

Minutes
Board of Supervisors
August 24th, 2023
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District

Groneberg called the meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m.

Members present:

Paul Groneberg – Chair
Randy Larson – Vice
Larry Stephens – Member
Darin Hanson – Personnel

Others present: Brent Gulbrandson, Jared House, Nicole Sumstad, Reed Peterson (SWCD), Aria Schuett, Eric Klimek (NRCS).

Secretary's Report: Hanson made a motion to approve the Secretary's Report from the July 27, 2023, board meeting. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sumstad and House reported on the treasurer's report and the partial payment from the SWCD Aid money. House then outlined 2023 Guidelines on use of SWCD Aid payments document. The document is a requirement for the use of SWCD Aid funds and outlines allowable activities. Larson made a motion to approve the SWCD Aid 2023 Payment Guidelines. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried. Larson then made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Office update: House outlined the memo from Grant County on the ransomware attack on the county servers which in turn affected ours. The Grant County attorney has also strongly suggested on purchasing work cell phones for all employees. The county is also incorporating a new software update for virus protection, which will have a monthly fee as well. House reported that through the highway department, our office has received employee cell phones and is looking into options on monthly vs annual payments for both these services. Hanson made a motion to approve working with Grant county in regards to cell phones and software update service/payment options until 12/31/2023. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS: Schuett refreshed on the deadline for the 18 CSP contracts, the CRP status reviews, and the CRP establishment reviews that were planted in 2020 and 2021.

Chippewa River Project: Hanson updated on the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan review process which will be open for public comment from September 2023 to March 2024. He also informed the group that the Chippewa River Watershed Association's 2022 audit has been completed.

Pomme de Terre River Association: Groneberg reported on the vacant coordinator position and House in turn updated that our proposal for the Contract for Services Interim Coordinator was accepted. Hanson made a motion to approve the Contract for Services with the Pomme de Terre River Association for the Interim Coordinator position, for a 6-month period. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watershed: Larson stated no meeting. House stated they will be going through funding that has been encumbered at the September meeting to determine if an extension will be needed for FY21 grant that is set to expire.

TSA: Gulbrandson and Stephens reported on the discussion of engineering projects, survey equipment from the unrestricted fund balance, and the budget.

MASWCD: Sumstad outlined the award application process for the MASWCD annual convention and that they will need to be submitted by September 22, 2023.

Bus Tour Recap: Everyone was in agreeance that the bus tour was interesting and fun to see all the progress that we have been making.

Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Carla M. Clark
9.28.23