

Fillmore Soil & Water Conservation District

902 Houston St., Box 45, Preston, Minnesota 55965

Phone: 507-887-0240, Fax: 507-765-4415

www.fillmoreswcd.org

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 20th 2024

5:00 PM

County Building

902 Houston Street Suite 3

Preston, MN 55965

Members Present: Kathy Tesmer, Eunice Biel, Travis Willford, Tim Gossman, Jason Wetzel

Other present: Sara West, Duane Bakke, Theresa Baker, Riley Buley: Peter Mitchell joined @ 5:40

Travis Willford called meeting to order at 5:01

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Board discussed and approved updated agenda. Tesmer motioned to approve updated agenda, Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Willford, Biel, Tesmer, Gossman. Opposed: None motioned carried**
- II. Sara West to discuss terminology on Contracts of Drinking Water Protection Grant. **S. West discussed the terminology of Nitrogen application for side dress vs pre plant and the U of M best management practices.**
- III. Treasurer's Report
 1. Approve May 2024 SWCD Treasurer's Report: **Tesmer motioned to approve May treasurers report seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none motioned carried.**
 2. Approve Root River 1W1P Treasurer's Report: **Buley indicated no change from last months report. Wetzel motioned to approve, seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel.**

2022-2023 - Root River 1W1P - C22-0480			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 734,798.00	50%	05-26-2022	Executed 05-20-2022
\$ 587,838.00	40%		
\$ 146,959.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2024
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 1,469,595.00	\$ 734,798.00	\$ 761,697.98	\$ -(26,899.98)

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2024-2025 - Watershed Base Implementation ARP – C22-0143			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 1,150,475.00	50%	04-23-2024	Executed 04-08-2024
\$ 920,380.00	40%		
\$ 230,095.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2026
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 2,300,950.00	\$ 1,150,475.00	\$	\$

IV. Consent Agenda

1. Secretary's Report – May 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.

2. June 13th 2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

Tesmer motioned to approve consent agenda with Gossman signing June's special meeting report. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer, Gossman.

V. Reports

1. Supervisor Activity Report

Willford: Regular Brd Mtg. Interviews, Check opening.

Tessmer: RR1W1P Mtg. Interviews, MASWCD Mtg. Reg, Brd. Mtg.

Wetzel: Nitrate Mtg, MASWCD Mtg. Regular Brd. Mtg.

Gossman: Reg Brd. Mtg. Interviews, Scholarship presentation.

Biel: Reg, Brd. Mtg. MASWCD Mtg.

2. Staff Reports: **Included in Board packet.**

3. Administrator's Report

a. Building update: **Drywall being installed, on track for End of Aug for move in date.**

b. 6-month budget update: **Buley presented what was provided in Board packet**

~~c. Monthly Statement reconciliation~~

d. Brightsdale Dam EAW July Board meeting. **G Cubed contracted to Manage.**

e. **Climate Smart Alliance Grant updates:** Grant starts 7/15/24 Working with RRSWCD to do a dual mtg., Advertise/Mailings will be done to reach candidates.

4. NRCS Report: Bronson emailed to report, **A: Summer is here and staff has been out in the field conducting surveys, status reviews and new practice establishments, and a few trainings within their job position requirements**

B: The majority of all FY2024 applications that were preapproved have been obligated – handful are completed and practices have been installed – it was a great late spring to build

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grassed waterway and mother nature did help us out and didn't give us any gully washers during our builds

C: NRCS has set sign up 1 application deadline for September 6, 2024 for EQIP FY2025 applications to be entered

5. County Report: **Bakke reports SSTS upgrade, County budget will happen in July, mentioned talk with EAW from MN Sands resulting in possible work in the Pilot mound area.**

