

Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Committee

Wednesday, December 19, 2018, Blue Earth County Ag Service Center, Mankato, MN

Present:

Heidi Rudolph
Kay Gross
Ashley Brenke
Jerad Bach
Josh Votruba
Paul Davis
Emma Young

Representing:

Watonwan SWCD
GBERBA
Martin SWCD
Blue Earth SWCD
Watonwan Watershed Technician
MPCA
MSU-WRC

Present:

David Bucklin
Nathan Carr
Hannah Neusch
Herman Bartsch
Jill Sackett Eberhart
Jessica Nelson
Brooke Hacker

Representing:

GBERBA/Cottonwood SWCD
Faribault SWCD
Martin SWCD
Area 6 Certainty Specialist
BWSR
MSU-WRC
DNR

Call to Order: GBERBA Technical Chair Heidi Rudolph called the meeting to order at 9:46 am.

Introductions

Agenda: Motion by Jerad Bach, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes: Motion by Nathan Carr, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the November 9, 2018 Policy Board and Technical Committee minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INTRODUCTIONS

INFORMATION ACTION:

GBERBA Contract Approval

Marvin Guse 81-03(319-TMDL) Alternative Tile Intakes(3) Cost \$1,500.00 C-S \$750.00

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Nathan Carr to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract for Guse (\$750.00).
Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Amendments

Stanley Thompson 24-01(319-CDP) Grass Waterway/Grade Stab. Time Extension 12-31-18 to 8-31-19

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Nathan Carr to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for time extension from December 31, 2018 to August 31, 2019 for the above Thompson contract. Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Final Payments

Curtis Janzen	17-03(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,800.00	C-S \$2,100.00
Ramont Schrock	17-04(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$924.00	C-S \$1,232.00
Ryan O'Hara	22-02(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,992.00	C-S \$1,275.00
Andy Linder	22-03(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,320.00	C-S \$1,740.00
J-Ace Farms Inc.	22-04(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,834.40	C-S \$2,125.80
Matt Alford	22-05(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,877.79	C-S \$1,408.34
William Rauenhorst	22-06(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,320.00	C-S \$1,740.00
Schimek Enterprises	22-07(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,560.00	C-S \$1,920.00
Neal Mensing	22-08(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,576.00	C-S \$1,932.00
Clint Eastman	22-09(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,844.00	C-S \$2,133.00
Scott Volz	22-10(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$3,403.20	C-S \$2,552.00
Dennis Baxter	22-11(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,097.34	C-S \$500.00
Dennis Baxter	22-12(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$548.67	C-S \$250.00
Brent Haase	22-14(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,492.92	C-S \$1,119.69
Scott Haase	22-15(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,234.53	C-S \$925.90
Ken Haase	22-16(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,302.30	C-S \$1,706.25
Jeff Schultz	22-18(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,594.53	C-S \$1,195.90
Ryan Hagedorn	22-19(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,770.00	C-S \$2,077.50
Trails End Farms	22-20(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,926.00	C-S \$2,194.50
Timothy Peterson	22-21(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,703.00	C-S \$2,027.25
Dominic Schultz	22-22(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,535.00	C-S \$1,901.25
Greg Johanson	22-23(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,020.00	C-S \$750.00
Ronald Volsen	22-24(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$2,282.40	C-S \$2,461.80
Eric Volsen	22-25(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$4,516.00	C-S \$2,925.00
Thomas Klug	81-01(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops	Cost \$1,996.50	C-S \$1,497.38

Motion by Ashley Brenke, second by Nathan Carr to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payments for the above mentioned contracts. Motion carried, all yes.

Review GBERBA Cost-Share Balances, Projects and Financial Report

Coordinator Report: Dave Bucklin and Kay Gross

☆ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Matthew Remer our MAWQCP Conservation Corps member completed his one year term on December 13. GBERBA was awarded another year long Corps position. The new Corps member for 2019 will be Lee Tapper. His start date is January 22, 2019.

☆ 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, 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.

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 2W2P Policy Board Consultant Selection Committee has completed its task and Houston Engineering Inc. has been hired to provide the consultant. The Steering committee met on December 5th with Charlie Sawdey the Watonwan 1W1P main plan writer from HEI. The Public Kick off meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 28, 2019.

☆ New Grants Potential

The 2019 Clean Water Fund Grant recommendations are out. At this point GBERBA was not selected for funding in the Multi-Purpose Drainage or the Accelerated Implementation Grant categories. We will have more information at the GBERBA meeting.

Staff Report:

Watonwan Watershed Technician – Josh Votruba – Written Report

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – Written Report

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers – Written Report

Conservation Corp Member – Matt Remer – Written Report (Final Report)

Agency Reports:

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Reminder FY19 Capacity and Buffer work plans approved and County match needs to be by January 15, grant agreement must be executed before funds will be released. FY19 Clean Water Fund grants have been announced. Southern Region more application in this year than last year – Funded in Southern Region - AIG (Waseca); Projects and Practices (Martin); MDM (HLWD, Freeborn); Well Sealing Grants (everyone who applied should get funding). Clean Water Council recommendations have gone out. MCIT has some concerns over what type of agreements they are willing to insure. Tech Note 33 is now updated for cover crops. JAA for cover crops will change structurally (different levels).

PAGE 3
GBERBA TECHNICAL MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2018

MPCA – Paul Davis – Watonwan has a draft TMDL and WRAPs; working on Blue Earth Watershed Civic Engagement; Le Sueur Phase 2 contract needs to be completed within the next two months; MN Greater Blue Earth River Watershed TSS review by EPA.

DNR - Brooke Hacker - Blue Earth Report is being written (for WRAPS), Rice Creek Watershed work is being done, Brooke will be the liaison for the Watonwan 2W2P (for the time being).

MSU-WRC – Jessica Nelson, Emma Young – Houston Engineering Inc. is picking up the Watonwan information with written report out by the end of the month. Working on the Boot Creek Watershed in Waseca County. Jessica will be leaving for Ames and the University of Iowa for her Master’s Degree in Sustainable Agriculture. Water Storage Forum will be held first week of April (ag and urban).

OTHER –None

The meeting was declared adjourned at 12:05 p.m. by Chair Heidi Rudolph.

Secretary’s signature of approved minutes_____ Date: _____