

# GBERBA Policy Board and Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 17, 2023  
Mankato Armory – Mankato, MN

**Present:** Brad Augustine, Tom Appel, Tony Berg, Doug Christopherson, Jim Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Steve Flohrs, Clark Lingbeek, Neal Mensing, Bill Miller, and John Shanahan

**Others Present:** 27 Attendees – including Staff, Guests, State Agencies.

**Call to Order** - Chairman Clark Lingbeek called the meeting to order at 9.31 a.m.

## Introductions

### Agenda

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Tom Appel to approve the Policy Board agenda with additions. Motion carried, all yes.

### Minutes

Motion by Rich Enger, second by Tony Berg to approve the September 22, 2023, minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

**TECHNICAL MEETING** – Convened at 9:35 a.m. by Technical Committee Chair Ashley Brenke

### Minutes

Motion by Jerad Bach, second by Dan Bartosh to approve the October 18, 2023 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

## INFORMATION/ACTION

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

Monica Maurer 32-06(WBIF-WW-21) Conservation Cover – Shoreland Cost \$4,700.00 C-S \$3,995.00

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Brenda Lageson to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Monica Maurer (WBIF-WW-21-32-06) Shoreline Project (\$3,995.00). Motion carried, all yes.

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

Watowan JD 13BW WBIF-WW-21 Multipurpose Drainage ISG Drainage Mgmt Plan Cost \$7,500.00  
Watowan County Management Plan Tile System Drainage Analysis Cost \$3,500

Motion by Carrie Schultz, second by Jerad Bach to approve the Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan Professional Agreement through FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) with ISG totaling \$11,000.00 for Watowan JD 13BW. Motion carried, all yes.

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

All contracts will change the install/completion date from 12-1-2023 to 12-31-2023.

WBIF-WW-21-83-02	Leota Hall Trust	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$525.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-03	Randy Romsdahl	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$562.50
WBIF-WW-21-83-04	Wesley Beck	Cover Crops	Cost-Share	\$9,520.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-05	David Beck	Cover Crops	Cost-Share	\$8,182.44
WBIF-WW-21-83-06	Byron Christenson	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$450.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-07	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$15,402.85
WBIF-WW-21-83-08	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$32,638.30
WBIF-WW-21-83-09	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$40,314.65
WBIF-WW-21-83-10	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$31,267.25
WBIF-WW-21-83-11	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$35,989.77
WBIF-WW-21-83-12	Gary Dannhoff	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$30,573.06
WBIF-WW-21-83-17	Bernetta Hess	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$450.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-16	Brad Asendorf	Grade Stab., WASCOB, GW.	Cost-Share	\$26,849.76
WBIF-WW-21-83-22	Jason Smith	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$35,940.40
WBIF-WW-21-83-23	Jason Smith	Grass Waterway	Cost-Share	\$10,140.75
WBIF-WW-21-83-24	Jason Smith	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$12,348.00
WBIF-WW-21-07-06	R & C Hargis	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$1,000.00
WBIF-WW-21-08-01	Lorin Helget	WASCOB	Cost-Share	\$12,847.84
WBIF-WW-21-83-27	Chad Lange	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$232.50
WBIF-WW-21-83-28	Chad Lange	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$497.50
WBIF-WW-21-83-31	Mike Lynch	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$487.50

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WBIF-WW-21-17-05	Richard McMullen	Cover Crops	Cost-Share	\$7,350.00
WBIF-WW-21-17-06	Curt Janzen	Grade Stabilization	Cost-Share	\$3,825.00
WBIF-WW-21-17-07	Dustin Harrold	WASCOBs	Cost-Share	\$15,000.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-32	Robbe Carlson	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$750.00
WBIF-WW-21-17-08	R & G Hoek	Grass Waterway	Cost-Share	\$18,000.00
WBIF-WW-21-83-33	Roger Schmiesing	Grade Stabilization	Cost-Share	\$19,215.10
WBIF-WW-21-83-34	Trevor Jensen	Well Decommissioning	Cost-Share	\$663.75
WBIF-WW-21-83-35	Emily Norland	Conservation Cover	Cost-Share	\$7,383.95
WBIF-WW-21-83-36	Travis Elg	Conservation Cover	Cost-Share	\$4,061.51

