

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on August 10, 2022. Held at the Mower SWCD office and remotely via Zoom video.

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

Supervisors Present: Randy Smith Micah Peterson
 Jim Kellogg Rod Moe

Staff Present: Cody Fox, District Manager
 Jeanne Crump, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: Jessica Beske, NRCS
 Dave Copeland, BWSR
 Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner-Zoom

Agenda:

Peterson made a motion to approve the August agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe
Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Kellogg made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2022, board meeting.
Peterson seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe
Opposed: None

Moe made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2022, special board meeting.
Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Report & Checks Payable:

The budget report, program summary and the August payables report were reviewed with the board. Kellogg made a motion to approve budget and payables reports, August payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Peterson second the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe
Opposed: None

NRCS Report, Jessica Beske:

Beske updated the board on NRCS, to include: forester starting in Austin office on 8/29, CSP, CRP and getting a computer for Jessica Geissbuhler.

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn updated the board on the county, to include: the budget process, fees and zoning permits.

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Copeland updated the board on BWSR, to include: CWF applications, SWCD manager meeting, RCPP-Regional Conservation Partnership Program, BWSR academy, E-link, TSA feedlot grant, and 2023 local capacity grant.

Action Items:

Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network Agreement:

Kellogg made a motion to approve the agreement for the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Amend & Restated Joint Powers Agreement between TSA and SWCD:

The board held discussion on the amended/updated area 7 TSA agreement.

Peterson made a motion to approve the Amend & Restated Joint Powers Agreement between TSA and SWCD. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

SE TSA Joint Powers Agreement:

The board discussed the Grant Funding Disbursal Agreement between SE TSA JPA and Mower SWCD. Peterson made a motion to approve the SE TSA Joint Powers Agreement. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Sub Agreements between Mower SWCD and Cedar Wapsi Partners:

Peterson made a motion to approve the Sub Agreements between Mower SWCD and Cedar Wapsi Partners. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cost Share:

Nutrient Management Initiative-NMI:

The following are requesting incentives for their cover crop fields.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	1st Year Implementation Pmt.	Years	Total L/O incentive per year	Total L/O Incentive Payment	Date	Additional Agronomist Pmt./3 yrs.	Total Grant Cost
Nutrient Mgmt. Init.- NMI	CONTRACT	Blue Edge Dairy-f	Adams 30	Cover Crop	\$500.00	3	\$1,000.00	\$3,500.00	8/10/2022	\$1,500.00	\$5,000.00
Nutrient Mgmt. Init.- NMI	CONTRACT	Aaron Wagner	Windom 34	Cover Crop	\$500.00	3	\$1,000.00	\$3,500.00	8/10/2022	\$1,500.00	\$5,000.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the above the cover crop contract for Blue Edge Dairy. This contract includes, for the landowner, a 3-year incentive of \$1000/year and a \$500 incentive for the first year for cover crop implementation, a total of \$3500. Along with an agronomist payment (if needed) of \$500/year. Funding will come from the NMI grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Abstained: Smith

Peterson made a motion to approve the above the cover crop contract for Aaron Wagner. This contract includes, for the landowner, a 3-year incentive of \$1000/year and a \$500 incentive for the first year for cover crop implementation, a total of \$3500. Along with an agronomist payment (if needed) of \$500/year. Funding will come from the NMI grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P cost share:

The following is requesting payment approval for his well sealing project.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share Payment	Date	Other Funding	L/O Cost
Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	PAYMENT	Clarice Seavey	Lansing 26	Well Sealing	50%	\$1,680.00	\$840.00	8/10/2022		\$840.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing payment of \$840.00 for Clarice Seavey, 50% of the total cost of \$1,680.00. Funding for this project will come from the Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

NRBG Well Sealing:

The following is requesting payment for his well sealing project.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share Payment	Date	Other Funding	L/O Cost
NRBG	CONTRACT	Rick Overocker	Udolpho 20	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$1,700.00	\$850.00	8/10/2022		\$850.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the NRBG well sealing cost share contract for Rick Overocker at 50%, not to exceed \$1000. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

State Cost Share:

The following is requesting state cost share assistance for her waterway project.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share Payment	Date	Other Funding	L/O Cost
State Cost Share	CONTRACT	Larry Larson	Sargeant 9	Waterway	75%	\$5,368.00	\$4,026.00	8/10/2022		\$1,342.00
State Cost Share	CONTRACT	Esther Sparks	Sargeant 9	Waterway		\$20,540.00	\$6,290.00	8/10/2022	\$9,115.00	\$5,135.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the waterway contract for Larry Larson at \$4,026.00, 75% of the total cost estimate of \$5,368.00. Funding for the \$4,026.00 will come from the FY22 state cost share grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Kellogg made a motion to approve the waterway contract for Esther Sparks at \$6,290.00. The total cost share, including other funding, is 75% of the total cost estimate of \$20,540.00. Funding for the \$6,290.00 of this project will come from the FY22 & FY23 state cost share grants. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P cost share:

The following is requesting approval for an amendment on the cost of his grade stabilization project.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share Payment	Date	Other Funding
Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CON. AMEND	Pat Donovan	Windom	Grade Stabilization		\$82,459.27	\$61,844.45	8/10/2022	\$20,614.82

Kellogg made a motion to approve the amended grade stabilization contract for Pat Donovan at \$61,844.45. The total cost share, including other funding, is 100% of the total cost estimate of \$82,459.27. Funding for the \$61,844.45 of this project will come from the Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Conservation Agronomist Update:

Fox informed the board that the funding for the conservation agronomist position fell through.

Cover Crops:

The board held discussion on cover crops in the county.

Fairbooth Update:

Fox and Crump talked about the booth at the Mower county fair.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

No additional.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____