

District Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 28, 2019

7:30 PM

Goodhue SWCD Conference Room
104 East 3rd Ave, Goodhue MN 55027

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Mark Comstock at 7:30am. A quorum is present. In attendance: Mark Comstock, John Jaeger, Ed McNamara, Don Schliep, Glen Roberson, Beau Kennedy, Delane Krier.

Other: Thomas Steger

All 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: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

II. CONSENT Agenda

1. Approve Payment on invoices to Barr Engineering Co #23551058.00-3. for \$9,167.50, #23551058.00-4 for \$2,753.50 and #23551058.00-5 or \$8,230.64 as approved by the Zumbro Watershed 1W1P Policy Committee on October 10th 2019.
2. Approve Payment on Percent Based Contract #2018-04 for Robert Hinsch, for \$1556.25 Based on 75% of the of the Total Project Cost Estimate of \$2075.00 for Waterway Seeding Mulch.
3. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-05; Dustin Lindahl, Cover Crops \$1500. (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)
4. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-06; Grace Poncelet, Cover Crops \$1350 (18 Acres, single species @ \$25/Ac). (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)
5. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-07; Randall Veith, Cover Crops \$1500 (20 Acres, single species @ \$25/Ac). (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)
6. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-08; Chris Hokanson, Cover Crops \$1500 (20 Acres, single species @ \$25/Ac). (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)
7. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-09; Jared Brinkman, Cover Crops \$1500 (20 Acres, single species @ \$25/Ac). (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)
8. Approve Cover Crop Flat Rate Conservation Practice Assistance Contract LCF2019-10; Dennis Remme, Cover Crops \$1500 (20 Acres, single species @ \$25/Ac). (Plans to start as soon as possible: Signed as previously authorized by Policy, Manager Glen Roberson)

Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Ed McNamara to approve the consent agenda. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Approve September 23rd 2019 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Don Schliep to approve the September 23, 2019 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep.
Opposed: None. Motion passed
2. Approve October 10th 2019 Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes
Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Ed McNamara to approve the October 10th 2019 Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes as printed. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep.
Opposed: None. Motion passed

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minute limit)

No public comments were presented.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. *Action on FY2020 State of MN BWSR CWF SWCD Local Capacity Services (\$136,478) & Buffer Law Implementation (\$25,000) Work Plan.*

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) Work Plan. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

2. *Action on accepting Nick Lorentz Cost-Share Contract LCF2019-10 Critical Area Planting contract cancellation.*

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the Nick Lorentz Cost-Share Contract LCF2019-10 Critical Area Planting contract cancellation. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

3. *Action on Health Insurance Renewal*

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by Don Schliep to approve the Health Insurance Renewal as:
HSA Plan: Single Premium Rate – 100% of Premium paid by Employer with \$1000.00 contributed per year by Employer to Employee HSA account.
Family Premium - 83% of Premium paid by Employer with \$1000.00 contributed per year by Employer to Employee HSA account.

Advantage Plan: Single Premium Rate – 87% of Premium paid by Employer;
Family Premium Rate – 70% of Premium paid by Employer

Value Plan: Single Premium Rate – 92% of Premium paid by Employer;
Family Premium Rate – 77% of Premium paid by Employer

No Plan: Employee receives \$500.00 per month on their 2nd payroll period.

Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

4. *Action on Attendance at MASWCD Convention: December 8-10 2019.*

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the Attendance of Staff, Supervisor at MASWCD Convention to be held on December 8-10, 2019. Also, that the 2019 Conservation Farmer be invited with Registration and one night's stay be covered by the SWCD. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

5. *Action on Equipment Committee Recommendations*

Motioned by John Jaeger seconded by Don Schliep to approve the Equipment Committee Recommendations. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

6. *Action on Peterson Company 2018 Audit*

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the additional time and expense required for Peterson Company to complete the 2018 Audit. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

VII. REPORTS

1. NRCS Report

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

2. District Manger's Report

The District Mangers Report was presented by Glen Roberson. Topics covered included.

One Watershed One Plan updates

Budget Update

Email issues

Conservation Tillage Conference, Dec 18-19 2019 St. Cloud \$140 Registration.

3. Supervisors Activity Report

Comstock: Equipment Meeting October 10, 2019 / Zumbro 1W1P Meeting October 10, 2019

Jaeger: Harvest Lunch October 18, 2019 / Ag Viability Conference Bus Tour stop on Jaeger's Farm October 24, 2019

McNamara: Equipment Meeting October 10, 2019 / Minnesota Ag Water Quality Meeting October 22, 2019

4. Other - None

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT / PAYABLES

1. Approve September 2019 Financial Report

Motioned Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to approve the September 2019 Financial Report. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed.

