

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday, April 22, 2019

7:30 P.M.

Goodhue County SWCD Office

MINUTES

ATTENDED BY: Jeff Beckman, Mark Comstock, John Jaeger, Ed McNamara, Don Schliep, Beau Kennedy, Glen Roberson, Thomas Steger

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Beckman at 7:30 p.m. A quorum is present. Those present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. AGENDA

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

III. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no consent agenda items at this time.

IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Don Schliep to approve the March 25th 2019 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed
2. Motioned by Mark Comstock seconded by Don Schliep to approve the April 2nd 2019 District and County Board Joint Meeting Minutes as printed. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no Public Comments at this time.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. Action on Joint Powers Agreement for Cannon River Watershed (tabled from January 28 2019 meeting).

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Mark Comstock to remove the action item from the Table. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed
Discussion about the JPA ensued. Chair Beckman called for a vote on the original motion made by Ed McNamara and seconded by John Jaeger on January 29th 2019. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

2. Action to Cancellation of State Cost Share Contract #2015CWF-15, Richard Lutjen, Water and Sediment Control Basin, \$8,226.90 at owner's request.

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the cancellation of State Cost-Share Contract #2015CWF-15, Richard Lutjen for \$8,226.90. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

3. Action on Goodhue Co. Fair Booth Rental: \$160 for 10' Space.

Motioned by Mark Comstock seconded by John Jaeger to approve the County Fair booth rental request. Ed McNamara provided an amendment to the original motion to include an extra booth and at a expense not to exceed \$320.00. Seconded by John Jaeger. Voting affirmative on the Amendment: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Amendment passed. Voting affirmative on the Motion as Amended: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

4. Action to Authorize Chair to sign Clean Water Fund SE MN Well Sealing Program Sub-Agreement with Wabasha Co. SWCD. (50% Cost Share targeted to specific priority wells in Wellhead Protection Plans or in Drinking Water Supply Management Areas with very high and high vulnerability.)

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Mark Comstock to authorize the Chair to sign CWF Sub-Agreement with Wabasha SWCD for SEMN Well Sealing Program. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

VII. REPORTS

1. NRCS Report

The NRCS Report was presented by Thomas Steger. Tom also went over the civil rights and equal opportunity employer topics as they pertain to the USDA programs. (See attached for details)

2. District Manager's Report

The District Manager's Report was presented by Glen Roberson. (See attached for details).

Motioned by Ed McNamara and seconded by Mark Comstock to allow the Personnel Committee to hire or contract for the Wabasha SWCD bookkeeper to assist Chris Wagner with accounting and administrative assistant duties until the end of July. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed

3. Supervisor Activity Report

Ed McNamara reported that he attended the Joint Meeting with the County on April 2nd and the CWRP Cover Crop meeting at the Goodhue SWCD office.

John Jaeger reported that he attended the CWRP Cover Crop meeting at the Goodhue SWCD office.

Jeff Beckman reported that he attended the Joint Meeting with the County on April 2nd

Don Schliep reported that he attended the Joint Meeting with the County on April 2nd

Mark Comstock reported that he attended the Joint Meeting with the County on April 2nd and the CWRP Cover Crop meeting at the Goodhue SWCD office and the Zumbro 1W1P Policy Meeting on April 4th.

4. Other

Mark Comstock to host May SWCD Board meeting. Future SWCD Board meeting locations will be held at the following Supervisor's homes: John Jaeger in June, Ed McNamara in July, Don Schliep in August and Jeff Beckman in September.

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT/PAYABLES

1. Approve March 2019 Financial Reports

Motioned by Mark Comstock seconded by Ed McNamara to approve the March 2019 Financial Reports as printed. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

2. Approve April 2019 Accounts Payable

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the April 2019 Accounts Payable to include Supervisor compensation payment. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to adjourn the meeting. Voting affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Schliep
Secretary



ATTACH: NRCS Report
District Manager's Report

USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Goodhue Field Office
Accomplishments Report
March 26 thru April 22, 2019

PREPARED BY: Thomas J. Steger, NRCS District Conservationist

I. Field Office Management and Program Summaries:

EQIP – We had 13 applications Pre-approved in the first ranking period; 4 of these have been signed and funds obligated. A review of sites for Karst features, especially sinkholes is a new requirement and we are working with Area staff to complete these reviews as required prior to obligating the last of the tentatively approved contract applications.