Motion by Carrie Schultz, second by Dan Bartosh to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendments - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for the above-mentioned contracts (30) to change the install/completion date from 12-1-2023 to 12-31-2023. All contracts can be signed by Chairman Clark Lingbeek or GBERBA Administrative Coordinator Kay Gross on or before November 30, 2023 or they will be considered cancelled. Motion carried, all yes.

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

Cottonwood SWCD      WBIF-WW-21      Education/Information – Shoreline Training Meal      Cost \$582.78

Motion by Brenda Lageson, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the GBERBA payment - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Cottonwood SWCD (WBIF-WW-21) Education/Information (\$582.78). Motion carried, all yes.

**TECHNICAL MEETING** Adjourned at 9:44 a.m. by GBERBA Technical Chair Ashley Brenke

**POLICY BOARD MEETING** Reconvened by Chair Clark Lingbeek at 9:44 a.m.

**INFORMATION/ACTION**

**Financial Report**

The Financial Report dated 10/1/23 to 10/31/23 was presented for the Board’s review. Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by Tony Berg to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

**Accounts Payable**

Motion by Rich Enger, second by Tom Appel to approve the accounts payable and pay the bills totaling \$26,393.91. Motion carried, all yes.

**COST-SHARE PROJECTS**

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

Monica Maurer 32-06(WBIF-WW-21)      Conservation Cover – Shoreland      Cost \$4,700.00 C-S \$3,995.00

Motion by Tom Appel, second by Bill Miller to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Monica Maurer (WBIF-WW-21-32-06) Shoreline Project (\$3,995.00). Motion carried, all yes.

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

Watonwan JD 13BW      WBIF-WW-21      Multipurpose Drainage ISG      Drainage Mgmt Plan Cost \$7,500.00  
Watonwan County      Management Plan      Tile System Drainage Analysis Cost \$3,500

Motion by Tony Berg, second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the Multipurpose Drainage Management Plan Professional Agreement through FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) with ISG totaling \$11,000.00 for Watonwan JD 13BW. Motion carried, all yes.

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Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by Tom Muller to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendments - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for the above mentioned contracts (30) to change the install/completion date from 12-1-2023 to 12-31-2023. All contracts can be signed by Chairman Clark Lingbeek or GBERBA Administrative Coordinator Kay Gross on or before November 30, 2023 or they will be considered cancelled. Motion carried, all yes.

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Cottonwood SWCD      WBIF-WW-21      Education/Information – Shoreline Training Meal      Cost \$582.78

Motion by Steve Flohrs, second by Tony Berg to approve the GBERBA payment - FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) for Cottonwood SWCD (WBIF-WW-21) Education/Information (\$582.78). Motion carried, all yes.

**MAWQCP Contract Approval**

Redwood SWCD	MAWQCP(TS-64-5-08)	Technical Assistance	\$6,000.00
Mark Overgaard	MAWQCP(67-5-39)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Jason Lavoy	MAWQCP(64-5-42)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Cole Truesdell	MAWQCP(46-6-18)	Worksheet/Certification Completion	Incentive \$300.00
William Brockway	MAWQCP(42-5-28)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Overgaard, Lavoy and Brockway (\$100.00), Truesdell (\$300.00) and Technical Assistance to Redwood SWCD (\$6,000.00). Motion carried, all yes.

**Review Grant Balances**

**GBERBA Fund Balance - Discussion**

**2024 Dues**

Motion by Tony Berg second by Doug Christopherson to approve a 50% cut in dues for 2024 (\$47,314.00).  
Motion carried, all yes.

