

East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District
January 20th, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

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

Other's present: Marea Schommer, Rachel Klein, Jenna Weirsma, Joan Lee, Luther Newton

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am by Chairman Pederson

Reorganization of the Board

Officers

Chairman: Kory Sonsteli

Vice Chairman: Ken Pederson

Secretary: Scott Balstad

Treasurer: Dave Kiecker

PR&I: Larry Vettleson

Motion to approve the reorganization of the board. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Vettleson.

District Representatives

Personnel Committee (2 members): Ken Pederson & Scott Balstad

RRVCSA/TSA Representative (1 member with alternate): Scott Balstad

AgBMP Representative (1 member): Scott Balstad

Water Resource Advisory Committee (1 member): Kory Sonsteli

Property Committee (2 members): Dave Kiecker & Larry Vettleson

Policy Committee (2 members): Scott Balstad & Larry Vettleson

AIS Representative (1 member): Ken Pederson

Motion to approve the district representative positions. Motion by Balstad, Second by Pederson.

Motion to approve January 20, 2022 Agenda. Motion by Pederson, Second by Kiecker.

Secretary's Report:

Approve December 17th, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Vettleson, Second by Pederson.

Financials:

Approve the December 2021 Financial Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve the December 2021 Treasurer Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Old Business:

Vesledahl Wetland Bank – No Update

Area 1 TSA – Next meeting February 2, 2022 at Shooting Star Casino.

Survey Equipment

New Business:

Designate the McIntosh Times as the Official Newspaper. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Designate First National Bank as Official Depository. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Designate Day, Time, and Location for Monthly Meetings. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month at 8:30am located at the East Polk SWCD Conference Room. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve the MASWCD Dues of \$4,778.00. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve the MCIT Insurance Premium of \$6,362.00. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

2022 Budget was presented. Motion by Pederson, Second by Balstad.

The Annual Planning Meeting was discussed by the board and will take place after the February Regular Board Meeting.

Effective January 1, 2022 IRS Mileage Rate for is 58.5 cents per mile.

Reports:

NRCS Report:

Conservation Stewardship Program: Currently completing obligations for FY22 renewal applications. FY 22 general (Classic) application acceptance deadline – February 4
Chief lifted the 2-year cooling off period under policy. Awaiting guidance on how to proceed.
Working to complete FY 21 payments on active contracts.
Completed CSP modification workload within the team.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program: Working with team to generate local ranking questions for FY 22 signup.

Assessment and ranking deadline for FY 22 applications – March 4, 2022

McIntosh – 33 applications

Crookston – 30 applications

Other: SINEW employees accepted another position. Hired new DC for McIntosh, February 28, 2022 start date. Lance Smith selected for NW ASCFO – effective January 16, 2022.

Member Reports

Sonsteli: No Report

Balstad: No Report

Pederson: No Report

Kiecker: No Report

Vettleson: No Report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- RLWD 1W1P Planning Meeting
- County Board Meeting
- Buffer Meeting with County
- Clearwater 1W1P

Admin:

- eLink reporting
- Year end
- Board Meeting Prep

WCA:

- Agreement with the County for match
- WCA reporting

Feedlots:

- Inspections entered in Tempo
- Feedlot reporting

Marea:

Meetings/Trainings:

- WASCOB Design Meeting with Dusty
- Buffer Meeting
- Basic Hydrology Webinar
- Shoreland Training Webinar
- WASCOB webinars

Buffers:

- APO Letters will sent out January 26th
- Update Buffcat

ArcGIS:

- WCA Compliance Tracking Map

Other:

- WASCOB Design

Jenna:

Meetings/Trainings:

- Buffer Meeting
- Basic Hydrology Webinar
- Shoreland Training Webinar
- GR LTT Cisma Meeting – Invasive species workshop planning

Buffers:

- APO Letters will be sent out January 26th
- Update Buffcat

ArcGIS:

- Well Locations – East and West Polk Complete

Feedlots:

- Registrations – Deadline extended

Trees:

- Ad submitted to 3 newspapers
 - o 13towns, Fertile, McIntosh
 - o Running the last 2 weeks of Jan
- Invoices

Other:

- Design of Invasive species factsheet

AgBMP Report: No report

Other/Open Discussion

Discussion was had with Commissioner Lee about the County Board and who should represent the county in the SHRWD 1W1P. The county has also been having discussions but are leaning towards Commissioner Warren or Jacobson. The East Polk SWCD Board of Supervisors would like to recommend that the County representative for the SHRWD 1W1P be Commissioner Lee. It is important to the East Polk SWCD that the East end of the watershed is represented, and Commissioner Lee has extensive experience with the 1W1P process making her the best candidate. Motion by Balstad, Second by Kiecker.

Motion to adjourn at 10:05 am by Kiecker, Second by Pederson.

Secretary

Date