

GBERBA Policy Board Minutes

Friday, May 8, 2020

WebEx – Web Based (Computer) and/or Conference Call (Phone) Connection

Present: Tom Appel, Tony Berg, Doug Christopherson, James Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Steve Flohrs, Larry Hansen, Don Kropp, Clark Lingbeek, Glen Mathiason, Bill Miller, John Shanahan, Tom Warmka and Clem Windschitl.

Others Present: Chris Bauer, Ashley Broussard, David Bucklin, Jill Sacket Eberhart, Kay Gross, Michele Stindtman and Josh Votruba.

Vice-Chairman Tom Appel called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Introductions

Agenda

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Tony Berg to approve the Policy Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.

All yes, motion carried.

Minutes

Motion by Glen Mathiason, second by Clem Windschitl to approve the March 13, 2020 minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.

All yes, motion carried.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 3/31/20 to 4/30/20 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Steve Flohrs to approve the financial report as presented.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.

All yes, motion carried.

Accounts Payable

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Rich Enger to approve the accounts payable totaling \$22,985.45.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.

All yes, motion carried.

GBERBA Contract Cancellation

Porter Ann Gaines 83-05(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops (80 ac.) Cost \$4,000.00 C-S \$3,000.00
Whiteside

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Clem Windschitl to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract cancellation for Porter Ann Gaines Whiteside 319-TMDL-16-83-05 (\$3,000.00).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.

All yes, motion carried.

PAGE 2
GBERBA POLICY MINUTES
MAY 8, 2020

GBERBA Contract Approval

Karson Duncanson 07-10(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops (1,225 ac.) Cost \$36,750.00 C-S \$18,375.00

Motion by Steve Florhs second by Tony Berg to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract for Duncanson 319-TMDL-16-07-10 (\$18,375.00).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.
All yes, motion carried.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Completion

Tony Dick 17-08(319-TMDL-16)) Cover Crops (45 ac.) Cost \$1,828.68 C-S \$914.34
Curt Russell 81-09(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops (28 ac.) Cost \$1,460.00 C-S \$675.00

Motion by Tony Berg, second by Clem Windschitl to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payments for Dick 319-TMDL-16-07-08 (\$914.34) and Russell 319-TMDL-16-81-09 (\$675.00).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.
All yes, motion carried.

MAWQCP Contract Approval

Ronald Dritz	MAWQCP(41-5-19)	Worksheet/Certification Incentive	\$300.00
William Ruhland	MAWQCP(40-6-06)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Terry Aukes	MAWQCP(67-5-16)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00
Jamie Labat	MAWQCP(42-5-12)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Larry Hansen to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Dritz (\$300.00), Ruhland (\$100.00) and Aukes and Labat (\$200.00).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Steve Flohrs; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Glen Mathiason; Y - Bill Miller; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka; Y - Clem Windschitl.
All yes, motion carried.

Grant Balances and Projects Report – Disbursed.

July Policy/Technical Meeting

Discussion. Suggestions for an in person meeting or WebEx. Executive Committee will decide in June.

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! 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 will request 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.

Work plan revisions and updates have been completed and are being reviewed by Board Conservationist.

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

☆ One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants, Watonwan Watershed

The Watonwan 1W1P Project is in full swing completing the plan language and reviewing plan sections. 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. Watonwan Watershed Policy Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 20 and will give their updates from each SWCD and County Board with the final decision on fiscal agent that day.

☆ Minnesota Conservation Corps Position

The Minnesota/Iowa Conservation Corps program has decided to suspend AmeriCorps member field operations in Minnesota beginning on Friday, March 27 and effective through at least Monday, May 4.

Staff Reports

Cottonwood Watershed Specialist – Josh Votruba – See Handout

Area 6 Certification Specialist – Herman Bartsch – See Handout

Area 5 Certification Specialist – Danielle Evers - See Handout

MAWQCP Conservation Corp Member – Ashley Broussard – See Handout

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – State staff will be working remotely from home through the end of May. A limited number of staff can start to do field work – looking for safety items for vehicles. Lawns to Legumes – individual sign-up through Blue Thumb is still ongoing. 1W1P planning grant is open and closes June 12. Second CREP sign-up – deadline is June 1. BWSR Executive John Jaschke, Troy Daniels, NRCS State Conservationist and LeAnn Buck, MASWCD Executive Director had a state manager’s meeting. Preparing for a state funding reduction up to 25% for Clean Water Funds.

MPCA – Paul Davis – No in Attendance.

OTHER - None

The meeting was declared adjourned at 2:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Tom Appel.

Next meeting dates:

Executive Meeting	June 12, 2020	1:00 p.m.
Technical Meeting	May 27, 2020	9:30 a.m.
Policy Board and Technical Committee Joint Meeting	July 10, 2020	9:30 a.m.

Secretary’s signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____