

# GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, June 12, 2020

Webex Media Communication – Cottonwood SWCD Office

Cottonwood County Attorney Nick Anderson as attorney/chief legal counsel for the board, I am determining that requiring all supervisors to participate in person at board meetings is not practical or prudent. I have made that determination based on the WHO's determination that the COVID 19 outbreak is a health pandemic.

## The Cottonwood SWCD Board of Supervisor Declared the Cottonwood SWCD Office – Designated Meeting Location During State of Emergency – Health Crisis

**Present:** Tom Appel, Clark Lingbeek, Glen Mathiason, Neal Mensing, John Shanahan and Tom Warmka.

**Others Present:** Ashely Broussard, Dave Bucklin, Wayne Cords, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Kay Gross, Michele Stindtman and Josh Votruba.

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

### Agenda

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the 319 Grant Amendment (one-year extension) and Joint Powers Agreement update.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

### Minutes

Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Tom Warmka to approve the April 10, 2020 minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

### INFORMATION/ACTION

#### Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 5/1/20 to 5/31/20 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Tom Warmka to approve the May financial report as presented.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

#### Accounts Payable

Motion by Tom Appel, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the accounts payable totaling \$22,565.51.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

#### GBERBA Contract Approval

Darby Harder 17-10(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops – 62 ac Cost \$3,100.00 C-S \$1,550.00

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Glen Mathiason to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract for Darby Harder - 17-10(319-TMDL-16) - \$1,550.00.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

#### GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Completion

Terry Groskreutz 81-08(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops – 20 ac Cost \$631.00 C-S \$315.50

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Appel to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract payment for Terry Groskreutz 81-08(319-TMDL-16) - \$315.50.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

### MAWQCP Contract Approval

Troy Wendland	MAWQCP(42-5-09)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00
Tom Fick	MAWQCP(67-5-15)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00
Eric Wegner	MAWQCP(22-6-17)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Blair Wegner	MAWQCP(22-6-18)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Ron Wegner	MAWQCP(22-6-19)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Britt Wegner	MAWQCP(22-6-20)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Colin Wegner	MAWQCP(22-6-21)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Tom Remmele	MAWQCP(87-5-17)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00

Motion by Tom Appel, second by Glen Mathiason to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Wendland, Fick, Remmele (\$200.00) and Eric, Blair, Ron, Britt, Colin Wegner (\$100.00).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y - Mathiason

Motion carried, all yes.

### Review Grant Report

John Shanahan arrived at meeting 1:30 p.m.

### July Policy Board and Technical Meetings

The Board has decided to hold the July GBERBA Policy Board and Technical Committee meetings separately on the same day, Friday, July 10. The GBERBA Technical Committee will meet at 9:30 a.m. through WebEx and the GBERBA Policy Board will meet at 1:00 p.m. through WebEx.

### MPCA 319 TMDL Grant Agreement Amendment

Motion Clark Lingbeek, second by Glen Mathiason to approve the MPCA 319 TMDL Grant Agreement Extension to August 31, 2021.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y – Mathiason Y - Shanahan

Motion carried, all yes.

### Joint Powers Agreement Update and Committee Appointment

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Warmka to approve the Joint Powers Agreement update with Ann Goering (Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney P.A.) with an estimate of \$3,000 - \$4,000 and call for a committee made up of Policy Board and Technical Committee Members, plus the GBERBA Coordinators (6-8 members).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing Y – Appel Y - Lingbeek Y - Warmka Y – Mathiason Y - Shanahan

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 580,000 acres and over 850 certified producers state wide!

GBERBA has the Area 5 and 6 MAWQCP administrative contract approved through 2021. The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program is launching three new endorsements in addition to 10-year certification a farmer or landowner receives in the program. The endorsements are for soil health, integrated pest management, and wildlife.

#### ☆ 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. **Grant End Date 8-31-2020**

**For 2020 the cover crop acre limits are removed. At this point the 50% cost share rate will continue.**

**GBERBA staff has requested an extension of this grant due to 2019 weather conditions and the Covid-19 outbreak.**

☆ **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 Amendment Agreement has been approved to extend the expiration date to 12-31-2020.**

☆ **One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants**

The Watonwan 1W1P Planning Project is ready to move into the Plan 60 day comment period. The Watonwan Policy Committee voted to further research GBERBA as the fiscal and reporting agent for the 1W1P Watonwan. The GBERBA Policy board has agreed to revise the Joint Powers Agreement to allow inclusion of 1W1P duties.

Le Sueur River and Des Moines River Watersheds planning partners are submitting RFPs for the 2020 One Watershed, One Plan Planning Grant.

☆ **Minnesota Conservation Corps Position**

**The Minnesota/Iowa Conservation Corps program decided to suspend AmeriCorps member field operations in Minnesota beginning on Friday, March 27. Ashley is still working from home with some office and field hours, with proper COVID-19 protocols.**

**Staff Reports**

**Area 6 Certification Specialist** – Herman Bartsch – See Handout

**Area 5 Certification Specialist** – Danielle Evers - See Handout

**Watershed Resource Technician** – Joshua Votruba – See Handout

**MDA – Conservation Corp Member** – Ashley Broussard – See Handout

**Agency Reports**

**BWSR** – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Second CREP batching period has closed, not sure of the third batching period. 2020 BWSR Academy is still being planned for in-person. June 12 is the last day for the 1W1P planning grants. FY21 Clean Water Fund has not been acted on during the regular session, if not it will fall to MN Management and Budget, there will be a reduction – just don't know what that will end up being. Should open around July 1. Area technical training grants may be offered in FY21 (set up on the MASWCD area boundaries) approximately \$5,000. Two new BWSR Board Members have been appointed.

**MPCA** – Wayne Cords – Wanting to make sure that we did not have any questions on the 319 MPCA TMDL Grant Amendment.

**OTHER –**

Meeting adjourned by Chairman Neal Mensing at 1:49 p.m.

**Next meeting date:**

Technical Meeting	Wednesday, June 24, 2020	9:30 a.m.
Technical Committee Meeting	Friday, July 10, 2020	9:30 a.m.
Policy Board Meeting	Friday, July 10, 2020	1:00 p.m.
Executive Board Meeting	Friday, August 26, 2020	1:00 p.m.

Secretary's signature of approved minutes \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_