

GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, April 13, 2018

Blue Earth County Ag Service Center– Mankato, MN

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

Others Present: Ashley Brenke, Haley Bryon, Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart and Kay Gross.

Chairman Glen Mathiason called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Agenda

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the GBERBA Financial Staff Update, Cooperative Weed Management Grant, GBERBA Audit and June Executive Board Meeting (possible date change). Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Neal Mensing to approve the February 9, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report/Accounts Payable

The Financial Report dated 3/1/18 to 3/31/18 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 Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Appel to approve the accounts payable totaling \$36,198.15. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Amendment

Faribault Co. D.A. FY16-CWP-22-01 Amend install date to 6/22/18 from 4/30/18

Motion by Tom Appel, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Faribault Co. D.A. to change the install date from 4/30/18 to 6/22/18. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Approval

Stanley Thompson	24-01(319-CDP)	Grass Waterway, Grade Stab.	Cost \$33,500.00	C-S \$16,750.00
Faribault Co. D.A.	22-01(319-CDP)	Grade Stab. – 27 Side Inlets	Cost \$64,790.00	C-S \$9,496.44
Faribault Co. D.A. CD41	22-02(319-CDP)	Grade Stab. – 19 Side Inlets	Cost \$44,550.00	C-S \$22,275.00
G&S Drainage & Excavating	22-01(CWF-MDM)	Drainage Water Mgmt Plan	Cost \$2,100.00	C-S \$1,575.00

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by John Shanahan to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contracts encumbrance for Thompson (\$16,750.00), Faribault Co. D.A. (\$9,496.44 and 22,275.00) and G&S Drainage & Excavating (\$1,575.00). Motion carried, all yes.

CWMA Contract Approval

Nelson Township	W05-16(CWMA)	Watonwan - Norman Anderson	Cost \$6,381.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Riverdale Township	W06-16(CWMA)	Watonwan – Lance Mikkelson	Cost \$3,825.00	C-S \$2,000.00

Motion by Tom Warmka, second Neal Mensing by to approve the CWMA Cost-Share contract for Nelson Township (\$2,000.00) and Riverdale Township (\$2,000.00). Motion carried, all yes.

MAWQCP Cost-Share Contract Approval

Bradley & Rachelle Krusemark	46-6-05	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Joseph Dambrotten	65-6-04	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	Incentive \$300.00
Ted Enstad	17-5-18	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00
Randall Pankonin	17-5-19	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00
Jared Arens	51-5-09	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00
Johnson Bros Prtshp	64-5-24	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00
Gordon Mulder	67-5-12	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00
Scott Oellien	87-5-09	Worksheet Incentive	Incentive \$100.00

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Motion by Tom Appel, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the MAWQCP Incentive payments for the above mentioned landowners (\$300.00 (2)) and (\$100.00 (6)). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Financial Coordinator Position

The Cottonwood SWCD reported the resignation of Kathy Smith, Financial Coordinator, effective April 27, 2018. At this time the Martin SWCD has agreed to take over the GBERBA Financial Coordinator position through October 31, 2018. Martin SWCD will bill using the District Manager calculated hourly rate at \$47.00/hour for hours worked.

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Neal Mensing to approve suspending the contract with the Cottonwood SWCD for the Financial Coordinator as of April 27, 2018. Motion carried, all yes.

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by John Shanahan to approve the contract with the Martin SWCD to facilitate the GBERBA Financial Coordinator position starting today April 13, 2018 through October 31, 2018. Motion carried, all yes.

Cooperative Weed Management Area FY18 Program Documents

Motion by Neal Mensing, second by Tom Appel to approve the Cooperative Weed Management FY18 Strategic Management Plan, Budget and the Annual Operating Plan. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA 2017 Audit Bid and Engagement Letter

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the Peterson Company LTD bid of \$3,250 (of which the Cottonwood SWCD will pay \$1,000) and sign the engagement letter to secure the audit. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA June Executive Meeting Date Change

No date change is necessary – the meeting is already scheduled for Wednesday, June 27 starting at 1:00 p.m.

COORDINATOR REPORT

★ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

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

A Conservation Corps member, Matthew Remer is housed at the Cottonwood SWCD to assist with the MAWQC Program in Area's 5 and 6 in 2018. Contract for Services signed by GBERBA and the Cottonwood and Pipestone SWCDs for Area 5 and 6 MDA Area Certification Specialist for 2018-2019.

Marcie Weinandt, MDA, will be retiring on May 1st from the Department of Agriculture; we wish her all the best in her retirement!! Also, we are securing a booth for the MN State Cattlemen's Summer Tour and Trade Show, Danielle, Herman and Matt will man the booth and attend the tour, Tuesday, July 10 in Cottonwood County.

★ 2016 MPCA – CWP and 319 Drainage Grants

CWP Drainage Grant: An amendment to the budget was approved by the MPCA in February. Funds were moved from project development, technical services, and administration to project cost-share in order to fully utilize the grant funds. The grant deadline is June 30, 2018. ***This grant is fully encumbered.***

An Outreach Booklet is being developed to assist Drainage staff and elected officials to see conservation opportunities and potential in drainage systems.

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

★ 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**

Member SWCDs and Counties are now signing the Memorandum of Agreement MOA for the 1W1P. 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.

☆ **Biennial Budget Request**

The BBR has been submitted to BWSR included were funding for BMPs, Cover Crops and Drainage also we included the Le Sueur and Watonwan positions and Faribault SWCD has included the Blue Earth Watershed position.

☆ **New Grants Potential**

With most of the drainage grant funds now encumbered, GBERBA will be looking for new grant opportunities to acquire funds for conservation drainage projects in 2018.

Staff Reports

Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist – Vacant

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 Chairman Glen Mathiason at 2:35 p.m.

Next meeting date: Technical Meeting – April 25, 2018, 9:30 a.m.
Policy Board Meeting – May 11, 2018 1:00 p.m.
Executive Meeting – June 27, 2018, 1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____