**Equipment Purchases**

Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by Tom Appel to approve the purchase of the media and hardware (6,836.99) for the Blue Earth SWCD Meeting Room. Equipment will be insured by GBERBA and will transfer locations with the Blue Earth SWCD in case of a move. Motion carried, all yes.

Discussion for other members.

**Calendar 2024**

**MDA Ag Water Quality Certification Program Update**

Motion by Rich Enger, second by Tom Appel to approve the MN Department of Agriculture contract for MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program for January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 totaling \$523,116.00).  
Motion carried, all yes.

**FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483)**

The WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant has been revised and approved by BWSR with moving of funds through work plan categories.

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Tony Berg to approve the Extension Amendment for FY FY2021 BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C21-2483) with end date change from 12-31-2023 to 12-31-2024 with effective date of November 15, 2023. Motion carried, all yes.

Motion by Rich Enger second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the FY2024 WBIF Grant Policy – Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant 2023-2026 Grant 45. Motion carried, all yes.

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Tom Appel to approve the FY2024 BWSR WBIF Grant Agreement for the Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant 2023-2036 ending December 31, 2026, totaling \$1,136,479. Motion carried, all yes.

**1W1P Le Sueur Watershed Comprehensive Plan Update – Mark Schaetzke**

Implementation 1.13 million in funding and working on the grant policy and considering cost-share funding percentages. First round of funding in early 2024

**1W1P Blue Earth Watershed – Nathan Carr**

First technical meeting and policy meeting will be held November 29. Faribault, Freeborn, Blue Earth, Martin, Jackson, City of Fairmont.

**Watonwan Drinking Water Protection Grant**

BWSR grant reconciliation has been completed as satisfactory.

**MDH Accelerated Implementation Grant: Groundwater Protection Initiative**

Working to complete Well Testing posters for Watonwan Watershed members. Please note the two banners for nitrogen application awareness and groundwater protection awareness.

**CWF Soil Health Grant**

Working on grant promotion by SWCDs. Becky and Dave will be leading a discussion on grant 43.

**CRP State Incentive Pilot Program – Becky and Dave will be leading a discussion on work plan priorities.**

Motion Jim Eigenberg, Doug Christopher approve the FY24 BWSR Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives Pilot Program Grant Agreement for \$30,000.00. Motion carried, all yes.

**COORDINATOR REPORT (See Handout)**

**STAFF REPORTS**

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**BWSR** – Jill Sackett Eberhart

FY2024 Clean Water Funds will be awarded in December. Water storage RFP will be a rolling funding cycle. Cooperative Weed Management RFP is open. Looking at contacts completion in Watonwan Watershed and completing those projects.

**MPCA** – Paul Davis

Impaired waters listing nothing added in our watershed. Le Sueur WRAPS update.

**Other Business – None**

Meeting declared adjourned by Chairman Clark Lingbeek 11:04 a.m.

**Presentations**

**PF Easement Enhancement Program & CRP Incentive Pilot Grant**

Kevin Roth and/or Dusty VanThuyne, Board of Water and Soil Resources

**Soil Health Implementation Grant (Grant #43) & CRP Incentive Pilot Grant (Grant #44)**

Becky Buchholz and Dave Bucklin, Cottonwood SWCD

**Soil Health Overview** Jill Sackett Eberhart, Board of Water and Soil Resources

**Lunch** (Provided)

**GBERBA Soil Health Team Report** Herman Bartsch, Nathan Harder, Kim Musser, Kay Gross

**Soil Health – Panel Discussion** Herman Bartsch, MAWQCP Area 6 Specialist

~Tom Muller, Cottonwood County Producer ~Neal Mensing, Faribault County Producer

~Pat Duncanson, Blue Earth County Producer ~Larry Cowing, Martin County Producer

**Next Meetings**

Executive Board Meeting	December 15, 2023	1:00 p.m.
Technical Meeting	December 15, 2023	9:30 a.m.
Policy Board Meeting	January 12, 2024	1:00 p.m.

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