

Minutes
Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 22, 2021
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District
712 Industrial Park Blvd., Elbow Lake, MN 56531

Chairman Larson called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Members present:

Randy Larson, Chairman

Paul Groneberg, Vice Chairman

Larry Stephens, Member

Andrew Marks, Treasurer

Member absent:

Jon Nelson, Personnel

Others present: Brent Gulbrandson, Jared House, Nicole Sumstad, Reed Peterson (SWCD), Pete Waller (BWRS), Ryan Haspal (NRCS).

Secretary's Report: Stephen's made the motion to approve the Secretary's Report for the June 22, 2021, Board meeting. Groneberg seconded. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Stephens, and Marks. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Groneberg made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the June 22, 2021, Grant SWCD Board meeting. Stephens seconded. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Stephens, and Marks. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Chippewa River Project: House reported that an application will need to be turned in for the extension of the county's water plan to meet the timeline of the Chippewa River planning efforts.

Pomme de Terre River Association: Groneberg reported that the Soil Health Day is set for 9-8-2021 from 5-7 p.m. at the Greg Fynboh farm. They will be highlighting strip tillage this year. He also updated with the breakdown of the grant funding YTD. House added that we are wrapping up our lakeshore assessment of the Christina/Pelican Lakes area and is hoping to reach out to owners of the critical areas.

Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watershed Project: House reported that the Rabbit River area has money for cover crops so discussing a newsletter option. Discussion was the drought will be having a major influence on cover crop options.

TSA: Marks updated that they have settled on budget option 6, which protects the employees. Still uncertain on the engineer hiring.

Supervisor per Diem: House updated that Minnesota passed the per diem rate maximum to \$125 per day for SWCD Supervisors. Marks made a motion to increase the Grant SWCD per Diem rate to \$125.00 per day. No second. Motion failed.

Groneberg made a motion to increase the Grant SWCD per Diem rate to \$110.00 per day beginning August 1, 2021. Stephens seconded. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Stephens, and Marks. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

SWCD Bus Tour: House reported the tour is meant to show what and how we are doing things in our office. This is meant for Grant County Commissioners along with FSA, NRCS, and local watershed members. This year is for the SW corner of the county: Gorton, Macsville, Delaware, and Logan. Will look into booking the tour bus for August 26, 2021, with a backup date of September 10, 2021.

CRP/CCRP: Gulbrandson updated that the general signup deadline is July 23, 2021. He also gave the run down on all the current program deadlines.

Buffer update: House reported the JD 12 and JD 2 alternative practice agreements have been signed. The remaining noncompliance are now going through the Bois de Sioux Watershed.

NRCS: Haspal reported that EQIP has an August 23, 2021 deadline. CSP has 2 contracts that have been signed and are waiting on an update. And the latest update on building opening to the public is now pushed back to January of 2022.

Legislative Update: Waller updated with a 2021 Legislative Session Summary. The Funds that he touched on are: General Fund, Legacy Fund, and Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund. He also mentioned a few Policy Items.

Goeden Project: Groneberg made the motion to approve contract # 26-03-19 CWF. Cost share \$15,689.00. (PDT 2019 CWF). Stephens seconded. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Stephens, and Marks. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2021 MASWCD Awards: House informed that we have until 9/17/2021 to submit any entries for the Conservationist of the Year award.

Discussions: Gulbrandson asked if there is any interest in going for a spring boat tour to explain the lakeshore findings on Christina/Pelican Lakes. Will table until a later date.

Stephens made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Groneberg seconded. Affirmative: Larson, Groneberg, Stephens, and Marks. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

 10-28-21