

# GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, October 15, 2021

WebEx Media Communication – Cottonwood SWCD Office

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

Others Present: Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Jake Gross, Kay Gross and Dru Larson and Mark Manderfeld.

Chair Tom Appel called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

## Agenda

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

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

Motion carried, all yes.

## Minutes

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Eigenberg to approve the August 25, 2021 minutes as presented.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

## INFORMATION/ACTION

### Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 9/1/21 to 9/30/21 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Enger, second by Eigenberg to approve the October financial report as presented.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### Accounts Payable

Motion by Enger, second by Miller to approve the accounts payable totaling \$20,733.81.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### GBERBA Contract Approval

Mitch Klingsporn 17-02(WBIF-WW-21) Cover Crops – 120 ac. (3 yrs) C-S \$15,120.00 Cost \$15,120.00

Mathias & Cheryl Williams

07-01(WBIF-WW-21) Well Decommissioning – 1 no. C-S \$1,000.00 Cost \$2,021.00

Motion by Miller, second by Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract approvals for Klingsporn (WBIF-WW-21-17-02)) \$15,120.00 and Williams (WBIF-WW-21-07-01) \$1,000.00.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### MAWQCP Contract Approval and Payment

Mark Portner                    MAWQCP(08-6-07)                    Worksheet Incentive                    \$100.00

Dean Weiss                    MAWQCP(46-6-10)                    Certification Incentive                    \$200.00

Chris Schreiber                    MAWQCP(42-5-18)                    Certification Incentive                    \$200.00

Buendorf Farms                    MAWQCP(22-6-24)                    Certification Incentive                    \$200.00

Jonathan Hassing                    MAWQCP(22-6-27)                    Worksheet/Certification Incentive                    \$300.00

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Enger to approve the MAWQCP incentives for Portner (\$100.00), Weiss, Schreiber, Buendorf Farms (\$200.00) and Hassing (\$300.00).

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### Review Grant Report

### **1W1P Le Sueur River Planning Grant**

The Kickoff meeting went well with decent weather, a good turnout (50-60), and really good discussion. Kim and WRC crew are synthesizing the information collected that night as well as the online survey responses. Haley returned back to work at the end of September and will resume the day to day responsibilities. ISG is working at aggregating the data and trying to come up with a first draft of issue statements. The Steering Team discussed inviting citizens to the Technical Advisory Committee and identifying others who may have good experience or perspectives to weigh in on portions of the draft plan.

### **Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant**

Review of Ranking and Scoring Worksheet

### **Budget 2022**

Motion by Enger, second by Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA 2022 Budget.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### **Dues 2022**

Discussion to increase the overall percentage of the dues equation to keep the same ratio moving forward. Example increase the due by 12% - that would increase the dues approximately \$5,000.

### **COORDINATOR REPORT**

#### **☆ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program**

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 761,000 acres and over 1063 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 (31), integrated pest management (31), wildlife (22) and climate smart (12).

NRCS announced a June 4<sup>th</sup> application deadline for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP – MAWQCP). RCPP is a partnership between NRCS and MAWQCP. Producers who are seeking certification or are already certified are eligible to receive funding. Priority is given to practices that are needed for a producer to obtain certification. Dru Larson, MN/IA Conservation Corps Member will be assisting with this program in 2021

#### **☆ 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 third grant time extension. In addition, GBERBA can pay grant-engineering funds to approved projects even if not constructed prior to grant deadline. BWSR has now approved the extension for the entire grant to April 30, 2022. There are \$24,000 dollars left in this grant. GBERBA needs another project or two.

#### **☆ Watonwan River Watershed - Implementation Grant**

Implementation grant funds are available now with the Grant 41 Policy distributed to all GBERBA members and partners. The grant timeline is 3-24-2021 to 12-31-2023. The Project Ranking Worksheet is used for project priority.

Legal counsel has been contracted to review the need for additional contracts with member entities or others and recourse and/or errors and omissions if non-compliance issues arise when completing projects. The Policy Board has approved the Multipurpose Drainage Management Study definition and expectations. The information has been added to the Grant 41 Policy and redistributed to the elected officials and staff.

#### **☆ Le Sueur River Watershed – One Watershed One Plan**

On September 16, a kickoff meeting was held at St. Olaf Lake Park. Planned speakers include MPCA, DNR, and the WRC. The next steps include summarizing the existing data and beginning to draft the issue statements that will be the building blocks of the final plan.

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☆ **CWF 2020 Watonwan Drinking Water Grant.** The grant funding is available now to encumber! The grant timeline is 3-25-2021 to 12-31-2023. Grant Policy #40 has been distributed to staff, please review for eligible practices and grant guidelines. Project contracts are coming in for funding. Drinking Water Area information signs will be ordered soon.

**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 – Will be send out once a month. (Verbal report)

**Agency Reports**

**BWSR** – Jill Sackett Eberhart – No report.

**OTHER** – None

Meeting adjourned by Chair Tom Appel at 2:10 p.m.

**Next meeting date:**

Policy Board Meeting	Friday, November 19, 2021	1:00 p.m.
Technical Meeting	Wednesday, October 20, 2021	9:30 a.m.
Executive Board Meeting	Friday, December 17, 2021	1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_