

# Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Committee

Friday, December 18, 2020 – WebEx by Phone or Computer Connection

## **Present:**

Dave Bucklin  
Alan Gleinser  
Andy Meyer  
Brenda Lageson  
Scott Salisbury  
Jake Fritz  
Michael Stalberger  
Rick Moore

## **Representing:**

GBERBA Coordinator  
Brown SWCD  
Brown County  
Freeborn SWCD  
Blue Earth County  
Blue Earth SWCD  
Blue Earth County  
MNIT – DNR

## **Present:**

Mark Schaetzke  
Amy Huber  
Kay Gross  
Nathan Carr  
Melanie Krueger  
Ashley Brenke  
Jill Sackett Eberhart

## **Representing:**

Waseca SWCD  
Faribault SWCD  
GBERBA Coordinator  
Faribault SWCD  
Brown SWCD  
Martin SWCD  
BWSR

**Call to Order:** GBERBA Technical Coordinator Dave Bucklin called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

## **Introductions**

**Agenda:** Motion by Andy Meyer, second by Jake Fritz to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried, all yes.

**Minutes:** Motion by Andy Meyer, second by Nathan Carr to approve the November 20, 2020 Technical Committee Meeting minutes. Motion carried, all yes.

## **INFORMATION ACTION:**

### **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 Jake Fritz, second by Nathan Carr 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.

### **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 Jake Fritz, second by Ashley Brenke 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. Motion carried.

### **GBERBA Contract Amendment**

Waseca Co. D.A.	81-01(CWF-MDM-17)	Time Extension to 4-30-2021
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Motion by Mark Schaetzke, second by Dave Bucklin to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract amendment for Waseca County D.A. for a time extension to 4-30-2021. Motion carried.

**Review GBERBA Cost-Share Balances, Projects and Financial Report**

Status of Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Projects and ability to request a formal extension.

**CWF MDM Grant Extension Request**

GBERBA Executive Board.

**Joint Powers Agreement**

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.

**Dues 2021**

**Meeting Adjustments for 2021**

**Coordinator Report:** Dave Bucklin and Kay Gross

**★ 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.

**PAGE 3**  
**GBERBA Technical Committee Meeting**  
**December 18, 2020**

**☆ 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. Currently the Le Sueur group is working on their budget.

**Staff Report:**

**Area 6 Certification Specialist** – Herman Bartsch – Written Report

**Area 5 Certification Specialist** – Danielle Evers – Written Report

**Conservation Corp Member** – Ashley Broussard – Written Report

**Agency Reports:**

**BWSR** – Jill Sackett Eberhart – St. Paul staff have sent out the congratulations to all Clean Water Fund grant recipients and the Watonwan River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan approval!!!

**OTHER –**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:06 a.m. by GBERBA Technical Coordinator Dave Bucklin.

**Upcoming Meetings**

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: \_\_\_\_\_