

Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Committee

Wednesday, May 29, 2019, Blue Earth County Ag Service Center, Mankato, MN

Present:

Kay Gross
Mark Schaetzke
Haley Brown
Ashley Brenke
Julie Conrad
Josh Votruba
Paul Davis
Brooke Hacker
Bailey Griffin

Representing:

GBERBA
Waseca SWCD
Waseca County
Martin SWCD
Blue Earth County
Watonwan Watershed Technician
MPCA
DNR
ISG

Present:

Michele Stindtman
Brenda Lageson
Alan Gleisner
Jerad Bach

Shaina Keseley
Rick Moore
Emma Young
Christi Wahlstrom

Representing:

Faribault SWCD
Freeborn SWCD
Brown SWCD
Blue Earth SWCD

BWSR
MNIT – DNR
Water Resource Center
ISG

Call to Order: GBERBA Technical Vice Chair Michele Stindtman called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Introductions

Agenda: Motion by Ashley Brenke, second by Jerad Bach to approve the agenda with the addition of 1W1P discussion for July Joint Meeting. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes: Motion by Jerad Bach, second by Mark Schaetzke to approve the April 24, 2019 Technical Committee minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION ACTION:

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
Wade Krenz	46-06(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (41 ac.)	Cost \$2,050.00	C-S \$1,025.00

Motion by Ashley Brenke second by Brenda Lageson to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract for Alford, Linder and Linder Family Farms (\$2,000.00), Olson (\$1,250.00) and Krenz (\$1,025.00). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Amendment

Faribault Co. D.A. JD1F	22-03(319-CDP-16)	Additional 7 Alternative Side Inlets	Previous C-S \$30,567.50 C-S Increase \$25,675.52	New C-S \$56,243.02
Ann Gaines-Whiteside	83-05(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops	Previous Date 6-17-19	New Install Date 12-31-19
Noren Durham	83-10(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops	Previous Date 6-17-19	New Install Date 12-31-19

Motion by Brenda Lageson second by Jerad Bach to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Faribault Co. Drainage Authority (22-03) (Increase \$25,675.52) and Gaines-Whiteside and Durham (Install dates to 12-31-19). Motion carried, all yes.

Review GBERBA Cost-Share Balances, Projects and Financial Report Drainage Grant Projects Needed

GBERBA Joint Policy Board/Technical Committee Meeting – July 19

Julie Westerlund is available along with Jill and Shaina to give an overview of the program and then have an open dialog on when watersheds are moving forward.

Discussion on moving forward with the 1W1P process in the Greater Blue Earth Watershed and peripheral areas.

Des Moines, Cottonwood, Middle Minnesota, Shell Rock (1st year). We will work toward who is moving forward and who is leading the watersheds. More discussion in June. Waseca County would volunteer to lead the Le Sueur when it moves forward. In the Blue Earth Watershed Faribault and Martin would volunteer to lead.

MCIT talk on the Memorandum of Agreement.

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.

☆ **2016 MPCA – 319 Drainage Grant THIS GRANT IS NOW FULLY ENCUMBERED**

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. We are in the process of adding the Cap 130 Drainage Water Management Plan and the 587 Structure for Water Control to the work plan to facilitate using these practices.

☆ **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. A draft issues table is now being distributed.

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 – Lee Tapper – Written Report

Agency Reports:

BWSR – Shaina Keseley – BWSR held steady through the legislature with funding for local programs.

MPCA – Paul Davis – Closeouts ending in June. Calling for 319 Focused Watershed Grant.

WRC – Emma Young – Is anyone interested in a ACPF training (future).

DNR – Rick Moore and Brooke Hacker - Breachlines throughout the State will be mapped and completed soon. Rice Creek in Le Sueur and follow-up in the Blue Earth for the WRAPS.

ISG - Bailey Griffin – Agricultural Drainage and Future of Water Quality – July 10 & 11, Marshall, MN. Save-the-Date.

Other – None.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:55 a.m. by Vice Chair Michele Stindtman.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date: _____