

GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, August 19, 2022

WebEx Media Communication – Cottonwood SWCD Office

(Addresses of all participants (if meeting by WebEx) have been notices with agenda)

Present: Tom Appel, Jim Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Clark Lingbeek, Bill Miller and John Shanahan.
Others Present: Dave Bucklin, Kay Gross, Nathan Harder and Breanna Wagner.

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

Agenda

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Enger 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 Eigenberg, second by Lingbeek to approve the June 17, 2022 minutes as presented.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 7/1/22 to 7/31/22 was presented for the Board’s review. Motion by Shanahan, second by Lingbeek to approve the August 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 Miller, second by Lingbeek to approve the accounts payable totaling \$44,463.49.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Approval - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483)

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Dustin Harrold | 17-04(WBIF-WW-21) | Grass Waterway – 400 ft. | Cost \$7,600.00 | C-S \$7,220.00 |
| Dustin Harrold | 17-05(WBIF-WW-21) | WASCOB – 1 no. | Cost \$12,400.00 | C-S \$11,780.00 |
| Paul Bergling | 83-19(WBIF-WW-21) | Well Decommissioning – 1 no. | Cost \$500.00 | C-S \$250.00 |
| Summit Farmland IV | 83-20(WBIF-WW-21) | Well Decommissioning – 1 no. | Cost \$3,000.00 | C-S \$1,000.00 |
| Conor Kranz | 83-21(WBIF-WW-21) | Well Decommissioning – 1 no. | Cost \$895.00 | C-S \$447.50 |
| Ken Oldenborg | 07-05(WBIF-WW-21) | Cover Crops – 45 ac. | Cost \$5,670.00 | C-S \$5,670.00 |

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Enger to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contracts - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Harrold 17-04(WBIF-WW-21) Grass Waterway (\$7,220.00); Harrold 17-05(WBIF-WW-21) WASCOB (\$11,780.00); Bergling 83-19(WBIF-WW-21) Well Decommissioning (\$250.00); Summit Farmland IV 83-20(WBIF-WW-21) Well Decommissioning (\$1,000.00); Kranz 83-21(WBIF-WW-21) Well Decommissioning (\$447.50) and Oldenborg 07-03(WBIF-WW-21) Cover Crops (\$5,670.00).

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

Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Approval FY2021 BWSR CWF – Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection Grant Agreement (C21-8921)

Henry & Suzanne Harazin 07-03(CWF-WWDW-21) Well Decommissioning – 1 no. Cost \$2,575.00 C-S \$750.00

Motion by Eigenberg, second by Miller to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract FY21 BWSR CWF – Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection Grant Agreement (C21-8921) for Harazin 07-03(CWF-WWDW-21) Well Decommissioning (\$750.00).

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

Motion carried, all yes.

MDM Plan Professional Agreement Final Payment – FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483)

Cottonwood County Ditch 21 and WBIF-WW-21 Multipurpose Drainage ISG Cost \$9,500.00
Cottonwood/Watonwan Judicial Ditch No. 1 Management Plan

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Shanahan to approve the Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan Professional Agreement through FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) final payment to ISG totaling \$9,500.00 for Cottonwood County Ditch No. 21 and Cottonwood/Watonwan Judicial Ditch No. 1. Roll Call Vote – Y – Appel Y – Eigenberg Y – Enger Y – Lingbeek Y – Miller Y - Shanahan Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Final Payment - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483)

Larry Salzwedel 17-03(WBIF-WW-21) Grass Waterway 131 ft/Diversion 225 ft Cost \$2,959.30 C-S \$2,515.41

Motion by Enger, second by Eigenberg, to approve the final contract payment foFY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Salzwedel 17-03(WBIF-WW-21) Grass Waterway/Diversion (\$2,515.41).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Appel Y – Eigenberg Y – Enger Y – Lingbeek Y – Miller Y - Shanahan Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Final Payment FY2021 BWSR CWF – Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection Grant Agreement (C21-8921)

City of Windom 17-02(CWF-WWDW-21) Tree/Shrub Planting – 60 no. Cost \$6,000.00 C-S \$5,000.00

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Shanahan to approve the final payment FY21 BWSR CWF – Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection Grant Agreement (C21-8921) for City of Windom 17-02(CWF-WWDW-21) Tree/Shrub Planting (\$5,000.00)..