For the second round of funding, there are 31 applications pending. We will continue to prioritize by the date they applied acknowledging that the last ones in may not get serviced in time for this funding cycle. May 17th is the deadline for applications to be prepared this time. Not sure of funds availability as MN requested additional funds from national and we have not heard back yet.

Local Work Group meetings to review local resource concerns for EQIP and all of our activities have been held now (Prairie Island Indian Community last week and County/SWCD this evening).

CSP - Conservation Stewardship Program; as of today we have 8 applications for the 2019 program. These will be handled much as they have in the past with. Not sure yet of deadline for completion of eligibility reviews, planning and ranking of applications.

May 10th is the deadline for applications.

Personal – NRCS Soil Conservation Technician James Straskowski, reported for duty here on April 15th. He comes to us from NRCS in north central Iowa.

Reports – Various, short turnaround misc. reports were requested and submitted by deadlines. The weekly crop/weather report for National Ag Statistics is being handled by our office again this year. My thanks to the SWCD staff who offer their input to me in completing this report each Monday.

Contract Management – There are 3 EQIP contracts and 5 CSP that require follow-up and modification to maintain compliance.

CRP – Getting lots of questions, but until the rules are written for implementation of the new Farm Bill nothing will happen. Are told to anticipate a late summer sign-up.

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

Along with State Conservationist, Troy Daniell, attended the PIIC local work group meeting last Monday. Troy outline efforts to be more flexible in extending financial and technical help to underserved clientele.

Construction is still pending due to the wet soils. Have staked a few for contractors so they can go when its fit.

Requests for sodbuster reviews and wetland delineations are being addressed as possible. Same goes for updates of "HEL" compliance plans. There has been some frustration with folks coming in about tiling work and expecting an answer the same day.

Have received good response from newspaper article on establishing cover for butterflies and pollinator species. So far two EQIP sign-ups, and 4 where simply technical advice was greatly appreciated.

Assistance to internal customers (in our NRCS SE Area continues with queries and fixes to Sharepoint.

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

Quarterly Performance review: Tom

Required "AgLearn" courses: Tom

April 2019 Monthly Summary: Glen Roberson

SWCD:

- Tree sales & lining up delivery day for April 26th. Clean up sales records, order additional trees, tree tubes moved to Steele & Wabasha in coordinated order.
- Renewed SAMS number for SWCD on 3/29/2019 (annually).
- Met with Cannon River Watershed partnership on 3/26/2019 on Cover Crop grant. Attendees included: Ed McNamara, John Jaeger, Mark Comstock, Alan Krause, Jim Purfeerst, Steve Pahs.
- Held Joint County / SWCD Board meeting on April 2nd in Red Wing.
- Review Buffer status with staff.

Cannon 1W1P:

- Attended April 3 2019 Technical Advisory Meeting with Beau. Review plan comments & recommend changes (all day meeting).
- Policy Committee met March 13th in Faribault. Preparing for 'Implementation' phase and formation of a JPB.
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Zumbro 1W1P:

- Meeting on 3/28/2019 to Interview Consultants to write the 1w1p. 3 firms interviewed, reviewed and scored.
- Policy Committee met April 4 2019 to select Consultant & recommend Goodhue SWCD enter into a contract with BARR Engineering to write the 1W1P. Technical Committee met afterwards to start planning process.

SE SWCD Tech Support JPB:

- Received RCPP feedlot invoice from Root River & SE WRB for Admin & Project Development work.
- Revise RCPP elink report for BWSR: summarize accomplishments.
- Work on LCCMR Soil Health / Cover Crop grant application with Bill Thompson & area partners. Decided ultimately not to apply as details are not worked out yet.
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SE Water Resources Board:

Attended April 1 2019 Board meeting: programs allocated to local entities & plan to terminate JPB by year end. Goodhue SWCD will take on EPA 319 Small Feedlot Fix grant later this year.

Upcoming Events:

Goodhue SWCD Board meeting:

May 28, 2019 @ 7:30 PM