

East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District
April 20th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Ken Pederson, Dave Kiecker, Kory Sonsteli, and Scott Balstad

Other's present: Rachel Klein, Jenna Simonson, and Marea Gryskiewicz

Meeting called to order at 8:39 am by Chairman Pederson

Motion to approve April 20, 2023 Agenda. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Sonsteli.

Secretary's Report:

Approve March 16th, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Sonsteli, Second by Kiecker.

Financials:

Approve the March 2023 Treasure Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Sonsteli.

Old Business:

Vesledahl Wetland Bank: Permit process established for maintenance through MnDOT. Cost is the landowner's responsibility. Also, a handout on issues that were corrected was handed out. If there are further issues BWSR is open to exploring them if provided with a location map and explanation of what's happening.

North Pod Meeting (TSA): April 27th at 9am prior to the full TSA Meeting at 10am in Mahanomen.

New Business:

Approve encumbering \$500, CS-23-02, for Philip Lee's Well Sealing from State Cost Share 2021. Total project cost is \$1,000. (Approximately \$4500 unencumbered that needs to be spent by the end of this year.) Motion by Balstad, Second by Kiecker.

Local Work Group Meeting – May 4th at 10am

Discussion: Scott would like to see Jochum Wiersma invited to discuss cover crop options and Ethan Hulst with Central Crop Consulting.

Resolutions: Deadline is early June. (Area 1 Meeting is June 20th)

Discussion: Rachel will research information on the ditch cleaning petition legislation that introduces a review process from other, non-related agencies. The East Polk SWCD does not support this.

Rachel renewed the Lake Cabin Directory Ad for Maple/Cable Lake & Union & Sarah

- \$635 for 2/3 page ad for both directories

Reports:

NRCS Report: Laura Schnapp

EQIP – The 3 originally selected applicants now have obligated contracts and have been given a green light to implement practices. An additional applicant has been selected for funding under sign-up 1.

Ranking deadline for sign-up 2 and IRA is this Friday, so I should hear soon about additional selections.

Obligation deadlines are April 28th and June 2nd for sign-ups 1 and 2, respectively.

CSP Classic – I am actively working on assessments.

Food Security Act Compliance (HEL & W) workload AND LEARNING has been steady. I completed several CRP needs and feasibility worksheets per FSA's request. There were about 8 offers, for xx ac. for General Signup 60

I attended several cover crop trainings, a CRP training, NRCS easement training, the NW Area, and all employee NRCS meeting. Provided a program update to the FSA County Committee.

Coming up in April/May:

- EQIP contract building & CSP assessments
- Local Workgroup Meeting- May 4
- CSP ranking deadline- May 19

Member Reports

Balstad: Attended the AgBMP Meeting & Vesledahl Wetland Bank Landowner Meeting

Pederson: Attended the Vesledahl Wetland Bank Landowner Meeting

Kiecker: Attended the RLWD Annual Meeting and the Vesledahl Wetland Bank Landowner Meeting

Kory: No report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- Clearwater 1W1P PWG Meeting
- SHRWD 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting
- Area 1 Meeting
- Vesledahl Wetland Bank Meeting

Admin:

- Payroll, month end, board meeting prep
- 1st Quarter Invoices
- Internship Position – Still open
- MCIT 2024 Estimates
- Arbor Day Prep

WCA:

- Inquiries
- Polk County Hwy Dept Road Project 203 application signed.

Marea:

Meetings/Trainings:

- WASCOR Review with Scott Smith (x2)
- RLWD Advisory Meeting
- AgBMP Meeting

WASCOB:

- 1 design in East Polk County
- 2 Mahnommen County

Other

- 2023 Lake Leader
- MN Geologic Atlas
- OB Wells

Jenna:

- Desktop reviews
- Field Check List

Feedlots:

- CFO Webinar

Trees:

- Deadline passed – Accepting late orders.
- 83 orders (4195 trees sold)
- Only 70 trees left
- Invoices

Other:

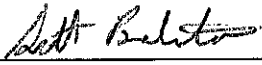
- Rainfall Data
- Lake Leader
- DNR Webinars

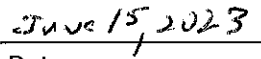
AgBMP Report: No longer accepting applications. There is a waitlist to submit an application. Bridge loans may not be used at this time.

Other/Open Discussion

Next Meeting May 18th, 2023 at 8:30am

Motion to adjourn at 10:05 am by Sonsteli, Second by Balstad.


Secretary


Date

