

***Minutes***  
***Board of Supervisors***  
***September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023***  
***Grant Soil & Water Conservation District***

Groneberg called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Members present:**

Paul Groneberg, Chairman

Randy Larson, Vice

Larry Stephens, Member

Andrew Marks, Treasurer

Darin Hanson, Personnel

**Others present:** Jared House, Nicole Sumstad, and Reed Peterson (Grant SWCD), Pete Waller (BWSR), and Aria Schuett (NRCS).

**Secretary's Report:** Marks made a motion to approve the secretary's report from the August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, board meeting. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sumstad shared on the updated CD rate and explained why the reports look a little "wonky". Going forward each treasurer's report will be presented through the end of the previous month. House also updated on the County needing a preliminary budget and explained the increase of 4% and the NRBG grants. Hanson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**NRCS:** Schuett updated on the CSP deadline of 9/30/2023 for reviewing documentation and 10/6/2023 will be application deadline for FY2024 funding for EQIP.

**Chippewa River Project:** Hanson reported no meeting. House recapped the review process and anticipating to start the public review in October.

**Pomme de Terre River Association:** House updated on the extension amendment for FY21 WBIF grant and he has been reaching out to each member on conducting a survey of the pros and cons of a joint coordinator position with the Chippewa River Project.

**Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watershed:** Larson reported no meeting. House updated on FY21 WBIF grant that will be spent by 12/31/2023 and the Red Path ground breaking.

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**Conservation Contract Policy:** Waller outlined the changes in the new Conservation Contract Policy that will replace the Cost Share Policy for all new grants. This new policy will allow SWCD's to broaden funding options.

**Contract Amendments:** House outlined the following contract amendments:

\*Contract #2020-06 to extend seeding date to 11/30/2023. Hanson made a motion to approve an extension for contract #2020-06. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

\*Contracts #26-01-21 WBIF, #26-04-21-WBIF, #26-05-21-WBIF, #26-06-21-WBIF, and #26-07-21-WBIF; to increase contract amounts. Additional funding will be provided through the PDTs FY21 WBIF grant. Hanson made a motion to approve contract amendments #26-01-21 WBIF, #26-04-21-WBIF, #26-05-21-WBIF, #26-06-21-WBIF, and #26-07-21-WBIF. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

\*Contract #2023-06-SH to increase contract amount. Larson made a motion to approve contract amendment #2023-06-SH. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**County Ditch #8:** House reported on the issues on this ditch and has reached out to MN DNR, MN DOT, and the Grant County Highway Department to help resolve this issue. Moore Engineering has submitted a proposal to provide civil engineering services, with a deadline of November 30, 2023, to come up with preliminary plans and design for the Grant County Ditch #8 Fish Barrier removal.

Stephens made a motion to approve the proposal with Moore Engineering to provide civil engineering services for the removal of the Fish Barrier on Grant County Ditch #8, with a deadline of November 30, 2023. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**Contract for Services:** House introduced a contract for services with West Otter Tail County SWCD for CRP incentives program. Marks made a motion to approve the contract for services with West Otter Tail County SWCD. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**Office Update:** House stated our server is back and the office has received 2 new laptops. The county has adopted 3 new policies to strengthen cybersecurity: Cellular Phone Policy, Passphrase Policy, and Acceptable Use Policy. The county is asking the SWCD to accept and sign these policies as we are on the county domain. We have also completed the MCIT Exposure Survey as the 1<sup>st</sup> step to switching insurance providers.

**FY2024 Buffer Law Agreement:** House outlined the agreement. Hanson made a motion to approve digital signature permission to Jared House for the FY2024 Buffer Law Agreement. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

**FY2024 and FY2025 Conservation Delivery Agreement and FY2024 and FY2025 Conservation Contracts Agreements:** House outlined the agreements. Marks made a motion to approve digital signature permission to Jared House for the FY2024 and FY2025 Conservation Delivery Agreement and FY2024 and FY2025 Conservation Contracts Agreement. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.



10-26-2023