

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on December 15, 2021.  
Held at the Austin Recreation Center.

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

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

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

Others Present:                      Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner  
   Dave Copeland, BWSR  
   Jessica Beske, NRCS  
   Leanna Schneider, NRCS

Agenda:

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

Secretary Report:

Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021, board meeting. Kellogg seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:

The payables report was reviewed with the board. Peterson made a motion to approve the payables report, December payroll, to transfer money as needed and to pay all additional bills for 2021 by the end of December. Kellogg second the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson  
Opposed: None

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn gave an update on county programs to include: 2022 Budget, real estate taxes, and misc. county information.

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Copeland talked with the board on the open positions that have been filed around the state, the resignation of Kevin Bigolki, yearend reporting, and the upcoming BWSR board meeting.

Moe entered the board meeting.

NRCS Report, Jessica Beske:

Beske updated the board on NRCS Programs, to include: staffing changes, outreach, EQIP, and explained her leave time that will go until April. Beske introduced Leanna Schneider, Austin FO Soil Conservationist.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

Drinking Water Protection Grant:

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	# of Years	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per Year	Total Cost Share Payment
Drinking Water Protection	CANCEL	Ron Frank	Nevada 34	Cover Crops	30 ac @ \$30	3	\$900.00	\$2,700.00
Drinking Water Protection	PAYMENT	Bryan May	Nevada 12	Cover Crops	30 ac @ \$30	3	\$900.00	\$2,700.00
Drinking Water Protection	PAYMENT	Aaron Wagner	Windom 34	Cover Crops	30 ac @ \$30	3	\$900.00	\$2,700.00

Peterson made a motion to cancel the cover crop contract for Ron Frank due to contract expiration before the cover crop was completed. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the 3-year cover crop payment for Bryan May at \$2,700.00, 30 acres @ \$30 per acre per year. Funding for this project will come from the Drinking Water Protection Grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the 3-year cover crop payment for Aaron Wagner at \$2,700.00, 30 acres @ \$30 per acre per year. Funding for this project will come from the Drinking Water Protection Grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

State Cost Share:

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	# of Years	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per Year	Total Cost Share Payment
State Cost Share	PAYMENT	Aaron Wagner	Windom 34	Cover Crops	40 ac @ \$28	1	\$1,120.00	\$1,120.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> of 3 years of cover crop payments for Aaron Wagner at \$1,120.00, 40 acres @ \$28 per acre per year. Funding for this project will come from FY19 State Cost Share funds. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

NRBG:

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per Year	Total Cost Share Payment
<b>NRBG</b>	<b>PAYMENT</b>	Bruce Nelson	Lansing 1	Well Sealing	50%	\$2,675.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing payment for Bruce Nelson at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost of \$2,675.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the County NRBG match grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P:

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per Year	Total Cost Share Payment
<b>Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P</b>	<b>PAYMENT</b>	Martha Kaderabek	Austin 14	Well Sealing	50%	\$2,500.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P</b>	<b>CONTRACT</b>	Robert Walerak	Windom 24	Well Sealing	50%	\$2,500.00	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing payment for Martha Kaderabek at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost of \$2,500.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for Robert Walerak at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2,500.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Fishers and Farmers:

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per Year	Total Cost Share Payment	Federal CRP Payment
<b>Fishers and Farmers</b>	<b>CONTRACT</b>	John Stockdale	Bennington 28	Prairie Strip Est.	74%	\$865.08	\$636.57	\$142.00
<b>Fishers and Farmers</b>	<b>CONTRACT</b>	Ken Stockdale	Bennington 29	Prairie Strip Est.	48%	\$1,559.88	\$742.89	\$861.00
<b>Fishers and Farmers</b>	<b>CONTRACT</b>	Wayne DeWall	Bennington 19	Prairie Strip Est.	58%	\$692.64	\$402.37	\$221.00

Kellogg made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment contract for John Stockdale at \$636.57. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Kellogg made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment contract for Ken Stockdale at \$742.89. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Peterson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Kellogg made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment contract for Wayne DeWall at \$402.37. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Peterson seconded the motion.  
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
 Opposed: None

2022 Wages:

The board held discussion on the 2022 Wage Scale (see summary right), which includes a 2.5% cost of living, along with a step on employee's anniversary date.

Erichson made a motion to approve the 2022 wage scale as of January 1, 2022. Kellogg seconded the motion.  
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
 Opposed: None

2022 Wages	Wage Jan. 1	Wage on Anniv
District Manager	\$48.38	\$48.38
Resource Specialist	\$42.20	\$42.20
Project Manager	\$42.20	\$42.20
Watershed Tech	\$34.02	\$35.19
Water Planner	\$34.02	\$35.19
Watershed	\$29.21	\$30.25
Office Manager	\$31.46	\$32.53
District Technician	\$26.24	\$27.17

2022 Final Budget:

The board held discussion on the Final 2022 Budget. Kellogg made a motion to approve the Final 2022 Budget as presented. Peterson seconded the motion.  
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
 Opposed: None

2022 SWCD/CRWD Agreement:

Hanson talked about the 2022 SWCD/CRWD Agreement. The board held discussion. Peterson made a motion to approve the 2022 SWCD/CRWD Agreement. Moe seconded the motion.  
 Affirmative: Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
 Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Convention Wrap Up:

The board held discussion on the MASWCD annual convention.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

Smith explained that he will not be at the January board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

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