

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on February 9, 2022. Held at the Mower County Government Center and remotely via Zoom video.

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

Supervisors Present: Randy Smith Jon Erichson
 Jim Kellogg Micah Peterson
 Rod Moe (Zoom)

Staff Present: Justin Hanson, District Manager
 Jeanne Crump, Administrative Assistant
 Tim Ruzek, Outreach

Others Present: Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner
 Gary Kurer, NRCS
 Ed Lenz, BWSR

Agenda:

Action and discussion items were added to the agenda. Peterson made a motion to approve the February agenda with additions. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022, board meeting. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Report & Checks Payable:

The December budget report and the payables report were reviewed with the board. Discussion was held. Peterson made a motion to approve budget and payables reports, February payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Kellogg second the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

BWSR Report, Ed Lenz:

Lenz introduced himself to the board as the southern regional manager for BWSR. Lenz talked about yearend e-Link reporting, BWSR staffing, and new grants. Discussion was held.

NRCS Report, Gary Kurer:

Kurer updated the board on NRCS Programs, to include: staffing in the area, EQIP, cultural resources, and CSP. Hanson and Kurer talked about a having a team 2022 local workgroup meeting.

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn gave an update on county programs to include: septic flow chart, redistricting, and zoning revisions.

Action Items:

Cedar Wapsi 1W1P Well Sealing Cost Share:

Roger Jax is requesting cost share for his well sealing project. Kellogg made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for Roger Jax at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2,000.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

2021 Financial Audit Proposal:

Peterson Company, LTD, has submitted a bid of \$3450.00 for the SWCD 2021 Financial Audit. Erichson made a motion to approve the bid for \$3,450.00 from Peterson Company to complete the 2021 Financial Audit. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Outreach Metrics:

Hanson and Ruzek talked with the board about different platforms that are being used for outreach for the District and how many people are being reached. Ruzek showed the outreach items that were submitted in 2021 and the items that are planned for 2022. Discussion was held.

Chert Mine Easement:

Hanson updated the board on the signed conservation easement for the Grand Meadow Chert Quarry Archeological Preserve. The property is owned by the Archeological Society. A grant was applied for to assist with restoration of the property for educational purposes.

Cover Crop Events:

Discussion was held on the upcoming cover crop events in the area.

Summer Intern Position:

Hanson talked about hiring a summer intern. The notice will be posted today.

SWCD Redistricting:

Hanson talked with the board about the redistricting for commissioner areas in Mower County and the option for the SWCD to redistrict. The board held discussion.

Chair Committee Appointments:

The board discussed the SWCD committees.

The 2022 Committee Appointments are:

Personnel:	Randy Smith & Micah Peterson
Finance:	Jon Erichson & Randy Smith
Water Planning:	Jon Erichson
Joint Powers:	Rod Moe, Randy Smith alternate
Legislative Committee:	Jon Erichson, Rod Moe alternate
Feedlot Committee:	Randy Smith, Jim Kellogg alternate
Watershed District Liaison:	Jon Erichson
Root River Policy Committee:	Jim Kellogg, Micah Peterson alt.
Cedar River Wtrshd. Policy Com:	Randy Smith, Rod Moe alternate

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Moe informed the board of the recent conference that he attended. Hanson explained.

Upcoming Legislative Meetings:

The board discussed the upcoming legislative meetings.

- February 10th-MASWCD legislative webinar
- March 1st-Area 7 supervisor legislative
- March 9th- Day at the Capitol
- March 10th- BWSR webinar

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____