

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 17, 2022

4:30 P.M.

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Tesmer, Travis Willford, Eunice Biel, Tim Gossman, Dwayne Ostrem

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Anne Koliha, Mindy Williamson, Katie Drewitz

Chair Gossman called the meeting to order at 4:40 P.M. A quorum is present.

I. Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Tesmer to approve the agenda.

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

II. Treasurer's Report

1. Approve February 2022 Treasurer's Report

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to approve the January 2022

Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Tesmer, Gossman,

Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. Consent Agenda

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to approve the following consent agenda items.

1. Secretary's Report – January 13, 2022 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

2. Secretary's Report – February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

3. Partial Payment of contract DWPG-2021-24 Richard Rohrer, Nitrogen Timing Rate Plot in the amount of \$800.00 utilizing the Drinking Water Protection in SE MN funds.

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

IV. Reports

Willford enters 4:46 P.M.

Biel enters 4:50 P.M.

1. Supervisor's Activity Reports

Willford – Statement Opening & received clarification that the SWCD is housed in a Federal building

Tesmer – Area 7 Meeting

Gossman- Friends of RR meeting. Planned “Science Sundays” for the summer. Forestry Field day will be July 27. Prairie walk will be August 5th.

Ostrem – Leadership mentoring breakfast

Biel – No Activity

2. Staff Reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

A. Outstanding checks-Discussion

Bakke exits 5:03 P.M.

3. Administrator's Report

A. Introduction of Katie Drewitz, Local Extension Educator for Agriculture Production Systems in Fillmore and Houston Counties. Mrs. Drewitz introduced herself and briefly discussed partnering with the Fillmore SWCD on numerous projects.

Bakke enters 5:06 P.M.

Drewitz Exits 5:14 P.M.

B. Office Capacity. Office capacity is back to 50%. Mask are no longer required and the doors have been unlocked to the public. Capacity, masking and closings are determined by the county Covid rates.

C. Legislative Effort Update. Koliha met with Dave Walter from Houston SWCD, Wanda Anderson from Winona SWCD, Rep Greg

Dauids and Rep. Jeremy Miller. Both Davids and Miller stated it is a bonding year not a budget year.

D. Conservation Building Repairs. A toilet, utility sink and an eye wash station were fixed at the conservation building.

E. Follow-Up on Passed Resolutions. Resolutions that pass go to MASWCD and they decide what to do from there. MASWCD has reached out to BWSR and are waiting to hear back about the Roadside Management Resolution. The Climate Smart Resolution that passed is a hot topic. Biel reported that MASWCD and BWSR are applying for a fifty-million-dollar grant for Climate Smart practices in MN.

F. Root River 1W1P Update. At the next RR1W1P Policy Committee meeting there will be a motion to change the fiscal agent of the grant from Winona SWCD to Fillmore SWCD. Discussion. Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to accept Fiscal Agent responsibilities of the RR1W1P grant if offered. Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Ostrem, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

G. Local Work Group meeting. The next Local Work Group meeting will be held April 5th at 11:00 A.M. location to be determined.

Biel exits 6:08 P.M.

4. NRCS Report

Nothing to report

Biel enters 6:10 P.M.

5. County Report

Bakke stated they have offered the Zoning/Feedlot position to an applicant; they have a second offer ready if the first does not accept. Bakke reported that the DNR is trying to add miles onto protected waters.

V. Old Business

1. Consider approval of additional criteria for supervisor per diem allowance. Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Willford to compensate any commitment that exceeds 2 accumulative hours outside of normal

duties in a month will count as a meeting. Discussion. Tesmer withdrew the motion.

2. Consider adjusting Board meeting time. Motioned by Gossman seconded by Biel to adjust Board meeting times to 5:00 P.M. during the school year and 4:30 P.M during summer months. Affirmative: Biel, Willford, Tesmer, Gossman, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

V1. New Business

1. Consider length of service step increase for Employee #23034 from Grade 6, Step 4 to Grade 6, Step 5 effective April 2, 2022. Motioned by Ostrem seconded by Biel to approve length of service step increase for Employee #23034 from Grade 6, Step 4 to Grade 6, Step 5 effective April 2, 2022. Affirmative: Biel, Willford, Tesmer, Gossman, Ostrem. Opposed: none. Motion carried.
2. Review of the Annual Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity memos from NRCS. Memos were reviewed and signed by the Fillmore SWCD Supervisors.
3. Discussion on possible resolutions to submit to MASWCD
Koliha informed the Board that it is time to start thinking about any resolutions they would like to submit to MASWCD.
4. Consider payments to Edge of Field producers for participation in the MDA Field to Stream Partnership.

Terrance Pfaff	Lysimeter study	\$250.00
Todd Hendrickson	Field access	\$250.00
Kent Dornink	EOF station	\$1,000.00
Wayne DeWall	EOF stations	\$2,000.00
Richard Johnson	EOF station	\$1,000.00

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Willford to pay Edge of Field producers for participation in the MDA Field to Stream Partnership. Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Ostrem, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider contract with SMG Web Design for development of District website. Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Biel to approve a four-year

contract with SMG Web Design in the amount of \$900.00 annually for four years. Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Ostrem, Willford.
Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider sponsorship of Science Sunday event(s) being held by Friends of the Root River. Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Biel to approve sponsorship in the amount of \$100.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Ostrem, Tesmer, Biel, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.
7. Consider approval of contract WB22-03 Eunice Biel, Farmstead Windbreak, in the amount of \$513.00. Motioned by Willford seconded by Tesmer to approve contract WB22-03 Eunice Biel, Farmstead Windbreak in the amount of \$513.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Ostrem, Tesmer, Willford. Abstained: Biel Opposed: none. Motion carried.
8. Consider approval of contract DWP-WS-22-01 Robert Vagts Jr, Well Sealing, in the amount of \$1,500.00. Motioned by Willford seconded by Tesmer to approve contract DWP-WS-22-01 Robert Vagts Jr, Well Sealing, in the amount of \$1,500.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Ostrem, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.
9. Discuss turn around time for phone call backs and project requests.
Discussion
10. Discuss whether or not projects can get requoted when fuel significantly rises.
Discussion

V11. Accounts Payable

1. Approve February 2022 accounts payable

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Willford to approve the February 2022 payables. Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Gossman, Ostrem, Tesmer.
Opposed: none. Motion carried.
2. Supervisor volunteer for statement opening and check review

Gossman asked for a volunteer for the statement opening and check review on Friday April 1, 2022. Ostrem volunteered.

VIII. Adjournment

Motioned by Tesmer seconded by Ostrem to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dwayne Ostrem,

Fillmore SWCD Board Secretary