

# GBERBA Executive Board Minutes

Friday, December 18, 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:** Dave Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart and Kay Gross.

Chairman Neal Mensing called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

## Agenda

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Mathiason to approve the Executive Board Meeting Agenda with the addition of the Contract Amendment for MDM Grant Contract and Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant 40% Request.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

## Minutes

Motion by Mathiason, second by Appel to approve the October 9, 2020 minutes as presented.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

## INFORMATION/ACTION

### Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 11/1/20 to 11/30/20 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Shanahan, second by Appel to approve the December financial report as presented.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### Accounts Payable

Motion by Appel, second by Shanahan to approve the accounts payable totaling \$149,781.20.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

### GBERBA Contract Final Payment

|                      |                    |                                  |                 |                  |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Blue Earth Co. D.A.  | 07-04(CWF-MDM-17)  | Alternative Side Inlets – 16 no. | C-S \$28,822.50 | Cost \$38,430.00 |
| Blue Earth Co. D.A.  | 07-05(CWF-MDM-17)  | Alternative Side Inlets – 14 no. | C-S \$25,125.00 | Cost \$33,710.47 |
| Schimeck Enterprises | 22-44(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 208 ac.            | C-S \$1,725.00  | Cost \$6,555.60  |
| Andy Linder          | 22-55(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 243 ac.            | C-S \$6,325.00  | Cost \$13,289.84 |
| Bill Rauenhorst      | 22-56(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 91 ac.             | C-S \$1,535.50  | Cost \$3,071.25  |
| Trails End Farms     | 22-57(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 301 ac.            | C-S \$6,020.00  | Cost \$16,752.21 |
| J-Ace Farms          | 22-58(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 713 ac.            | C-S \$14,161.50 | Cost \$28,323.00 |
| Eric Volsen          | 22-59(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 452 ac.            | C-S \$10,221.17 | Cost \$20,442.34 |
| Don Linder           | 22-60(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 265.5 ac.          | C-S \$5,718.50  | Cost \$11,437.00 |
| Scott Volz           | 22-61(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 212 ac.            | C-S \$3,715.64  | Cost \$7,431.28  |
| Tim Perrizo          | 22-63(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 120 ac.            | C-S \$2,700.00  | Cost \$5,689.57  |
| Ron Volzen           | 22-64(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 215 ac.            | C-S \$3,705.00  | Cost \$7,410.00  |
| Andrew Krusemark     | 46-07(319-TMDL-16) | Cover Crops – 450 ac.            | C-S \$11,250.00 | Cost \$24,489.00 |

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Mathiason to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payments for Blue Earth Co. D.A. (CWF-MDM-17-07-04) - \$28,822.50; Blue Earth Co. D.A. (CWF-MDM-17-07-05) - \$25,125.00; Schimeck Enterprises (319-TMDL-16-22-44) - \$1,725.00; Andy Linder (319-TMDL-16-22-55) - \$6,325.00; Bill Rauenhorst (319-TMDL-16-22-56) - \$1,535.50; Trails End Farms (319-TMDL-16-22-57) \$6,020.00; J-Ace Farms – (319-TMDL-16-22-58) - \$14,161.50; Eric Volsen (319-TMDL-16-22-59) - \$10,211.17; Don Linder (319-TMDL-16-22-60) - \$5,718.50; Scott Volz (319-TMDL-16-22-61) - \$3,715.64; Tim Perrizo (319-TMDL-16-22-63) \$2,700.00; Ron Volsen (319-TMDL-16-22-64) - \$3,705.00 and Andrew Krusemark (319-TMDL-16-46-07) \$11,250.00. Motion carried.

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

Motion carried, all yes.

**GBERBA Technical and Engineering Assistance Final Payments**

|                     |                   |                         |                 |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Blue Earth Co. D.A. | 07-04(CWF-MDM-17) | Technical & Engineering | Cost \$5,687.25 |
| Blue Earth Co. D.A. | 07-05(CWF-MDM-17) | Technical & Engineering | Cost \$3,962.25 |

Motion by Mathiason, second by Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA Technical and Engineering Assistance contract final payments for Blue Earth Co. D.A. (CWF-MDM-17-07-04) - \$5,687.25; Blue Earth Co. D.A. (CWF-MDM-17-07-05) - \$3,962.25.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y - Mathiason  
Motion carried, all yes.

Tom Warmka joined the meeting.

**GBERBA Contract Amendment**

|                 |                   |                             |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Waseca Co. D.A. | 81-01(CWF-MDM-17) | Time Extension to 4-30-2021 |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|

Motion by Appel, second by Mathiason to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Waseca County D.A. for a time extension to 4-30-2021.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y – Mathiason      Y - Warmka  
Motion carried, all yes.

