

## GBERBA Policy Board Minutes

Friday, July 10, 2020

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

**Present:** Tom Appel, Tony Berg, Doug Christopherson, Wayne Cords, James Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Larry Hansen, John King, Don Kropp, Clark Lingbeek, Linda Meschke, Neal Mensing, Bill Miller, Gary Rathman, John Shanahan and Tom Warmka.

**Others Present:** Ashley Broussard, David Bucklin, Kay Gross.

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

### Introductions

#### Agenda

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Tony Berg to approve the Policy Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the FY21 Clean Water Fund RFP.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - Tom Warmka.  
All yes, motion carried.

#### Minutes

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Tom Appel to approve the May 8, 2020 minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - Tom Warmka.  
All yes, motion carried.

### INFORMATION/ACTION

#### Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 5/30/20 to 6/30/20 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Tom Appel to approve the financial report as presented.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; A – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - Tom Warmka.  
Neal Mensing - Abstained  
All yes, motion carried.

#### Accounts Payable

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Tony Berg to approve the accounts payable totaling \$30,977.48.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; A – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - Tom Warmka.  
Neal Mensing - Abstained  
All yes, motion carried.

#### GBERBA Contract Cancellation

Matt Warmka	07-02(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 71.5 ac	C-S \$2,681.25
Eric Wegner	22-17(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 40 ac	C-S \$1,500.00

Motion by Clark Lingbeek, second by Larry Hansen to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract cancellations for Warmka – 07-02(319-TMDL-16) - \$2,681.25 and Wegner – 22-17(319-TMDL-16) - \$1,500.00.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; A - Tom Warmka.  
Tom Warmka - Abstained  
All yes, motion carried.

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**GBERBA Contract Amendments**

Blue Earth Co D.A. 07-09(319-TMDL-16) Additional Side Inlets – 5 no Cost \$11,400.00 C-S \$5,700.00  
 All Remaining 319 Unpaid Contracts ALL(319-TMDL-16) Change Expiration Date to 8-20-2021

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Blue Earth Co D.A. – 07-09(319-TMDL-16) - \$5,700.00.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.  
 All yes, motion carried.

Motion by Linda Meschke, second by Tony Berg to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for ALL REMAINING UNPAID CONTRACTS (319-TMDL-16) – Extend End Date to 8-31-2021.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.  
 All yes, motion carried.

**GBERBA Contract Approvals**

Tom Muller	17-11(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 130 ac	C-S \$3,250.00	Cost \$6,500.00
Andrew Krusemark	46-07(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 450 ac	C-S \$11,250.00	Cost \$22,500.00
Roger Hubmer	07-11(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 312 ac	C-S \$6,700.00	Cost \$13,400.00
Scott Volz	22-61(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 169.6 ac	C-S \$4,240.00	Cost \$8,480.00
Dan Roemhildt	81-10(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 209.2 ac	C-S \$5,230.00	Cost \$10,460.00
Doug Meyer	22-62(319-TMDL-16)	Alternative Tile Intakes – 2	C-S \$500.00	Cost \$1,000.00

Motion by John Shanahan, second by Clark Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract for Muller – 17-11(319-TMDL-16) - \$3,250.00, Krusemark - 46-07(319-TMDL-16) - \$11,250.00, Hubmer - 07-11(319-TMDL-16) - \$6,700.00, Volz - 22-61(319-TMDL-16) - \$4,240.00, Roemhildt - 81-10(319-TMDL-16) - \$5,230.00, Meyer - 22-62(319-TMDL-16) - \$500.00.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; Y – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.  
 All yes, motion carried.

**GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Completion**

Blue Earth Co D.A.	07-01(CWF-MDM-17)	T/E County Ditch 56	C-S \$2,617.00	Cost \$2,617.00
Jared Mensing	22-48(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 37 ac	C-S \$665.63	Cost \$1,331.26
Neal Mensing	22-49(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 32 ac	C-S \$702.10	Cost \$1,404.20
Neal Mensing	22-50(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 52 ac	C-S \$935.48	Cost \$1,870.96
Neal Mensing	22-51(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 48 ac	C-S \$1,035.32	Cost \$2,070.64
Neal Mensing	22-52(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 42 ac	C-S \$755.58	Cost \$1,511.16
Neal Mensing	22-53(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 71 ac	C-S \$1,277.29	Cost \$2,554.58

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Larry Hanson to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract payments for Blue Earth Co D.A. -07-01(CWF-MDM-17) - \$2,617.00, Jared Mensing - 22-48(319-TMDL-16) - \$665.63, Neal Mensing - 22-49(319-TMDL-16) - \$702.10, 22-50(319-TMDL-16) - \$935.48, 22-51(319-TMDL-16) - \$1,035.32, 22-52(319-TMDL-16)-\$755.58 , 22-53(319-TMDL-16) - \$1,277.29.

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y – Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y – John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y – Linda Meschke; A – Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y – Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.  
 Abstain – Neal Mensing  
 Motion carried.

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**MAWQCP Contract Approval**

Lone Oak Farms Inc	MAWQCP(40-6-07)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Mark Pettis	MAWQCP(40-6-05)	Certification Incentive	\$200.00
Philip Schreier	MAWQCP(51-5-13)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Allen Deutz	MAWQCP(42-5-13)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00
Paul & Fran Deutz	MAWQCP(42-5-14)	Worksheet Incentive	\$100.00

Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by John King to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Lone Oak Farms Inc (\$100.00), Pettis (\$200.00), Schreier (\$100.00), A. Deutz (\$100.00) and Paul & Fran Deutz (\$100.00).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Linda Meschke; Y - Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y - Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.

All yes, motion carried.

**Grant Balances and Projects Report – Disbursed.**

**Joint Powers Agreement Update**

Technical Committee member volunteers are Michele Stindtman, Ashley Brenke and Julie Conrad and Policy Board members Tom Appel and Clark Lingbeek. We will be contacting Ann Goering and will send out tentative dates for our first WebEx meeting.

**FY21 Clean Water Legacy RFP**

Motion by Tom Warmka, second by Larry Hansen to approve the submission of one or more RFPs for BWSR FY21 Clean Water Fund grant(s).

Roll Call: Y - Tom Appel; Y - Tony Berg; Y - Doug Christopherson; Y - Wayne Cords; Y - James Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y - Larry Hansen; Y - John King; Y - Don Kropp; Y - Clark Lingbeek; Y - Linda Meschke; Y - Neal Mensing; Y - Bill Miller; Y - Gary Rathman; Y - John Shanahan; Y - Tom Warmka.

All yes, motion carried.

**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 statewide!

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.

For 2020, the cover crop acre limits are removed. At this point the 50% cost share rate will continue. GBERBA staff has requested and received an extension of this grant due to 2019 weather conditions and the Covid-19 outbreak. The new end date of the grant will be August 31, 2021.

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★ **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, Watonwan and Blue Earth Watershed**

The Watonwan 1W1P Planning Project has moved 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. GBERBA staff are researching the costs and procedure of writing of a new GBERBA Joint Powers document. The new document would allow for the Watonwan, Le Sueur, and Blue Earth Watersheds to participate if the individual watersheds 1W1P boards see a benefit to do so. The Le Sueur Watershed has submitted an application to BWSR for a Planning Grant.

In addition, we are looking for committee members to help update the GBERBA Joint Powers Agreement.

★ **Minnesota Conservation Corps Position**

The Minnesota/Iowa Conservation Corps program has rescinded the Covid suspension of M/ICC services. Ashley is back in the office and in the field helping with the MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program.

★ **Resignation**

Josh Votruba has taken another position in the Kanabec SWCD office. Thanks for your work, and good luck Josh!

**Staff Reports**

**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 – Written Report was emailed out.

**MPCA** – None

**OTHER** - None

The meeting was declared adjourned at 1:40 p.m. by Chairman Neal Mensing.

**Next meeting dates:**

Executive Meeting	August 26, 2020	1:00 p.m.
Technical Meeting	August 26, 2020	9:30 a.m.
Policy Board Meeting	September 11, 2020	9:30 a.m.

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