

GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, February 12, 2021

WebEx Media Communication – Cottonwood SWCD Office

Cottonwood County Attorney Nick Anderson as attorney/chief legal counsel for the board, I am determining that requiring all supervisors to participate in person at board meetings is not practical or prudent. I have made that determination based on the WHO's determination that the COVID 19 outbreak is a health pandemic. The Cottonwood SWCD Board of Supervisor Declared the Cottonwood SWCD Office – Designated Meeting Location During State of Emergency – Health Crisis

Present: Jim Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Clark Lingbeek, Bill Miller and John Shanahan.

Others Present: Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Chad Hildebrand, Kay Gross, Brenda Lageson, Dru Larson, Ed Lenz, Mark Manderfeld, Neal Mensing and Michael Stalberger.

Vice Chair Clark Lingbeek called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda

Motion by Miller, second by Shanahan to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes

Motion by Eigenberg, second by Shanahan to approve the December 18, 2020 minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 1/1/21 to 1/31/21 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Enger, second by Eigenberg to approve the February financial report as presented.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

Accounts Payable

Motion by Miller, second by Shanahan to approve the accounts payable totaling \$31,604.41.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Final Payment

Dan Roemhildt 81-10(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops – 209.2 ac. C-S \$3,401.00.00 Cost \$6,802.46

Motion by Shanahan, second by Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payments for Roemhildt (319-TMDL-16-81-10) \$3,401.00.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Technical and Engineering Assistance Final Payments

Waseca SWCD 81-01(CWF-MDM-17) Technical & Engineering Cost \$273.10

Motion by Miller, second by Shanahan to approve the GBERBA Technical and Engineering Assistance contract final payments for Waseca SWCD (CWF-MDM-17-81-01) - \$273.10.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Approval

Roger Hubmer 07-12(CWF-MDM-17) Cover Crops – 255 ac. C-S \$5,118.71 Cost \$10,237.42

Motion by Enger, second by Miller to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract for Hubmer (319-TMDL-16-07-12) \$5,118.71.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

MAWQCP Contract Approval and Payment

Redwood SWCD	MAWQCP(TS-64-5-07)	Additional Technical Assistance	\$6,000.00
Ian Sandager	MAWQCP(67-5-23)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Michael Sandager	MAWQCP(67-5-24)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Marvin Tofteland	MAWQCP(67-5-25)	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	\$300.00
Buendorf Farms	MAWQCP(22-6-24)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Brent Hilbert	MAWQCP(65-6-09)	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	\$300.00
Brent Miller	MAWQCP(51-5-17)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00

Motion by Enger, second by Shanahan to approve the MAWQCP incentives for Redwood SWCD (\$6,000.00), Tofteland, Hilbert (\$300), Miller (\$200.00) and I. Sandager, M. Sandager and Buendorf (\$100.00).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

Review Grant Report

Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant – Request next 40% - Update

Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant – From Waseca SWCD Board of Supervisors – Update

Will be unable to extend because of legislative language associated with the clean water funds.

BWSR Grant Agreement

Motion by Enger, second by Miller to approve the BWSR FY21 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Program – Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection C21-8921 grant amendment for \$54,900 and expiring December 31, 2023.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Lingbeek Y - Miller Y-Enger Y – Shanahan Y - Eigenberg

Motion carried, all yes.

COORDINATOR REPORT

☆ **MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program**

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 750,000 acres and over 1000 certified producers statewide!

GBERBA has the Area 5 and 6 MAWQCP administrative contract approved through 2021. The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program has launched three new endorsements in addition to 10-year certification a farmer or landowner receives in the program. The endorsements are for soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife. Introduction of Dru Larson, MN/IA Conservation Corps Member.

☆ **2017 MPCA 319 Grant - Cover Crops and Alternative Tile Intakes**

An Implementation Policy Paper for this grant titled "Greater Blue Earth River Basin TMDL Implementation" is found on the GBERBA web site. Cover crops: \$50.00 dollars per acre maximum, 50% c/s (\$25.00 ac.). Prioritization required.

Alternative intakes: Rock and pattern tile. \$500.00 maximum with 50% cost share.

Perforated risers, broom and other water quality intakes: \$200.00 maximum and 50% cost share. These are federal dollars and require state or local match.

For 2020, the cover crop acre limits are removed. The 50% cost share rate will continue. GBERBA staff has requested and received an extension of this grant due to 2019 weather conditions and the Covid-19 outbreak. The new end date of the grant will be August 31, 2021.

This grant funding is now running low. Funding will be awarded as available. Please pass this notice on to landowners wishing to apply.

☆ **2017 CWF Grant- Multipurpose Drainage Management**

Multipurpose Drainage Management - \$301,200: Projects for this Drainage Grant will need to be located in public ditch sheds. **GBERBA member entire counties are eligible.** Priority parameters to identify the eligible ditches. A guidance policy sheet is online.

At this time, GBERBA has received a second grant time extension. In addition, GBERBA can pay grant-engineering funds to approved projects even if not constructed prior to grant deadline. The new grant end date is April 30, 2021. Waseca SWCD is asking BWSR, a project time extension for a (water storage) wetland restoration.

☆ **One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants, Watonwan and Le Sueur Watersheds**

The Watonwan 1W1P Steering Team are working to complete a BWSR Budget Request by February 26 and Implementation Work Plan by March 31.

The Le Sueur River 1W1P group has asked Mark Schaezke to give 1W1P updates to GBERBA. Currently the Le Sueur group are working on the work plan narrative, timeline and budget. They are expecting a first policy board meeting in February, and then begin the work of selecting a consultant after that.

☆ **CBF 2020 Watonwan Drinking Water Grant.** BWSR has sent GBERBA the Grant agreement for approval and signature. Staff will be completing a work plan and budget in Elink.

Staff Reports

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – Will be sent out once a month.

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers – Will be sent out once a month.

MDA – Conservation Corp Member – Dru Larson – Oral Report

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Reconciliation on Multipurpose Drainage Grant, in progress. Will be working with local staff and Policy Board on suggestions in clarification of grant items. March 30 BWSR will be putting on a training day. Small group discussions on different topics – one of which will be contractor billing and contracts. Grant reporting and grant work plans throughout the area is being done.

OTHER –

Meeting adjourned by Clark Lingbeek at 2:00 p.m.

Next meeting date:

Technical Meeting	Wednesday, February 24, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Policy Board Meeting	Friday, March 12, 2021	1:00 p.m.
Executive Board Meeting	Wednesday, April 28, 2021	1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____