

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on November 10, 2020.

This meeting was held remotely via Zoom video. Hanson led the check-in.

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

Supervisors Present: Jim Gebhardt Jon Erichson
 Randy Smith Jim Kellogg

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

Others Present: Rod Moe, District #1 Elect

Agenda:

Kellogg made a motion to approve the November agenda. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Gebhardt made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020 board meeting.

Erichson seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:

The treasurers and payables reports were reviewed with the board. Gebhardt made a motion to approve the treasurers and payables reports, November payroll and to transfer money as need. Erichson second the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

MASWCD Resolutions:

The board went through and voted on the 2020 resolutions.

Action Items:

Hunter Job Approval Authority:

Erichson made a motion to approve Paul Hunter's Job Approval Authority for eco services. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Contract with Nancy North (Root):

Hanson talked about the contract with Nancy North, an experienced consultant in public engagement, to identify some ways that SWCD's and Department of Ag can add value to their service delivery programs. Kellogg made a motion to approve the contract with Nancy North. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: Erichson

2019 Audit:

Approval of the 2019 Audit was tabled.

1W1P Sub Agreements:

Hanson explained the sub agreements that will be sent out to partners in the Cedar-Wapsipinicon grant. Mower SWCD will reimburse payments to the partners for grant implementation items. The sub agreements establish the process for administering these funds. Erichson made a motion to approve that the sub agreements between Cedar-Wapsipinicon partners and Mower SWCD be sent out for signatures from the partners and that Smith sign for the Mower SWCD. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

NRCS MOA:

Hanson talked about the annual MOA between the NRCS and SWCD. Gebhardt made a motion to approve the MOA between the NRCS and SWCD for continued work together to serve Mower County. Erichson seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Well Sealing Contract Approval:

Todd Wilson is requesting cost share for his well sealing. Gebhardt made a motion to approve the well sealing contract for Todd Wilson at \$900.00, 50% of the cost estimate of \$1,800.00 not to exceed \$1,000. Erichson seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg, Peterson

Opposed: None

Well Sealing Re-designation of Program Fund Approval:

In October, the board approved well sealing cost share payments for Tim Hoot and Kurt Potach through the project funding from the Southeast MN funding (administered by Wabasha SWCD), due to contract changes, the funding will now come out of our local Natural Resource Block Grant funding match. Erichson made a motion to change Tim Hoot and Kurt Potach well sealing cost share

funding from Southeast Regional Grant funding, to Mower County Match for NRBG. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Crump led a roll call of votes.
Affirmative: Gebhardt, Erichson, Smith, Kellogg
Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

State Cost Share Policy:
Hanson talked about the current state cost share policy and suggested a policy workgroup meeting to discuss possible changes to the policy.

Election Updates:
The board discussed results of the November election. Rod Moe was elected to Jim Gebhardt’s District 1 position. Hanson will send out a letter of thanks from the board to Sparks and Poppe as they leave their office seats.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:
Smith informed the board that he was elected as director to the Area 7 MASWCD board.

Annual Area 7 Supervisors Meeting:
Gebhardt talked about the Area 7 supervisor meeting.

Newly Elected Supervisor:
Rod Moe talked about his election to the board.

Staff Report (See Attached):
The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 8:00 a.m., via Zoom.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____