**MAWQCP Contract Approval and Payment**

|                     |                 |                                   |          |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| David Pomerence     | MAWQCP(32-5-23) | Worksheet Incentive               | \$100.00 |
| Pat Dorn            | MAWQCP(63-5-14) | Worksheet/Certification Incentive | \$300.00 |
| DT Kramer Farms Inc | MAWQCP(67-5-18) | Certification Incentive           | \$200.00 |
| Stencel Farms Inc   | MAWQCP(81-6-08) | Worksheet/Certification Incentive | \$300.00 |

Motion by Mathiason, second by Lingbeek to approve the MAWQCP incentives for Pomerence (\$100.00), DT Kramer Farms Inc (\$200.00) and Dorn and Stencel Farms Inc (\$300.00).

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y – Mathiason      Y - Warmka  
Motion carried, all yes.

**Review Grant Report**

**BWSR Grant Agreement Amendment**

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Shanahan to approve the BWSR 2017 Competitive Grant Multipurpose Drainage Management C17-3714 grant amendment of a new expiration date of April 30, 2021.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y – Mathiason      Y - Warmka  
Motion carried, all yes.

**Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant – Request next 40%**

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Appel to approve the Financial Report and submission to request 40% funding for the Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant totaling \$120,480.00.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y – Mathiason      Y - Warmka  
Motion carried, all yes.

**Joint Powers Agreement Update**

We are receiving the final approvals from our member Counties and SWCDs and will bring to the GBERBA Policy Board meeting in January for approval.

**Draft By-Laws Document - Discussion**

In speaking with Ann Goering and Assistant Erin Benson the discussion on listing specific committees in the By-Laws means that you are locking yourself into those parameters. We can list standing committees on the Consent Agenda for the January GBERBA Policy Board as a set committee, this way you do not have to change the By-Laws if you change something with a committee or changes when you meet, etc.

**2021 Dues**

Motion by Warmka, second by Mathiason to approve the request for GBERBA dues for 2021 with no increase.

Roll Call Vote – Y – Mensing      Y – Appel      Y - Lingbeek      Y – Shanahan      Y – Mathiason      Y - Warmka  
Motion carried, all yes.

## Meeting Adjustments 2021 - Calendar

### COORDINATOR REPORT

#### ☆ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 700,000 acres and over 900 certified producers statewide!

GBERBA has the Area 5 and 6 MAWQCP administrative contract approved through 2021. The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program has launched 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 this grant titled "Greater Blue Earth River Basin TMDL Implementation" is found on the GBERBA web site. Cover crops: \$50.00 dollars per acre maximum, 50% c/s (\$25.00 ac.). Prioritization required.

Alternative intakes: Rock and pattern tile. \$500.00 maximum with 50% cost share.

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.

**For 2020, the cover crop acre limits are removed. 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.**

This grant funding is now running short. Funding will be awarded as available. Please pass this notice on to new landowners wishing to apply.

#### ☆ 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 to identify the eligible ditches. A guidance policy sheet is online.

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

At this time, GBERBA has received a second grant time extension. In addition, GBERBA can pay grant engineering funds to approved projects even if not constructed prior to grant deadline.

The new grant end date is April 30, 2021. No further extension will be allowed.

#### ☆ One Watershed One Plan Planning Grants, Watonwan and Le Sueur Watersheds

The Watonwan 1W1P plan is going to a Southern Regional BWSR Board meeting where staff will deliver a plan presentation on November 19, 2020 at 9 am. The full BWSR Board will consider plan approval at the December 17, 2020 meeting.

A GBERBA committee is working to assist with writing a new GBERBA Joint Powers Agreement document and By-laws. The new JPA document would allow for the Watonwan, Le Sueur, and Blue Earth Watersheds 1W1P boards to utilize the GBERBA structure if the individual watersheds 1W1P boards see a benefit to do so. Local boards in member counties and SWCD's are approving the document this month. The Watonwan Steering Team is working on the Implementation Work Plan which will be submitted by March 2021.

BWSR has approved the Le Sueur 1W1P Planning grant.

### Staff Reports

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

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

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

### Agency Reports

**BWSR** – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Watonwan River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was approved at the BWSR December Board Meeting. Also, the Clean Water Fund Grant applications were approved for funding with GBERBA receiving the Watonwan Watershed Drinking Water Protection for GBERBA.

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**OTHER –**

Meeting adjourned by Neal Mensing at 2:06 p.m.

**Next meeting date:**

|                         |                             |           |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Technical Meeting       | Wednesday, January 27, 2021 | 9:30 a.m. |
| Policy Board Meeting    | Friday, January 15, 2021    | 1:00 p.m. |
| Executive Board Meeting | Friday, February 12, 2021   | 1:00 p.m. |

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