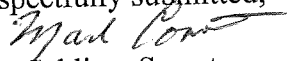
2. Approve October 2019 Accounts Payable

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

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Ed McNamara seconded by John Jaeger to adjourn the meeting. Voting affirmative: Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara, Schliep. Opposed: None. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Don Schliep, Secretary

Mark Comstock, Acting Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Zumbro 1W1P 'Waterside Chats

6-8 PM: Mantorville: Oct 25, 2019; Mazeppa: Nov 7, 2019; Lake City: Nov 14, 2019

Veterans Day Holiday:

Nov 11, 2019

Cannon 1W1P BWSR Southern Region Review: Nov. 13 Mankato 10 AM.

November Goodhue Co. SWCD Regular Meeting,

7:30 PM: Nov 25, 2019

Thanksgiving Day Holiday: Nov 28, 2019

Goodhue SWCD

October 10th 2019 4:00pm

Goodhue SWCD, 104 E 3rd Ave, Goodhue, MN

Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Meeting called to order at 4:00pm. Members present include Mark Comstock, Ed McNamara, Chris Fritz, Coty Hyllengren and Beau Kennedy.

1. Local Capacity Fund - Beau reviewed past and current capacity fund balances. Made note of existing 2019 local capacity funds the SWCD Board set aside for a tillage/crimper purchase, technology updates that have improved district efficiency and possible gaps that may exist in 2020. Most of the discussion relates back to the Local Capacity Budget Spreadsheet located on the W:drive.
2. Vehicle Update – Consensus of the equipment committee to move forward with gathering information on purchasing a new small SUV with more discussion requested with the full board. Intent of purchase is to sell Colorado and the Ford F250 and replace with small SUV. Primary vehicle of County Feedlot Officer as well as for staff/board to attend meetings.
3. Office Supplies – Committee recommended adding a PA or a microphone system to our 2020 Local Capacity Budget
4. Survey GPS – Committee recommended staff to investigate R2 purchase and monitor NRCS equipment status in our office,
5. Strip Till Machine – Committee reviewed multiple quotes on different sizes, makes and models of strip till machines. Committee recommends tabling the purchase of a strip till machine at this time and revisit the topic at a later date when more information is provided on the possible usage in Goodhue County.
6. Roller Crimper – Committee reviewed Mandako model cover crop crimper and prices. Committee recommends the purchase of a 15' inline Mandako crimper roller unit. Storage and rental rates to be discussed at a later date.

Committee adjourned @ 5:15pm

bk

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

**Accomplishments Report
September 23 thru October 28, 2019**

PREPARED BY: Thomas J. Steger, NRCS District Conservationist

I. Field Office Management and Program Summaries:

End of the (fiscal) year performance reviews completed for NRCS staff.

Reviews of contracts still being done. We have 10 EQIP contracts that are behind schedule including 4 with basins, 4 with cover crops to be planted this year.

CSP 4 contracts with problems that we are working to address; most are fine and we started to process payments - 76 of these to do. As of COB Friday we were at:

Total to be processed	Field check completed	Status Review in PT	1245 prepared	2019	2020	Appt made	Producer meeting	Documents uploaded	payment finalized
76	60	31	24	15	9	9	6	4	0

CSP contracts – renewals for those expiring 12/31/2019 – still waiting on direction. Deferral letters went out last week to those who had applied in 2019 but were not selected for funding.

New CSP contract applications can be accepted at anytime

CSP – Quality Assurance Review We had 4 selected for the in-depth review, all have been field checked and look good, 3 have submitted documentation so far, and these were good. Reminder letter sent to the remaining one.

New EQIP applications – a news release went out to local media 2 weeks ago. We have about 2 new applications in so far.

Deferral letters will be going out this week to those who were not selected for funding in 2019, they may opt for 2020 consideration. – no program information available yet, just looking at doing good planning for now.

SC position here is still vacant. John Benjamin SC in Olmsted is here a day or two a week to help.

Reorganization of agency continues; we have operating on the 4 area plan as of October 1. Still waiting on word from DC to finalize the arrangement.

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

With the crops coming off, construction on terraces and basins is getting going where site conditions allow.

Have been checking on cover crops, and processing paperwork for payment where applicable.

We need to show that adequate Pure Live Seed (PLS) is applied for these and all seeding practices. Producers need to submit seed tags and invoices to show quantities. Without this we cannot certify the work is done.

With assistance from Dean Thomas, have been completing planning on pastureland for CSP and EQIP. This includes new land for the Prairie Island Indian Community near Oronoco.

AD-1026s have been coming in increasing numbers of late. Our process still calls for submitting them to Team in Waseca for completion. Due to increasing numbers of requests and loss of a staff person they are running about 100 days out on responses.

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

Team 20 meeting: Tom

SE area All Employees meeting: Tom, Jim

Webinars: Tom

Benefits of Using Satellite Imagery for Making Better Crop Management Decisions

Jewels of the Night: Conservation of Fireflies