

GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, October 11, 2019

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, Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Kay Gross and Josh Votruba.

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

Agenda

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by John Shanahan to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the Final Financial Audit for 2018. Motion carried, all yes.

Minutes

Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Tom Appel to approve the August 28, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 9/1/19 to 9/30/19 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 Glen Mathiason, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the accounts payable totaling \$50,067.99. Motion carried, all yes. (Warmka and Mensing Abstained from voting).

GBERBA Contract Approval

Tony Dick	17-08(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Jared Mensing	22-45(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (76 ac)	Cost \$3,800.00	C-S \$1,900.00
Neal Mensing	22-46(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (80 ac)	Cost \$4,000.00	C-S \$2,000.00
Terry Groskreutz	81-07(319-TMDL)	Cover Crops (30 ac)	Cost \$1,500.00	C- S \$750.00

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Appel to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract approval for Dick and N. Mensing(319-TMDL-\$2,000.00), J. Mensing(319-TMDL-\$1,900.00) and Groskreutz(319-TMDL-\$750.00). Motion carried, all yes. Mensing abstained from voting.

GBERBA Contract Cancellations

Noren Durham	83-10(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (20 ac)	Cost \$1,000.00	C-S \$750.00
Steve Michels	08-01(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops (40 ac)	Cost \$2,000.00	C-S \$1,500.00

Motion by Tom Appel, second by Glen Mathiason to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract cancellation contract Durham 83-10 (\$750.00 – 319-TMDL-16) and Michels 08-01 (\$1,500.00 – 319-TMDL-16). Motion carried, all yes.

GBERBA Contract Partial Payment

Byron Properties of New Richland	81-01(CWF-MDM-17)	Bioreactor	Cost \$36,586.19	C-S \$27,439.64
-------------------------------------	-------------------	------------	------------------	-----------------

(Engineer has confirmed that the project is not complete with needed work around the water control structure).

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by John Shanahan to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract partial payment for contract 81-01 (\$27,439.64 – CWF-MDM-17). Motion carried, all yes. Check will be held until approved by the Technical Committee.

MAWQCP Cost-Share Contract Incentive Payment

Ethan Quade	17-5-23	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Brad Petersen	67-5-14	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Tom Fick	67-5-15	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Tim Dritz	41-5-17	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Haase Family Farms	22-6-16	Worksheet/Certification Completion	Incentive \$300.00

Motion by John Shanahan, second by Tom Appel to approve the MAWQCP Incentive payments for the above landowners Quade, Petersen, Fick and Dritz (\$100.00) and Haase Family Farms (\$300.00). Motion carried, all yes.

BWSR 2020 Cover Crop Demonstration Grant Application

Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the submission of a Cover Crop Demonstration Grant totaling \$250,000. Motion carried, all yes.

November Policy Board/Technical Meeting Update

2018 Financial Audit - Reviewed

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the 2018 Financial Audit completed by Peterson Company. 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. Over 500,000 acres certified! MDA will be working with GBERBA to extend our agreement for another five years.

☆ **2016 MPCA – 319 Drainage Grant - GRANT COMPLETED**

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. **We have submitted the final report for payment.**

☆ **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. Grant End Date 8-31-2020

☆ **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. **Grant End Date 12-31-2019. Requested Extension to 12-31-2020**

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

The Watonwan 1W1P Project is in full swing completing the plan language. The Advisory/ Steering Committee last met on October 2, 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 submitted a Drinking Water Protection Grant application as well as a MDM Grant application. BWSR will announce the grant awards in January.

Staff Reports

Watonwan Watershed Resource Specialist – Joshua Votruba – See Handout

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – See Handout

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers - See Handout

MDA – Conservation Corp Member – Lee Tapper – See Handout

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Watershed Based Implementation Funding for approved One Watershed One Plan Watershed Plans. Approved at the September BWSR Board Meeting each watershed gets a base of \$250,000 plus a percentage of Private Lands (90%) and Public Waters (10%). Cover crop grant application due October 24th and the Extension for MDM is being worked on for GBERBA.

Page 3
GBERBA Executive Board Minutes
October 11, 2019

OTHER – None

Meeting adjourned by Chairman Neal Mensing at 2:39 p.m.

Next meeting date:	Technical Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 23, 2019	9:30 a.m.
	Policy Board/Technical Meeting	Friday, November 8, 2019	9:30 a.m.
	Executive Board Meeting	Friday, December 20, 2019	1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____