Roll Call Vote – Y – Appel Y – Eigenberg Y – Enger Y – Lingbeek Y – Miller Y - Shanahan Motion carried, all yes.

MAWQCP Contract Approval and Payment

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Ken Winters KDW LLC | MAWQCP(17-5-29) | Worksheet Incentive | \$100.00 |
| John Lanoue | MAWQCP(42-5-24) | Worksheet/Certification Incentive | \$300.00 |
| Robert Van Hill | MAWQCP(59-5-33) | Worksheet Incentive | \$100.00 |
| Nate Ver Steeg | MAWQCP(67-5-30) | Worksheet Incentive | \$100.00 |
| Oostenink Farms Inc | MAWQCP(67-5-31) | Worksheet/Certification Incentive | \$300.00 |

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Enger to approve the MAWQCP incentives for Lanoue and Oostenink Farms Inc (\$300.00) and Winters, Van Hill, Ver Steeg (\$100.00).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Appel Y – Eigenberg Y – Enger Y – Lingbeek Y – Miller Y - Shanahan Motion carried, all yes.

Review Grant Reports

1W1P Le Sueur River Planning Grant

Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant

Watonwan Drinking Water Protection Grant

MDH Accelerated Implementation Grant: Groundwater Protection Initiative

CWF Soil Health Grant RFP Update

Grant application totaled \$312,100 with \$31,210 for match.

COORDINATOR REPORT

★ **MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program**

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 858,786 acres and over 1234 certified producers statewide! **That is over 1,259 square miles, and equals more than Cottonwood and Watonwan counties combined!**

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program has launched four 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, wildlife and climate smart.

★ **Watonwan River Watershed - Implementation Grant**

An additional grant report has been completed and will be updated monthly to reflect the funds remaining to be encumbered, by activity, in the implementation grant. First State of the Watershed Report has been distributed. Mid-year Elink reporting for this grant is completed and submitted to BWSR.

★ **1W1P Le Sueur River Watershed Comprehensive Plan**

The policy committee is working through what kind of plan administration they would like for implementation, with Tom Appel and Kay Gross joining their meeting on June 24 to help explain and answer questions about GBERBA. Blue Earth has agreed to help us draft up the wording. The steering team spent a full day working on the implementation table. The table format is organized by practice and then 9 sub-watersheds. Our starting point was the amount of conservation in the watershed in the last ten years plus the anticipated increase in conservation with WBIF. These numbers will change to reflect what is feasible and what the resource goals are. Summary reports from the Midpoint meeting and survey have been put together by WRC and will be reviewed to see if there are any changes suggested by the public.

GBERBA dues schedule (approved 11-2021) was updated to include Steele County, this is for their information in the event that the Le Sueur Comprehensive Planning group chooses to use GBERBA as their implementation source.

★ **CWF 2020 Watonwan Drinking Water Grant**

The grant funding is available to encumber through 2023. 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. Twenty-five Drinking Water Area information signs are in. These signs when posted will help educate/remind the public about protecting drinking water.

The policy change to incorporate additional practices under Urban Storm Water category is complete.

★ **MDH 2022 Watonwan Groundwater Protection Accelerated Implementation Grant**

Chairman Tom Appel through DocuSign signed the formal grant agreement from the MN Department of Health. The grant agreement was formally approved at the July GBERBA Policy Board Meeting. State grant funds total \$21,898 with a grant start date of July 15, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

★ **BWSR SOIL HEALTH GRANT**

Awaiting funding status from BWSR.

Staff Reports

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – Written Report – Last Month

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers – Written Report – Last Month

MDA – Conservation Corp Member – Open

Agency Reports

OTHER – None

Meeting adjourned by Chair Tom Appel at 1:33 p.m.

Next meeting date:

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Technical Meeting | Wednesday, August 24, 2022 | 9:30 a.m. |
| Policy Board Meeting | Friday, September 23, 2022 | 1:00 p.m. |
| Executive Board Meeting | Friday, October 14, 2022 | 1:00 p.m. |

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____