

GBERBA Executive Board Minutes
Friday, February 9, 2018
Blue Earth County Ag Service Center– Mankato, MN

Present: Tom Appel, Clark Lingbeek, John Shanahan, Neal Mensing and Tom Warmka.

Others Present: Dustin Anderson, Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Kay Gross, Matt Remer and Kathy Smith.

Vice Chairman Neal Mensing called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Agenda

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the 2017 Year End Financial Report. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes

Motion by Tom Appel, second by John Shanahan to approve the December 20, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report/Accounts Payable

The Financial Report dated 1/1/18 to 1/31/18 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

Accounts Payable

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the accounts payable totaling \$13,785.00. Motion carried, all yes.

MAWQCP Cost-Share Contract Approval

Cottonwood SWCD	TS-17-5-01	Technical Assistance	Grant \$6,000.00
Robert Vander Linden	64-5-18	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Thomas Morley	64-5-19	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Michael Landuyt	64-5-20	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Paul Plaetz	64-5-21	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Stanley Rohlik	64-5-22	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Carl Pilegaard	51-5-07	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
John Adamek	43-6-03	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Jim Erdahl	22-6-05	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by John Shanahan to approve the MAWQCP Incentive payments for the above mentioned landowners (\$300.00 (8)) and Cottonwood SWCD (\$6,000.00). Motion carried, all yes.

2017 Year End Financial Report – DRAFT

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve submitting the 2017 Year End Financial Report when completed. Motion carried, all yes.

March Policy/Technical Meeting Agenda

Area 5 and Area 6 Certification Specialist Contracts

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Warmka to approve the Contract for Services Area 5 Southwest Prairie and Area 6 South Central – MDA Area Certification Specialist positions from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019 with the Pipestone and Cottonwood SWCDs. Motion carried, all yes.

COORDINATOR REPORT

☆ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports.

The broom intake inventory is as follows:

(15) 8" 36"L .. (1) 8" 16"L .. (3) 6" 36"L .. (1) 6" 16"L .. (3) 4" 36"L .. (1) 6" adaptors. Contact Herman or Danielle.

A Conservation Corps member will be housed at the Cottonwood SWCD to assist with the MAWQC Program in Area's 5 and 6 in 2018. The Corps member is Matthew Remer and has started work on January 16, 2018 at the Cottonwood SWCD office. This is a one year position.

Contract for Services signed by GBERBA and the Cottonwood and Pipestone SWCDs for Area 5 and 6 MDA Area Certification Specialist for 2018-2019.

☆ **2016 MPCA – CWP and 319 Drainage Grants**

CWP Drainage Grant: Side inlet structures 50% cost share, other conservation drainage practices 33% cost share. These are state dollars matched by federal or local dollars. ***This grant is fully encumbered.***

319 Drainage Grant: Side inlet structures 50% cost share. These are federal dollars matched by state or local dollars.

The side inlet design project was awarded to the ISG Firm. The side inlet design program was introduced at the November 17 Policy/Technical meeting. An Outreach Booklet is being developed to assist Drainage staff to see conservation opportunities and potential in drainage systems.

☆ **2017 MPCA 319 Grant - Cover Crops and Alternative Tile Intakes**

An Implementation Policy Paper for the grant titled "Greater Blue Earth River Basin TMDL Implementation" has been developed and reviewed at the Technical meeting. This guidance document will be posted on the GBERBA website.

Cover crops: \$50.00 dollars per acre maximum, 75% cost share maximum (\$ 37.50 ac.), 80 acre size maximum per owner. Prioritization required. Alternative intakes: Rock and pattern tile. \$500.00 maximum and 50% cost share. These are federal dollars and require state or local match. Perforated risers, broom and other water quality intakes: \$200.00 maximum and 50% cost share. These are federal dollars and require state or local match.

☆ **2017 CWF Grant- Multipurpose Drainage Management**

Multipurpose Drainage Management - \$301,200: Projects for this Drainage Grant will need to be located in public ditch sheds. **GBERBA member entire counties are eligible.** Priority parameters are developed to identify the eligible ditches. A guidance policy sheet is online.

☆ **One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants, Watonwan Watershed**

On January 3, 2018 the fourth Steering Team meeting was held in Mankato. Completing development of a Memorandum of Agreement MOA, work plan, and budget was the focus of the meeting. These documents are very near completion. An informal Policy Committee meeting consisting of County Board and SWCD Supervisors was held Wednesday, January 31, 2018 in St. James. This meeting informed all about the various committees roles and the 1W1P process. The Steering Committee met after the informal Policy meeting at Noon.

☆ **New Grants Potential**

The GBERBA Technical Committee did not recommend an application for the Wastewater Facilitator grant for 2018. GBERBA members will discuss the potential benefits of new grant applications for 2018. A Minnesota PCA 319 grant opportunity should open soon.

Staff Reports

Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist – Dustin Anderson – See Handout

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – See Handout

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers - See Handout

MDA – Conservation Corp Member – Matt Remer – See Handout

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart

MPCA – None

DNR – None

OTHER – None

Meeting adjourned by Vice Chairman Mensing at 2:35 p.m.

Next meeting date: Technical Meeting – February 21, 2018, 9:30 a.m.
Policy Board/Technical Committee Meeting – March 9, 2018 9:30 a.m.
Executive Meeting – April 13, 2018, 1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____