

District Regular Board Meeting

Monday, Sept 23, 2019

7:30 PM

Jeff Beckman Farm

35028 30th Ave Dennison, MN 55018

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order by Chair Jeff Beckman at 7:50 p.m. Supervisor Present: Chair: Jeff Beckman, Treasurer: Ed McNamara, Secretary: Don Schliep, Reporter: John Jaeger
Staff Present: Delane Krier, Beau Kennedy, Glen Roberson
Others: Tom Stegar
All in attendance rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. AGENDA

Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Don Schliep to approve the agenda as printed. Voting affirmative Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT Agenda

1. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-04; John Dose, Cover Crops \$2100. (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson and placed on next Board Agenda).
2. Designate Bank of Zumbrota as Official Financial Institution for the Goodhue SWCD in 2019.
3. Approve Percent Based Contract #LCF2017-11 Brenda Reese, Payment of \$3836.25 Based on 75% of \$5115.00 for Grassed Waterway.
4. Approve Percent Based Contract #2016CWF-04 for Gerard Marking, Payment of \$9022.50 to Wabasha SWCD

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Don Schliep to approve the consent agenda. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Approve August 26 2019 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Don Schliep to approve the August 26, 2019 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep.
Opposed: None. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minute limit)

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. Action on FY2020 State of MN BWSR CWF SWCD Local Capacity Services (\$136,478) & Buffer Law Implementation (\$25,000) Grant Agreement: Approve & Authorize Chair to Sign.

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Don Schliep to approve the FY2020 State of MN BWSR CWF SWCD Local Capacity Services (\$136,478) & Buffer Law Implementation (\$25,000.00) Grant Agreement and Authorize Chair to Sign. Glen Roberson will present a work plan at next meeting on how funds will be allocated. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Approve 2nd Partial Payment to Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2018-03, Mike Chamberlain; \$700 For 20 Acres Multiple Species Planting @ \$35 per acre, Seeded 7/25/2019; Contingent on Staff Verification of Seeding.

Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Ed McNamara to approve the 2nd Partial Payment to Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2018-03, Mike Chamberlain; \$700 For 20 Acres Multiple Species Planting @ \$35 per acre, Seeded 7/25/2019; Contingent on Staff Verification of Seeding. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep.
Opposed: None. Motion carried.

VII. REPORTS

1. NRCS Report

The NRCS report was distributed by Tom Steger and reviewed. (See attached for details)

2. District Manager's Report

The District Manger's Reports were presented by Glen Roberson. Topics covered included:

BWSR Elink Individual Development Plans Program reviewed in regards to training needs for Staff.

One Watershed One Plan updates – Cannon 1 W1P, anticipated approval Dec 2019

Zumbro 1 W1P, funding projections for BWSR reviewed.

JPB Executive Committee Conference Meeting will be held on September 26, 2019.

Goodhue County Health Insurance rates for 2020 were reviewed and also their Budget for outside Agencies including our SWCD.

MASWCD 2019 Resolution Ballot was distributed to all board members with a due date by October 28th 2019 meeting.

Rim Easement Issue – Owners of a residence are not following the guidelines of the plan.

Information was distributed and reviewed. Action needs to be taken, with a Corrective Actions

Transmittal form sent to the owner stating the rules of the plan and what action will be taken against the owner if rules are not followed. Also notify the County Attorney of the issue.

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve action being taken against owner with a certified letter sent and County Attorney notified. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

3. Supervisor Activity Report:

John Jaeger - Area 7 Meeting 09/17/2019

Denis Schliep - Area 7 Meeting 09/17/2019

John Beckman - 1 W1P Meeting 09/04/2019. Cover crop planted on 09/23/2019 on harvested corn silage ground.

4. Staff Report:

Beau Kennedy - Greater Zumbro River Watershed (information presented and reviewed)

Goodhue County Land Management (information presented and reviewed)

Cooperative Weed Management Area Program (information presented and reviewed).

Board gave approval for staff to move ahead with the plan.

Cost Share Program (information was presented and reviewed)

Delane Krier – Reported on the attendance to the Conference 101 Training on September 12th and 13th, 2019.

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT / PAYABLES

1. Approve August 2019 Financial Report

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the August 2019 Financial Report. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Approve September 2019 Accounts Payable

Motioned by Don Schliep seconded by Ed McNamara to approve the September 2019 Accounts Payable. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to adjourn the meeting. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 09:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Don Schliep

Donald Schliep

Oct. 28, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Columbus Day Holiday

October Goodhue Co. SWCD Regular Meeting, 7:30 PM

Oct. 14, 2019

Oct. 28, 2019

**USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Goodhue Field Office**

**Accomplishments Report
August 27 thru September 23, 2019**

PREPARED BY: Thomas J. Steger, NRCS District Conservationist

I. Field Office Management and Program Summaries:

Coming up on the end of the Federal Fiscal Year we are closing out various annual programs. This may mean delays in reimbursements for cost share payments but we have tried to get all of the current ones in already to minimize delays.

We continue working with the Nat'l Ag Statistics Service, supplying them weekly with local crop information.

Contract management continues to require more and more staff time. This includes taking and managing applications for the various programs, screening and ranking the applications, developing contacts when accepted and handling modifications to the contracts, making payments when work is complete and tracing contracts to make sure they stay on schedule. Additionally, there is review and oversight for each step as well as audits of the programs.

FY 2019 Program summary

CSP: - 3 new contracts from 17 applications
- 11 of 14 modification requests processed and approved
- Waiting on instructions for 36 contracts expiring in 2019; extension?
- Working to complete status reviews on all active contracts
- Working to complete QAR audit on 4 selected contracts
- Waiting on permission to begin payment process for 76 active contracts

EQIP: - 13 new contracts from 31 applications prepared and submitted
- 1 new RCPP contract from 4 applications
- 3 of new contracts have work installed and certified.

New EQIP & CSP contracts total over \$475K in financial assistance.

Easements were reviewed by state office team – no violations noted.

Conservation compliance checks completed (21) no actionable issues found

Staffing summary, current:

SCT position for Goodhue filled

SC position in Goodhue – still vacant, will likely re-advertise.

Area office is nearly fully staffed at location in Faribault; some staff remains at Rochester site due to space limitations.

II. Client Assistance (incl. HEL, wetland items and general conservation assistance)

There have also been a few requests for conservation plan assistance or to look at resource problems which are being tended to as time allows. This includes 2 for grazing work. With harvest coming up field contacts will be less until the crop is off and more needs assessments on site specific problems as well as layouts of fall practices can be done.

Interest in cover crops continues. A few folks are trying different options and we are working to monitor these to see what might be successful and practical.

Requests for land alterations (AD-1026 forms) continue to come in.

Prairie Island Indian Community is looking to expand their grazing lands due to the success with the current pastures where we have assisted.

III. Programs, tours, training & meetings attended by NRCS FO staff:

Tribal Liaisons meeting - teleconference: Tom

Working Effectively with American Indians, training: Jim