

GBERBA Policy Board Minutes
Friday, July 16, 2021
WebEx – Web Based (Computer) Connection

Present: Brandon Anderson, Tom Appel, Tony Berg, Brad Edwin, Jim Eigenberg, Rich Enger, Steve Flohrs, Larry Hansen, John King, Don Kropp, Clark Lingbeek, Bill Miller, Kevin Paap, and John Shanahan.

Others Present: David Bucklin, Jill Sackett Eberhart, Dave Haler, Kay Gross, Dru Larson, Ed Lenz, Carrie Schultz.

Chairman Tom Appel called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Introductions

Agenda

Motion by Tony Berg, second by John King to approve the GBERBA agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Jim Eigenberg to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2021 GBERBA Policy Board Meeting.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

INFORMATION/ACTION

Financial Report

The Financial Report dated 6/1/21 to 6/30/21 was presented for the Board's review. Motion by Rich Enger, second by Steve Flohrs to approve the financial report as presented.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

Accounts Payable

Motion by Jim Eigenberg, second by Kevin Paap to approve the accounts payable totaling \$35,741.57.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

GBERBA Contract Cancellation

Scott Gossman 81-16(319-TMDL-16) Cover Crops – 181.71 ac. C-S \$3,634.00 Cost \$7,268.00

Motion by Don Kropp, second by Brandon Anderson to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract cancellation for Gossman (319-TMDL-16-81-16) \$3,634.00.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

PAGE 2
GBERBA POLICY MINUTES
JULY 16, 2021

Larry Hansen Joined 1:11 p.m.

GBERBA Contract Final Payment

Marie Swedberg	22-68(319-TMDL-16)	Alternative Tile Intakes – 1 no.	C-S \$250.00	Cost \$597.20
Mavis Sabin	22-69(319-TMDL-16)	Alternative Tile Intakes – 1 no.	C-S \$250.00	Cost \$597.20
J-Ace Farms	22-65(319-TMDL-16)	Cover Crops – 745 ac.	C-S \$14,174.00	Cost\$28,571.50

Motion by Bill Miller, second by Tony Berg to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share contract final payments for M. Swedberg (319-TMDL-16-22-68) \$250.00, M. Sabin (319-TMDL-16-22-69) \$250.00 and J-Ace Farms (319-TMDL-16-22-65) \$14,174.00.00.

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – Hansen; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

MAWQCP Contract Approval

Jason Schreirer	MAWQCP(51-5-20)	Worksheet/Certification Completion	Incentive \$300.00
Allen Nuffer	MAWQCP(67-5-28)	Worksheet/Certification Completion	Incentive \$300.00
Darby Harder	MAWQCP(17-5-24)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Ridge Enterprises	MAWQCP(59-5-31)	Certification Completion	Incentive \$200.00
David Determan	MAWQCP(17-5-25)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Richard Jepson	MAWQCP(65-6-10)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Dean Schroeder	MAWQCP(65-6-11)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Jeffrey Lingl	MAWQCP(65-6-12)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Thomas Lorang	MAWQCP(65-6-13)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Herman Bartsch	MAWQCP(07-6-13)	Worksheet/Certification Completion	Incentive \$300.00
Dominic Schultz	MAWQCP(22-6-26)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00
Peter Noding	MAWQCP(51-5-19)	Certification Completion	Incentive \$200.00
Travis Swanson	MAWQCP(46-6-11)	Worksheet Completion	Incentive \$100.00

Motion by Rich Enger, second by Brandon Anderson to approve the MAWQCP incentive payments for Harder, Determan, Jepson, Schroeder, Lingl, Lorang, Schultz and Swanson (\$100.00); Ridge Enterprises and Noding (\$200.00) and Schreirer, Nuffer and Bartsch (\$300.00).

Roll Call: Y – Brandon Anderson; Y - Tom Appel; Y – Y - Tony Berg; Y – Brad Edwin; Y – Jim Eigenberg; Y - Rich Enger; Y – Steve Flohrs; Y – Hansen; Y – John King; Y – Don Kropp; Y – Clark Lingbeek; Y – Bill Miller; Y – Kevin Paap; Y – John Shanahan.

Motion carried.

Review Grant Report

Watowan Watershed – Multipurpose Drainage Management Studies – Definition - Discussion

Watowan Watershed – Multipurpose Drainage Management Studies – Definition - Discussion

As for the MDM Studies, our Watowan Watershed Plan goal is to "Coordinate with the drainage authorities to implement MDM on 10 public drainage systems to improve water quality and flood resiliency in tandem with the maintenance and repair of drainage systems.

Legal Counsel

Tim Sullivan has provided us with contract language to review with questions going back next week. We will have answers for the August Executive Board Meeting.

Coordinator Report

★ MN Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Update on progress made in areas 5 and 6 – See Certification Specialist Reports. Over 761,000 acres and over 1063 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 (31), integrated pest management (31), wildlife (22) and climate smart (12).

NRCS announced a June 4th application deadline for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP – MAWQCP). RCPP is a partnership between NRCS and MAWQCP. Producers who are seeking certification or are already certified are eligible to receive funding. Priority is given to practices that are needed for a producer to obtain certification. Dru Larson, MN/IA Conservation Corps Member will be assisting with this program in 2021

★ 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.

The end date of the grant is August 31, 2021. This grant is now fully encumbered. Funding awarded as available.

★ 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.

At this time, GBERBA has received a third grant time extension. In addition, GBERBA can pay grant-engineering funds to approved projects even if not constructed prior to grant deadline. BWSR staff has now approved the extension for the entire grant to April 30, 2022.

★ Watonwan River Watershed - Implementation Grant

Implementation grant funds are available now with the Grant 41 Policy distributed to all GBERBA members and partners. The grant timeline is 3-24-2021 to 12-31-2023. The Project Ranking Worksheet is used for project priority.

Legal counsel has been contracted to review the need for additional contracts with member entities or others and recourse and/or errors and omissions if non-compliance issues arise when completing projects. The Technical Committee is working on the Multipurpose Drainage Management Study definition and expectations, with hope to have that completed by the July 16 Policy Board Meeting. A BWSR interim report is due August 27 for grant expenditures through June 30, 2021.

★ Le Sueur River Watershed – One Watershed One Plan

Waseca SWCD is in the process of contract negotiations with ISG who is subcontracting with Freshwater for facilitation services. Consultant scope and expectations are being more clearly defined so that both sides have a good understanding of expectations. Our Policy Committee has opted to meet in person with the meeting location rotating throughout the four participating counties. An in-person kickoff meeting with supplemental survey is tentatively planned for September and will be organized by the WRC.

Haley will be out for leave from July-Sept and is coordinating with other staff who will complete her day-to-day duties for that time.

PAGE 4
GBERBA POLICY MINUTES
JULY 16, 2021

☆ **CWF 2020 Watonwan Drinking Water Grant.** The grant funding is available now to encumber! The grant timeline is 3-25-2021 to 12-31-2023. Grant Policy #40 has been distributed to staff, please review for eligible practices and grant guidelines. Project contracts are coming in for funding.

Staff Reports – In person reports by Herman Bartsch, Danielle Evers and Dru Larson. Emailed out to Policy and Technical Committee

Agency Reports

BWSR – Jill Sackett Eberhart – Legislation FY22-23 Funding (Handout Sent Out to Group). FY22 Clean Water Fund request for applications are open and closed August 17.

OTHER –

The meeting was declared adjourned at 2:07 p.m. by Chairman Tom Appel.

Next meeting date: Technical Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Executive Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 25, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
Policy Board Meeting – Friday, September 10, 2021

Secretary's signature of approved minutes _____ Date _____