

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on May 12, 2021.

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

Supervisors Present: Randy Smith  
Jim Kellogg  
Micah Peterson  
Rod Moe

Staff Present: Justin Hanson, District Manager  
Jeanne Crump, Office Manager  
Cody Fox, Project Manager  
Steve Lawler, Resource Specialist  
Paul Hunter, Conservation Planner

Others Present: Rick Berscheid, NRCS Area Conservationist  
Gary Kurer, NRCS  
Dave Copeland, BWSR  
Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner

NRCS Area Conservationist:

Area Conservationist, Rick Berscheid attended the board meeting to give an update on field office positions available/being filled throughout the Area. Also, an update on the EQIP program.

NRCS Report:

Kurer updated the board on NRCS Programs, to include; EQIP, CSP, and CRP. Discussion was held.

Agenda:

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

Northern County Co-op Answer Acre Update-Steve Lawler:

Lawler gave an update on the sustainable answer acre site, which is a collaborative between Northern Country Co-op, U of MN and the SWCD. Discussion was held.

Secretary Report:

Kellogg made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2021 board meeting. Moe seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:

The treasurers and payables reports were reviewed with the board. Peterson made a motion to approve the treasurers and payables reports, April payroll and to transfer money as needed. Kellogg second the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn gave an update on County programs to include: vacant commissioner election winner, John Mueller and a thank you to Hanson and Ruzek for their update at the commissioner meeting yesterday. Hanson talked about the bridge work being done and the state water trail.

Action Items:

Job Approval Authority (Fox/Hunter):

Hanson talked about the JAA for Fox and Hunter.

Kellogg made a motion to approve the JAA for Fox. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the JAA for Hunter. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

State Cost Share Policy for 2021:

Hanson explained the 2021 State CS Policy which would include 75% cost share. Peterson made a motion to approve the 75% State Cost Share Policy for all new contracts. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

State Cost Share Contracts:

The following are requesting State Cost Share for their waterway projects.

<b>State Cost Share CONTRACT Approval</b>					
<b>Landowner</b>	<b>Twp/Sect</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Cost Share Payment</b>	<b>% Cost Share</b>
Tom Anderson	Waltham 24	Waterway	\$9,300.00	\$6,975.00	75%
Sharon Pries	Dexter 36	Waterway	\$16,770.00	\$12,577.50	75%

Moe made a motion to approve the state cost share waterway contract for Tom Anderson for \$6,975.00, 75% of the total cost estimate of \$9,300.00. Funding for this project will come from the FY17-FY18 State Cost Share. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the state cost share waterway contract for Sharon Pries for \$12,577.50, 75% of the total cost estimate of \$16,770.00. Funding for this project will come from the FY18-FY19 State Cost Share. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

**Well Sealing Cost Share:**

The following are requesting cost share for their well sealing projects.

<b>Well Sealing Cost Share CONTRACT Approval</b>					
<b>Priority or NonPriority</b>	<b>LAST</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>TWP/SECT</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Estimated CS</b>
Priority - 2 Wells	Sutter	Deven	Lyle 27	\$3,450.00	\$1,725.00
Priority	Sayles	Dean	Austin 25	\$1,800.00	\$900.00
Priority	Taylor	John	Lansing 33	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00

Deven Sutter is requesting cost share for his 2 well sealing projects. Moe made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for Deven Sutter’s 2 well sealing projects at \$1,725.00, 50% of the cost estimate of \$3,450.00 not to exceed \$1,000 per well. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Dean Sayles is requesting cost share for his well sealing project. Kellogg made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for Dean Sayles at \$900.00, 50% of the cost estimate of \$1,800.00 not to exceed \$1,000. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

John Taylor is requesting cost share for his well sealing project. Kellogg made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for John Taylor at \$1,000.00, 50% of the cost estimate of \$2,000.00. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

**Audit Bid:**

Kellogg made a motion to approve the 2020 Audit Bid for \$3200 from Peterson Company. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

**Personnel Resolution #2021-1:**

The board held discussion on the Personnel Resolution #2021-1. Kellogg made a motion to approve Personnel Resolution #2021-1. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

May and June Meeting Schedules:

The board discussed future in person board meetings.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

The board talked about the Area 7 resolutions meeting scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Dave Copeland, BWSR:

Copeland updated the board on BWSR.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be May 12, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

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