



SE SWCD TECH. SUPPORT JPB MEETING
AGENDA

January 26th 2022 – 1:00-4:00pm

LOCATION: Zoom or Mazeppa Community Center - 278 1st Ave N, Mazeppa, MN 55956

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8599817067> Call in @ (312) 626 6799 Meeting ID: 859 981 7067

Board Members in attendance: Paul Uecker, Kathy Tesmer, Ed McNamara, Jerry Welke, Mark Ihlenfeld, Larry Theismann

Board Members on Zoom Call: Scherger, Paul Heers, Rodney Moe

Board Members Absent: Mike Ludwig, Bill Rowekamp

Others Present: Beau Kennedy, Delane Krier, Kate Bruss, Chris Nelson, Terri Peters, Janice Messner, Adam Beilke

Others Present on Zoom Call: Pete Fryer, Adam King, Brenda Lageson, Justin Hanson, Skip Langer, Wanda Anderson, David Copeland

TIME:

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by Chair Paul Uecker

2. Approve Agenda

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by McNamara to approve the Agenda. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

3. Introductions

Those present introduced themselves and shared who they represented.

4. 2022 JPB Organization Structure

a. Election of Officers

Acting Chairman Uecker turned the meeting over to Ihlenfeld, who called for nominations for Chairman.

i. Chairman

Motioned by Tesmer, seconded by McNamara to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Paul Uecker as Chairman. Voting affirmative: Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Abstained: Uecker. Motion carried.

Meeting was turned back to Chairman Uecker.

ii. Vice Chairman

Motioned by Ihlenfeld, seconded by McNamara to cast unanimous ballot to elect Bill Rowekamp as Vice Chairman. Voting affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

iii. Treasurer

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by Ihlenfeld to cast unanimous ballot to elect Ed McNamara as Treasurer. Voting affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Abstained: McNamara. Motion carried.

iv. Secretary

(not elected, held by TSA 7 Host District Manager)

b. Appointment of all Committees (Chair)

- i. Finance Committee
- ii. Personnel Committee
- iii. Prioritization Committee
- iv. Executive Committee

Motioned by McNamara, seconded by Tesmer to appoint the Committee members as listed (see attached). Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

5. Secretary's Report

a. Approve July 29th 2021 JPB Board Meeting Minutes

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by McNamara to approve the July 29th, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

b. Approve November 10th 2021 Executive Committee Minutes, Affirming Actions Taken.

Motioned by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Theismann to approve the November 10th, 2021 Executive Committee Minutes. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

6. Old Business

a. Review Budget

TSA7 Host Manager reviewed how FY2021 ended financially with a small deficient. Supplemental funding has allowed the TSA7 to increase the amount of unearned revenue availability for TSA staff time in 2022/2023. Continued attention to outside funding, 1W1P T/A funding and managing the NPEA/Enhance BWSR grants properly will continue to be vital to the financial stability of the TSA.

b. RCPP Project Status

TSA7 PE Kate Bruss updated the board on the final RCPP Feedlot project which was completed in the fall of 2021. Remaining funds will be expended and BWSR grant reconciliation to follow in early 2022.

c. Status of 2022 BWSR Feedlot Grant – Dave Copeland

Dave Copeland updated the Board on the status of state available feedlot funding from the general fund. A total of \$520K will be made available and prioritizing efforts will need to be made in early 2022 to determine the best method of providing these funds to producers. Deadline to spend these dollars will likely be 2024/2025.

7. Action Items

a. Personnel Committee

i. Approve October 27th 2021 & January 12th 2022 Personnel Committee Recommendations

1. Step/Longevity Pay, COLA

Motioned by Tesmer, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the Step/Longevity Pay, Cola. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Personnel Policy Updated Changes

Motioned by Ihlenfeld, seconded by Theismann to approve the Personnel Policy Updated Changes. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

3. Teleworking Policy

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by Ihlenfeld to allow the Host SWCD Manager and the TSA7 Host Manager to make the decision on employee working remotely (Option 2) with the TSA7 Staff. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

4. Truck Purchase

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by Ihlenfeld to approve the purchase of a new truck, not exceed the cost of \$30,000.00. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

- b. Review and Recommend Individual District Approval of the Amended/Updated Joint Power Agreement for the Southeast Soil and Water Technical Support Joint Powers Board (TSA7)

Per guidance from MCIT, an updated/amended version of our existing Joint Powers Agreement was presented. Each member should review the updated agreement with their own SWCD Boards and provide comment to the TSA7 Host Manager. We'll plan on signing this updated document at the July 2022 TSA7 Board meeting. No action taken at this time.

- c. Review TSA7 updated By-Laws.

TSA7 Host Manager advised local review of the by-law updates and will revisit once the updated JPB agreement is signed in July 2022. No action taken at this time.

- d. Authorize Host Manager Signature Authority on Sub-Agreements and BWSR Financial Reports for CY 2022.

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by Ihlenfeld to authorize TSA7 Host Manger Signature Authority on Sub-Agreements and yearend financial reports, and authorize TSA7 Board Chair Signature Authority on all grant agreements in 2022.

Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried

8. Other Business

- a. TSA Workload Discussion -Pete Fryer/Managers

TSA7 PE Pete Fryer updated the Board on 2021 workload and started discussion on upcoming projects. Currently have 80 projects in workload spreadsheet throughout the SE. Projects have been fairly spread out through the SE, with Wabasha and Houston Counties gathering the most TA provided in 2021. It was noted that additional TA will be needed in Dodge County over the next year as well as most 1W1P areas with the influx of dedicated conservation funding. Further discussion on workload management will follow at the next SE Managers meeting in Feb.

- b. Dues Notice

Dues notices were sent out in Jan 2022 for \$3,000ea. (Amount approved in July 2021)

- c. Others

- i. Technical Training Teams – Chris Nelson

TSA7 Technician provided updates on 2021 training provided. Also mentioned the idea of providing OJT in the SE by rotating offices on a regular basis. This idea was well-received, and further efforts will be made with BWSR to try and fund this idea via existing NPEA/Enhanced TSA grants. Still sitting on a balance of \$4k in training. Please send training needs Chris's way in 2022.

- ii. BWSR Updates – Adam Beilke

Adam (BWSR) gave the TSA7 Board updates on recent BWSR programs. Water storage program \$1Million in 2022 and another in 2023 available for this area. General funds may start to be used for helping achieve climate mitigation goals for MN. Starting small in 2022, but could have the potential for much more funding in the future. These funds would largely focus on implementing soil health practices.

-TSA7 Board would like to review a list of accounts payable at their bi-annual meetings

9. Adjournment

Motioned by Theismann, seconded by McNamara to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Uecker, Scherger, Tesmer, Heers, McNamara, Moe, Welke, Ihlenfeld, Theismann. Opposed: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



7-20-22

Beau Kennedy, Secretary