

Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Committee

Wednesday, August 28, 2019, Blue Earth County Ag Service Center, Mankato, MN

Present:

Heidi Salminen
Mark Schaetzke
Andy Meyer
Dave Bucklin
Dustin Anderson
Jill Sackett-Eberhart

Representing:

Watsonwan SWCD
Waseca SWCD
Brown County
GBERBA Coordinator
Faribault County
BWSR

Present:

Julie Conrad
Jerad Bach
Ashley Brenke
Kay Gross
Paul Davis
Rick Moore

Representing:

Blue Earth County
Blue Earth SWCD
Martin SWCD
GBERBA Coordinator
MPCA
MNIT – DNR

Call to Order: GBERBA Technical Chair Heidi Salminen called the meeting to order at 9:45 am.

Introductions

Agenda: Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Jerad Bach to approve the agenda with the addition of Request for Extension – Grant #39 – BWSR Mutli-Purpose Drainage. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes: Motion by Ashley Brenke, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the July 19, 2019 Policy Board/Technical Committee Joint Meeting minutes. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION ACTION:

GBERBA Contract Approval

Darby Harder	17-07(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Roger Hubmer	07-07(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
John Rollings	07-08(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (20 ac)	Cost \$1,000.00	C-S \$500.00
Tom Klug	81-04(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (55 ac)	Cost \$2,750.00	C-S \$1,375.00
Dan Roemhildt	81-05(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Mark Yokiell	22-37(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (70 ac)	Cost \$3,500.00	C-S \$1,750.00
Nathan Carr	22-38(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Clinton Eastman	22-39(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (76 ac)	Cost \$3,800.00	C-S \$1,900.00
Ryan Hagedorn	22-40(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Eric Volsen	22-41(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Roger Iliff	22-42(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (74 ac)	Cost \$3,700.00	C-S \$1,850.00
Waseca County D.A.	81-02(CWF-MDM)	Storage/Treatment Wetland Rest.	Cost \$96,300.00	C-S \$50,000.00

Motion by Ashley Brenke, second by Dustin Anderson to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract approval for Harder, Hubmer, Roemhildt, Carr, Hagedorn and Volsen(319-TMDL-\$2,000.00), Rollings(319-TMDL-\$500.00), Klug(319-TMDL-\$1,375.00), Yokiell(319-TMDL-\$1,750.00), Eastman(319-TMDL-\$1,900.00), Iliff(319-TMDL-\$1,850.00) and Waseca County Drainage Authority (CWF-MDM-\$50,000.00). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Amendment

Faribault Co D.A.	22-03(319-CDP-16)	Increase C-S to full 75%	Increase Cost-Share \$391.48
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JD1F

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Jerad Bach to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Faribault County Drainage Authority JD-1F contract 22-03 (\$391.48 – 319-CDP-16 Grant). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Completion

Faribault Co D.A.	22-03(319-CDP-16)	40 Side Inlets	Cost \$97,846.00	C-S \$73,384.50
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JD1F

Motion by Dave Bucklin, second by Andy Meyer to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payment for Faribault County Drainage Authority JD-1F (\$73,384.50 – 319-TMDL-16 Grant). Motion carried, all yes.

Review GBERBA Cost-Share Balances, Projects and Financial Report

GBERBA Request for Extension – Grant 39 – BWSR – CWF – Multi-Purpose Drainage

Motion by Ashley Brenke, second by Dustin Anderson to approve the formal request for extension to BWSR for the C17-3714 CWF-Multipurpose Drainage Grant totaling \$301,200 until December 31, 2020. Motion carried, all yes.

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GBERBA TECHNICAL MEETING
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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. Over 500,000 acres certified!

☆ **2016 MPCA – 319 Drainage Grant COMPLETION AUGUST 31, 2019**

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.

A grant Work Plan Revision has been approved by the BWSR to allow for CAP 130 Drainage Water Management plans and for Structures for Water Control.

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

The Watonwan 1W1P Project is in full swing completing the plan language. The Steering Committee last met on August 21 to review progress made on the measurable goals, actions, and programs table. These will need to be completed for all issues in the plan.

☆ **2020 Clean Water Fund Grant Potential**

GBERBA staff is working on a Drinking Water Protection Grant application as well as a MDM Grant application. We will need as many potential projects in the GBE watershed to include in the applications.

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 – Jill Sackett Eberhart – FY2020 no match for NRBG reporting through the County. State Cost-Share and Conservation Delivery grant agreements are out. Capacity grants will go to BWSR Board in September. Cover crop pilot project going through BWSR and will be developing a program, application period will be fast. Between 4 and 8 projects through out the state.

DNR – Paul Davis – Reporting and comment periods will keep staff busy. Blue Earth River float trip and meal was very well attended.

MNIT-DNR – Rick Moore – Data PTMAApp discussion in September.

OTHER – Two watersheds are looking at going next year – Middle Minnesota and Le Sueur. Blue Earth staff would prefer to only work on one watershed project at a time. Discussions will continue between the watershed entities.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 12:25 p.m. by Chair Heidi Salminen.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date: _____