

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on July 12, 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 Micah Peterson
 Rod Moe

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

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

Agenda:

Moe made a motion to approve the July agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2023, board meeting.

Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Reports/Checks Payable:

The budget report, program summary and payables report were reviewed with the board. Kellogg made a motion to approve the financial reports, payables report, July payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Moe second the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Copeland talked about the many staff changes throughout BWSR.

NRCS Report, Leanna Smeby: Not in attendance.

Kellogg left the meeting.

Action Items:

2024 Proposed Budget:

The board discussed the 2024 Proposed Budget. The board suggested changes. Staff will get more information to balance out the budget and bring back to the board at an upcoming special meeting. Erichson made a motion to table until the next board meeting. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cost Share:

Root River 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	Other Funding	L/O Cost
RR20/21-23-05	Root River 1W1P	CONTRACT	KDJR Voorhees Family	Clayton 17	Waterway	75%	\$11,403.00	\$8,552.25	7/12/2023		\$4,192.50
RR20/21-23-06	Root River 1W1P	CONTRACT	Joseph Bunne	Clayton 17	Waterway	90%	\$10,932.00	\$4,964.80	7/12/2023	\$4,874.00	\$1,000.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the waterway contract for KDJR Voorhees Family at \$8,552.25. The total cost share is 75% of the total cost estimate of \$11,403.00. Funding for the project will come from the 20/21 Root River 1W1P grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the waterway contract for Joseph Bunne at \$4,964.80. The total cost share with other funding, is 90% of the total cost estimate of \$10,932.00. Funding for the project will come from the 20/21 Root River 1W1P grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, 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	Other Funding	L/O Cost
CW20-23-08	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Mark Hansen	Lyle 3	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$1,700.00	\$850.00	7/12/2023		\$850.00
CW20-23-09	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Roberta Schwartz Revoc	Windom 20	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00	7/12/2023		\$3,000.00
CW20-23-10	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Gene Tapp	Red Rock 13	Waterway	50%	\$7,770.00	\$5,827.50	7/12/2023		\$1,942.50
CW20-23-11	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Gene Tapp	Red Rock 13	WASCOB	90%	\$37,602.00	\$28,201.50	7/12/2023	\$5,640.30	\$3,760.20

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Mark Hansen at \$850.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$1,700.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Roberta Schwartz Revocable Family Trust at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$4,000.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Moe made a motion to approve the waterway cost share contract for Gene Tapp at \$5,827.50. The total cost share is 75% of the total cost of \$7,770.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Moe made a motion to approve the WASCOB cost share contract for Gene Tapp at \$28,201.50. The total cost share with other funding is 90% of the total cost of \$37,602.00. Funding for the SWCD portion, \$28,201.50, will come from the 2021 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

ARPA Funding:

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
ARPA-23-03	ARPA Funding	CONTRACT	Lodi Township	Lodi 9	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1000	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	7/12/2023	\$1,000.00

Erichson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Lodi Township at \$1000, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2000 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the ARPA grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

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
ARPA-23-04	ARPA Funding	CONT/PMT	Jared Curley	Grand Meadow 29	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$750	\$2,858.80	\$750.00	7/12/2023	\$2,108.80

Fox explained the after the fact well sealing contract for Jared Curley and that the well was sealed due to an eminent health hazard. The board held discussion. Erichson made a motion to approve the contract & payment of \$750 to Jared Curley due to the eminent health hazard. Stating that our regular cost share policy still stands. Funding from this project will come from the ARPA grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Outstanding Conservationist:

The board held discussion on the 2 staff recommendations for outstanding conservationists. Peterson made a motion to nominate Gary Angell as the 2023 Mower County Outstanding Conservationist. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Wildlife Conservationist:

The board held discussion on the staff recommendation for outstanding wildlife conservationist. Erichson made a motion to nominate Gus and Ann Maxfield as the 2023 Mower County Outstanding Wildlife Conservationists. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

2023 Fee Schedule Update:

Fox explained the addition of CRP boundary staking at 60/hr. Erichson made a motion to approve the addition of CRP boundary staking at 60/hr to the 2023 Fee Schedule. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn updated the board on County items, to include; Environmental services meeting with townships, septic systems, mapping and commissioners meeting again with townships, she thanked Fox for attending their board meeting, Mike Hanson (highway dept.) new road fix available, hiring for county administrator position, the 2023 finance committee- Dan Sparks & Mike Ankeny, and the SWCD presenting the 2024 proposed budget to county.

Discussion Items:

Policy Handbook Updates:

Fox talked about the addition of Juneteenth to the list of holidays in the employee handbook. This will be brought back at a later board meeting this year.

MASWCD Report:

The board discussed the MASWCD Report that was sent out to districts in June.

Special Board Meeting:

Fox requested a special board meeting to include the new position, the 2024 proposed budget and time sensitive cost share. The board agreed on Wednesday, July 26 at 8:00am.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Nothing new.

Meeting was adjourned. The special board meeting will be held Wednesday, July 26 at 8:00am. and the next regular monthly board meeting will be held Monday, August 14, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____