

Minutes
Board of Supervisors
January 25th, 2024
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District

Groneberg called the meeting to order at 8:54 a.m.

Members present:

Paul Groneberg, Chairman
Randy Larson, Vice Chairman
Larry Stephens, Member
Darin Hanson, Personnel
Andrew Marks, Treasurer

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

Reorganization of the Board:

- **Election of Officers:** Marks made a motion for the Grant Soil & Water Conservation District Officers to remain the same for FY2024. Hanson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.
- **Committee appointments:** Groneberg stated committee appointments will remain the same for FY2024.
 - Chippewa River Project: Hanson; alternate Stephens
 - Pomme de Terre River Association: Groneberg; alternate Stephens
 - Bois de Sioux Watershed: Larson; alternate Marks
 - TSA: Marks; alternate Stephens
 - Buffer Law: Groneberg; alternate Larson
- **Meeting per Diem:** Larson made a motion to keep the supervisors per diem at \$110.00 per meeting. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.
- **Mileage:** Sumstad updated the IRS mileage rate for FY2024 is \$.67. Marks made a motion to follow the IRS mileage rate for FY2024. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.
- **Banking Resolutions:** Hanson made a motion to remain with BMO for the Districts primary financial institution. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.
- **Newspaper:** Marks made a motion to for the Grant County Herald to remain as the Districts newspaper. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

- **Meeting times and dates:** Marks made a motion to remain with the set meeting dates and times for FY2024 being of the 4th Thursday of every month with the exceptions of holidays. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Marks made a motion to approve the Secretary's Report from the December 28th, 2023, board meeting. Hanson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sumstad review the treasurer's report. Stephens made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried. Sumstad asked the board to consider a donation request for the Area 1 Senior and Junior Envirothon. Hanson made a motion to approve a donation of \$600.00 for FY2024 for the Area 1 Senior and Junior Envirothon. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried. Sumstad outlined the Peterson Engagement Letter for the FY2023 audit. Hanson made a motion to approve the Peterson Engagement Letter for the FY2023 audit. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried. Sumstad reviewed the dues for the following: MASWCD, Area 1 MASWCD, and MACDE. Larson made a motion to approve membership dues for MASWCD, Area 1 MASWCD, and MACDE for FY2024. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Chippewa River Project: Hanson stated the JPB meeting was canceled. Gulbrandson added the TAC is in the process of forming committees.

Pomme de Terre River Association: Groneberg updated of the reorganization of the board. House updated on the coordinator position.

Bois de Sioux Watershed: Larson updated on allocation of funds. Also North Ottawa Impoundment Committee meeting was held and the lease for the wild rice has been approved for cell B3.

Soil Health Specialist Agreement: Gulbrandson updated on the shared position of the soil health specialist with the 5 Districts covering the options of being with and/or without funding through the state of Minnesota. Hanson made a motion to approve to enter into an agreement with Clay SWCD, Wilken SWCD, Traverse SWCD, and West Otter Tail SWCD, for a shared Soil Health Specialist, with the understanding the starting date is negotiable. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

State of Minnesota JPA WIA: Gulbrandson outlined the agreement with the State of Minnesota for the Walk-in-Access program. Marks made a motion to approve the State of Minnesota JPA. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

S. POD Engineering update: Gulbrandson updated on the proposed budget that was presented. Gulbrandson will reach out and for additional information on some of the increases.

Supervisor Training/Refresher: Groneberg will be in attendance.



Peterson resignation: Peterson informed the board of his resignation to be effective 1/31/2024. Marks made a motion to accept Reed Peterson's resignation effective 1/31/2024. Stephens seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Marks then made a motion to formally cancel the contract for services with Grant County for the shared employee position, effective 1/31/2024. Hanson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS: Schuett gave update on the following: CSP payments, CSP applications and the ranking process, EQIP applications and the ranking process.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

 
2-22-24