

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on August 14, 2023. 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 Jon Erichson
 Jim Kellogg Rod Moe

Staff Present: Cody Fox, District Manager
 Jeanne Crump, Office Manager

Others Present: Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner (Zoom)

Agenda:

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

Secretary Report:

Moe made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2023, board meeting.
Erichson seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
Opposed: None

Kellogg made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2023, special board meeting. Moe seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Reports/Checks Payable:

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

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Not in attendance.

NRCS Report, Leanna Smeby:

Not in attendance.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

State Cost Share:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sec	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Seeding	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per year	Total Cost Share/ Incentive Payment	Date	L/O Cost
SCS22-01	State Cost Share	PAYMENT	Glenn Hahn	Sargeant 4	Waterway	75%	\$1,739.00	\$1,304.25	8/14/2023	\$434.75

Glenn Hahn is requesting payment on his State Cost Shared waterway. Kellogg made a motion to approve the cost share payment for Glenn Hahn through state cost share for \$1,304.25. Funding will come from FY22. Moe seconded the motion.
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
 Opposed: None

Cedar Wapsi 1W1P:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Seeding	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per year	Total Cost Share/ Incentive Payment	Date	L/O Cost
CW20-23-12	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Kevin/Sharon Gunderson	Dexter 29	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$2,100.00	\$1,000.00	8/14/2023	\$1,100.00
CW20-23-13	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Leland Aanonson		Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$2,687.50	\$1,000.00	8/14/2023	\$1,687.50
CW20-23-14	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Jeff Saxon	Lansing 12	Waterway	75%	\$23,576.00	\$17,682.00	8/14/2023	\$5,894.00

Erichson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Kevin Gunderson at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2,100.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
 Opposed: None

Erichson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Leland Aanonson at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2,687.50 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
 Opposed: None

Erichson made a motion to approve the waterway cost share contract for Jeff Saxon at \$17,682.00. The total cost share is 75% of the total cost of \$23,576.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Moe seconded the motion.
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
 Opposed: None

Chevy Impala:

The board discussed how to sell the 2008 Chevy Impala. They talked about taking it to Medgaarden Sales for consignment or putting it on the Hamilton Auction. Fox has the authority to sell through the best option.

District Technician:

The board held discussion on the district technician position. Erichson made a motion to approve hiring Micah Peterson for the district technician position, part-time as a grade 5, step 5. Kellogg seconded the motion.
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe
 Opposed: None

Vice Chair Appointment:

Since Peterson is no longer on the board, a new vice chair needs to be appointed. Kellogg made a motion to approve appointing Moe as vice chair through the end of 2023. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Moe

Opposed: None

Open Committees:

Smith appointed the following to the open committees held by Peterson.

Personnel: Randy Smith & ~~Micah Peterson~~ Rod Moe

Root River Policy: Jim Kellogg, ~~Micah Peterson~~ Randy Smith alternate

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn updated the board on County items, to include; the rescinding of resignation by Trish Harren Mower County Administrator, the upcoming SWCD meeting with county finance committee on August 15, and broadband in the county.

Discussion Items:

Cedar Policy Tour:

Fox talked about the Cedar Wapsi project tour that was held on August 2, 2023. Erichson and Smith were in attendance.

Soil Health Specialist:

Fox explained this possible multicounty position. Discussion was held.

SWCD Board Appointment:

Due to the resignation of Micah Peterson from the board, a new board member for District 2 will need to be appointed. This appointment would go through the end of Peterson’s term, December 31, 2024. The board held discussion. Glynn made some suggestions. Fox will check into interest for the district 2 position.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

Smith talked about leadership program +and the end of his training.

Smith informed the board of the annual fall supervisors meeting on September 19, 2023.

Discussion was held on the fairbooth and the whitewater study. Staff will bring more info to the board on the whitewater study at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned. The next regular monthly board meeting will be held Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____