesmer volunteered.

- C. Adjournment

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Willford, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Tesmer,
Fillmore SWCD Board Secretary