

East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District April 18th, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Ken Pederson, Dave Kiecker, Larry Vettleson, Kory Sontelie, and Scott Balstad

Other's present: Rachel Klein, Marea Gryskiewicz, Jenna Simonson, Travis Nelson, Luther Newton, and Laura Schnapp

Meeting called to order at 8:36 am by Chairman Pederson

Motion to approve April 18, 2024 Agenda. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Vettleson.

Secretary's Report:

Approve March 14, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Sonsetlie.

Financials:

Approve the March 2024 Financial & Treasure Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Old Business:

No Till Policy: The Cover Crop Policy was updated to include No-Till Practices. The new policy is labeled The East Polk SWCD Soil Health Program Policy. Rates were set for \$40/acre for no till and cover crops. Each applicant is limited to 80 acres per year regardless of the practice. Motion to approve the East Polk Soil Health Program Policy by Kiecker, Second by Sonstelie.

New Business:

Approve encumbering cost share contract, CS-24-05, for Wayne Olson's WASCOD project in Brandsvold 22. Total project cost is \$28,605.27. 75% is \$21,453.95. This project will be funded by Clearwater 1W1P. Motion by Balstad, Second by Sonstelie.

Approve encumbering cost share contract, CS-24-06, for Wayne Olson's WASCOD project in Brandsvold 15. Total project cost is \$25,530.52. 75% is \$19,147.89. This project will be funded by Clearwater 1W1P. Motion by Balstad, Second by Sonstelie.

Approve encumbering cost share contract, CS-24-07, for Darrell Donnell's well sealing project. Total project cost is \$1000. 50% is \$500. This project will be funded by State Cost Share 2022. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve encumbering cost share contract, CS-24-08, for Chad Hemmingsen's well sealing project. Total project cost is \$1000. 50% is \$500. This project will be funded by State Cost Share 2022. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve payment of \$562.50 for Cost Share Contract, CS-23-11, for Al Bauer's well sealing from the State Cost Share 2022. Total project cost is \$1,125.00, 50% encumbered total was \$562.50. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve payment of \$515.00 for Cost Share Contract, CS-23-12, for Al Bauer's well sealing from the State Cost Share 2022. Total project cost is \$1,080.00. Estimate was \$1030.00. 50% encumbered total was \$515.00. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve the FY25 Clearwater 1W1P Workplan. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Call for Resolutions – Deadline June 7th

Approve the Pay Equity Report. Motion by Balstad, Second by Sontelie.

Reports:

NRCS Report: EQIP- I haven't heard anything about additional funding coming to E. Polk. All apps. selected for funding have been obligated. CSP- Assessment and ranking was completed by the deadline. In total, we had 36 applications on file in E. Polk. 13 were determined to be eligible for this funding cycle. Others either cancelled, deferred until next year, or were not screened as high priority. 1 applicant was deemed ineligible. I am expecting a min. of 2 to get selected for funding but am hoping for more. We should find out very soon. CRP- Workload is starting to pick up. I have completed several assessments and will start creating conservation plans for new offers soon. So far, 7 offers are waiting for planning. One watershed one plan RCPP- a new pot of money that overlaps with parts of E. Polk Co. Application deadline is 4-26-24. I reviewed and contacted EQIP applicants not selected for funding and overlap with the priority area. CRP rental rates provided by FSA. So far rental rates range from \$68-\$212 – the higher end of \$212 is NOT common. Most rental rates have averaged anywhere from \$100-\$175.

Member Reports

Balstad: AgBMP Meeting. Prioritized Ag Waste and Septic.
Pederson: SHRWD 1W1P Policy Meeting and Area 1 Meeting
Kiecker: RLWD Yearly Advisory Meeting
Sonstelie: No Report
Vettleson: No Report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- SHRWD 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
- Clearwater 1W1P Policy Meeting
- BWSR Spring Training
- TEP Meeting
- White Earth Land/Water Rights Meeting in Mahnomen
- PTMapp Training

Admin:

- Payroll, month end, board meeting prep
- MCIT Survey's

WCA:

- NOD for Minnkota's Badger Transmission Line – Utility Exemption
- NOA for Delineation Concurrence for Maple Lake Flats Campground

- Site Visit in Eden 31
- Multiple Inquiries

Feedlots:

- Work Group for Minimally Funded Counties

Marea:

Meetings/Training:

- RLWD Advisory Meeting
- Engineer Meeting with Logan
- SWI Webinar
- AIS Meeting
- Area 1 Meeting

Engineering:

- 7 WASCOBs in the design phase
- 1 Side Water Inlets (SWIs) in the design phase
- Cameron Lake Design

Jenna:

Meetings/Trainings:

- DNR Webex
- CFO Training
- Area 1 Meeting
- AgBMP Meeting
- BWSR Spring Training
- LTT Meeting

Buffers:

- Aerial review desktop
- BuffCat – update (new buffcat for 2024)

Trees:

- Tree Day Prep

Other:

- Rainfall Data
- Website Update
- Lake Leader


Emily: (Intern)

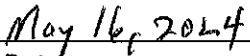
- Tree Invoices
- Lake Leader Address List
- Lake Leader Mailing

AgBMP Report: No longer accepting applications. There is a waitlist to submit an application. Bridge loans may not be used at this time.

Next Meeting May 16th, 2024 at 8:30am

Motion to adjourn at 10:11 am by Kiecker, Second by Balstad.


Secretary


Date