VI. Old Business

1. Secretary's Report – May 2024 Meeting Minutes: **Board already discussed, No Old business**

VII. New Business

1. Discuss / Nominate 2024 Conservationist of the year. **Nominees were presented to the board. Family was discussed. Tesmer nominated seconded by Wetzel Affirmative: Biel, Wetzel, Gossman, Willford, Tesmer Opposed: None. Further discussion is needed to determine final nominee at July meeting.**
2. Discuss office furniture for new employee. (Staffing Grant money available): **Tesmer motioned to proceed with getting new furniture seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed: none.**
3. Discuss cubicle walls for new building / Office Chairs & quote from Schmidt Goodman. **Tesmer motioned to proceed with getting cubicle wall bids seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed: none.**
4. Consider MDA SE Regional Treatment Systems Sub-Agreement with Olmsted SWCD. **Tesmer motioned, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed: none.**
5. Consider MDH – Phase II Safe Drinking Water Grant Sub-Agreement with Olmsted SWCD. **Gossman motioned, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed: none.**
6. Discuss MDA Manure Management JPA: **Discussed July 1st Grant is available.**
7. Consider MDA Southeast Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network Grant Sub-Agreement with Olmsted SWCD, \$1,750 **Wetzel motioned, seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed: none.**

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8. Discuss Personnel committees applicant choice for the Soil Health position and **Consider Amendment to Soil Health and Grazeland Specialist offer from at Grade 6 Step 5 to a Grade 6 Step 8: Biel motioned to hire Hunter Slifka at Grade 6 Step 8 seconded by Wetzel Affirmative: Biel, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer, Gossman. Opposed: none Motion carried. Slifka will start July 15th**
9. Discuss new Bank Review process moving forward for June. Heneke Accounting service is prepared to start check review starting in June. **Heneke Accounting will do reconciliation starting June/July and send report to Treasure to discuss at next month meeting.**
10. Consider extension to cover crop deadline to August 30th. **Tesmer motioned to extend to Aug. 30th, seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
11. Approve Final Payment on Contract RR1W1P 22-09 in the amount of \$2983.00 to Luke Tessum Waterway construction utilizing funds from the Root River one Watershed One plan. **Tesmer motioned to approve, seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
12. Consider Application for a 2025 Conservation Corps Member. **Gossman motioned to approve, seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
13. Consider 2024 Fillmore County 4H Extension Scholarship donation. **Gossman motioned to approve donation of \$150.00, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
14. Approve Contract DWP-WS09, Aaron Gillespie in the amount of \$2000 for Well decommission. Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection in the Karst Region Grant.
15. Approve Contract DWP—WS05, Dan Teske in the amount of \$2000 for Well decommission. Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection in the Karst Region Grant, **Wetzel motioned to approve, seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
16. **Consider Final payment \$29,194.54 to Chris Yule, Contract RR1W1P 22-02, Grade Stabilization Structure waterway. Using fund for the Root River 1Water 1 plan funds. Wetzel motioned to approve, seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**
17. **Approve placement of Root River 1W1P funds in the amount of \$230,000 in a 6-month C.D. at Merchants Bank. Tesmer motioned to approve, seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Abstained: Gossman. Opposed none, motion carried.**

VIII. Accounts Payable

1. Approve May accounts payable, **Tesmer motioned to approve, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried.**

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2. Supervisor volunteer for statement opening and check review: (July 3rd 2024)/
Have Accountant start in July. **Heneke Accounting to perform**

18. Adjournment: **Tesmer motioned to adjourn seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer. Biel. Opposed: None motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:11**

Note: D. Bakke left meeting at 6:30 pm

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Nitrate Program set in Stewartville 5:00- 8:00	June 12, 2024
MASWCD South East Area 7 meeting	June 17, 2024
BALM Meeting	June 18, 2024
Juneteenth (Office Closed)	June 19, 2024
Virtual Nitrate program @12 pm	June 20, 2024
Dairy Night on the Farm: Nate & Misty Heusinkveld Farm	June 22, 2024
Nitrate Program set in Rushford 4:00-8:00	June 26, 2024
Nitrate Program set in Mazeppa 5:00-8:00	June 27, 2024
Statement Opening and Check Review	July 2, 2024
Independence Day (office closed)	July 4, 2024
Regular Board Meeting	July 18, 2024
Fillmore County Fair	July 15-21 2024
SWCD Forestry Field & Prairie Walk	July 24, 2024

Respectfully submitted: _____

Jason Wetzel