

GBERBA Policy Board Minutes

Friday, May 10, 2019

Blue Earth County Ag Service Center – Mankato, MN

Present: Tyler Ask, Tony Berg, Doug Christopherson, James Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Steve Flohrs, Larry Hansen, Clark Lingbeek, Glen Mathiason, Neal Mensing, Jessie Shaffer, John Shanahan and Clem Windschitl.

Others Present: David Bucklin, Paul Davis, Jill Sacket Eberhart, Kay Gross, Michele Stindtman and Josh Votruba.

Chairman Neal Mensing called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Introductions

Agenda

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tony Berg to approve the Policy Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of United Prairie Pledge of Securities Update, 1W1P Discussion for Blue Earth and Le Sueur Watersheds. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes

Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Clem Windschitl to approve the March 8, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 3/31/19 to 4/30/19 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Steve Flohrs second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

Accounts Payable

Motion by Tony Berg, second by Tyler Ask to approve the accounts payable totaling \$36,508.68. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Approval

Matt Alford	22-26(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (80 ac.)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Andrew Linder	22-27(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (80 ac.)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Linder Family Farms	22-28(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (80 ac.)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Leo Olson	22-29(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (50 ac.)	Cost \$2,500.00	C-S \$1,250.00

Motion by Clem Windschitl second by Rich Enger to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract for Alford, Linder and Linder Family Farms (\$2,000.00) and Olson (\$1,250.00). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Amendment

Le Sueur Co D.A.	40-01(CWF-MDM-17)	Storage & Treatment Wetland	Previous C-S \$36,448.50	New C-S \$50,000.00
				C-S Increase \$13,551.50
Faribault Co. D.A. JD1F	22-03(319-CDP-16)	Additional 7 Alternative Side Inlets	Previous C-S \$30,567.50	New C-S \$56,243.02
				C-S Increase \$25,675.52

Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment to Le Sueur Co. Drainage Authority (40-01) and Faribault Co. Drainage Authority (22-03). Motion carried, all yes.

MAWQCP Contract Approval

Cottonwood SWCD	MAWQCP(TS-17-5-02)	Additional Technical Funds	\$6,000.00
Renville SWCD	MAWQCP(TS-65-6-05)	Additional Technical Funds	\$6,000.00
Dale Appel	MAWQCP(32-5-20)	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	\$300.00
Thomas Hansen	MAWQCP(17-5-22)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00

Motion by Rich Enger, second by Tyler Ask to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Cottonwood and Renville SWCDs (\$6,000.00), Appel (\$300.00) and Hansen (\$100.00). Motion carried, all yes.

Grant Balances and Projects Report – Disbursed.

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July Policy/Technical Meeting Presentation Ideas

Discussion on having a One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) overview and discussion of when the Blue Earth and Le Sueur Watersheds should be moving forward. Overview by BWSR staff on 1W1P and discussion on Blue Earth and Le Sueur Watersheds planning on what their time schedule would be to start the competitive process.

Soil Health Team will be in the afternoon of the Policy/Technical Meeting.

At this time the date for the meeting is Friday, July 19 starting at 9:30 a.m. in Faribault County.

BWSR - Multipurpose Drainage Grant Amendment

Motion by Glen Mathiason second by Doug Christopherson to approve the amendment for the BWSR Multipurpose Drainage Grant to include CAP 130 Drainage Water Management Plan and 587 Structure for Water Control and request a Work Plan update. Motion carried, all yes.

Pledge of Securities – United Prairie Bank

Motion by Clem Windschitl, second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the updated Pledge of Securities – United Prairie Bank with the description of Original Value \$250,000 and Value Pledged \$50,000. 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.

☆ 2016 MPCA – 319 Drainage Grant

An Outreach Booklet has been printed and will be sent to 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, 50% cost share maximum (\$ 25.00 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.

The grant amendment has been completed and all remaining cost share for projects including Alternative intakes, Side inlets, and Cover crops will be at 50% cost share. New grant policy papers have been generated.

☆ 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

The Watonwan 1W1P Project is in full swing completing the plan language. The Advisory Committee has now met two times with good progress being made on the Issues Table.

☆ MPCA Grant Opportunity

GBERBA applied for a MPCA 319 round two cover crop focused grant. We received notification that the GBERBA application was not funded.

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Staff Reports

Watonwan Watershed Technician – Josh Votruba – See Handout
Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – See Handout
Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers - See Handout
MAWQCP Conservation Corp Member – Lee Tapper – See Handout

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – SWCD Local Capacity Amendments have been completed for the GBERBA watershed, also the Buffer Amendments need to be completed by next week. Legislature is continuing to meet and budgets are not finalized. Training calendar is being updated on the BWSR for staff trainings. BWSR has launched their new website.

MPCA – Paul Davis – Watonwan Watershed TMDL and WRAPS about ready to go out for comment. Blue Earth Watershed Civic Engagement is continuing to meet and will also be sponsoring a canoe trip on the river. Professional Judge Group Blue Earth Watershed – review reports. Also working in the Le Sueur Watershed and moving it forward. Mark Schaezke, Waseca SWCD, is the lead local staff for the Le Sueur Watershed.

OTHER

The meeting was declared adjourned at 2:40 p.m. by Chairman Neal Mensing.

Next meeting date:	Executive Meeting	June 14, 2019	1:00 p.m.
	Technical Meeting	May 29, 2019	9:30 a.m.
	Policy Board and Technical Committee Joint Meeting	July 19, 2019	9:30 a.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date_____