

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on June 12, 2019.

Meeting was called to order by Randy Smith, Board Chairman.

Supervisors Present: Jim Gebhardt  
Jon Erichson  
Randy Smith  
Jim Kellogg  
Micah Peterson

Staff Present: Justin Hanson, District Manager  
Jeanne Crump, Administrative Assistant  
Steve Lawler, Resource Specialist  
Cody Fox, Project Manager

Others Present: Brian DeVetter, NRCS District Conservationist  
Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner

Agenda:

Peterson made a motion to approve the June agenda. Gebhardt seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2019 board meeting.  
Erichson seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:  
The payables report and the treasurer reports were reviewed with the board.  
Kellogg made a motion to approve the payables report, June payroll, the treasurer reports and to transfer money as needed. Erichson second the motion.  
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

NRCS Staff Report:

DeVetter gave an update on NRCS programs to include: cover crops, prevent plant fields, area meeting with state conservationist, EQIP, RCPP, staffing, 1026 wetland compliance, CRP, seeding deadline, permanent easements and bioreactor field day.

Action Items:

U of M Agreement:  
Lawler talked about sustainable answer acre and explained the letter of understanding between the U of M and the SWCD. Kellogg made a motion to approve the contract with the U of M. Erichson seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

**SE Drinking Water Grant:**

Hanson explained the sub-agreement between Fillmore SWCD and Mower SWCD regarding the technical assistance and incentive payments for implementing cover crops as part of the Drinking Water Protection in SE MN grant. Kellogg made a motion to approve the sub-agreement between Fillmore SWCD and Mower SWCD regarding the implementation of the Drinking Water Protection in SE MN grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

**Non-Structural Practice Policy:**

Hanson explained the Non-Structural Implementation Plan policy for FY19 State Cost Share. Hanson suggested adding language that would allow for different rates, if the funding source program established something specific. Peterson made a motion to approve the plan request to BWSR for FY19 State Cost Share. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

**Outstanding Conservationist:**

The board discussed the staff's nominations for Outstanding Conservationist for 2019. Kellogg made a motion to nominate G & B Farms, Gene and Brandon Tapp for Mower County's 2019 Outstanding Conservationist. Smith seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

**Wildlife Habitat Cooperator:**

The board discussed the staff's nominations for Wildlife Habitat Cooperator for 2019. Erichson made a motion to nominate both Marvin Smith and Steve Garbisch for Mower County's 2019 Wildlife Habitat Cooperators. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

**State Cost Share Contract Approval:**

Steve Ingvalson is requesting state cost share funds for his waterway project. The total estimated cost of the project is \$9,000, with a cost share amount of 50% not to exceed \$4,500.00. Erichson made a motion to approve the State Cost Shared waterway project for Steve Ingvalson at 50%, not to exceed \$4,500.00. Funding for this project will come from FY18 and FY19 State Cost Share funds. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Tim Freerkson is requesting state cost share funds for his waterway project. The total estimated cost of the project is \$10,400.00, with a cost share amount of 50% not to exceed \$5,200.00. Erichson made a motion to approve the State Cost

Shared waterway project for Tim Freerkson at 50%, not to exceed \$5,200.00. Funding for this project will come from FY19 State Cost Share funds. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

State Cost Share Payment:

Gebhardt made a motion to approve the state cost share payment for Dave Doyle’s waterway project. The total cost of the project was \$6,090.50 and the cost share payment at 50% is \$3,045.25. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Polly Glynn gave a report on County programs to include: the county administrator, 2020 Budget, county roads and septic systems. Discussion was held.

Discussion Items:

Supervisors Meeting June 28th:

The board talked about the Area 7 MASWCD supervisor resolutions meeting scheduled for June 28. Smith and Gebhardt are planning on attending.

2018 Tree Report:

The board discussed the 2018 Tree Report.

Supervisor Reports:

Nothing new to report.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Outreach:

Ruzek talked with the board on the We Are Water exhibit at the Nature Center.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be July 10, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_