

**East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District
January 19th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

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

Other's present: Rachel Klein, Jenna Simonson, and Laura Schnapp

Meeting called to order at 8:34 am by Vice Chairman Pederson

Reorganization of the Board

Officers

Chairman: Ken Pederson

Vice Chairman: Kory Sonstelie

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 Sonstelie

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 Vettleson.

Motion to approve January 19, 2023 Agenda. Motion by Pederson, Second by Kiecker.

Secretary's Report:

Approve December 6th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Vettleson, Second by Kiecker.

Financials:

Approve the December 2022 Financial Reports and Treasure Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Old Business:

Vesledahl Wetland Bank: No Update

Area 1 TSA: Mahnomen signed the North Pod Agreement – Jeff did not sign, and his employment ended December 31. Next Meeting with the North Pod is January 25th. Discussion was had about proposing to the North Pod at the next meeting that the East Polk SWCD would be willing to contract services, primarily surveying with the possibility of design work, to the North Pod as needed. Motion to bring this to the North Pod group by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Rainfall Monitoring: Queen, Columbia, and Garfield. Laura from NRCS provided a list of recommendations on landowners that may be willing to participate in the rainfall monitoring. Jenna will contact and provide an update next meeting.

Soil Health Cost Share Policy: Rachel did not get the work plan data from BWSR. She will reach out to neighboring districts before next meeting and the policy will be set next meeting.

New Business:

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

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

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 Kiecker, Second by Balstad.

Adopt the Polk County Comprehensive Water Plan – Effective until all 1W1P are done, at which point they will replace the Polk County Water Plan. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve the MASWCD Dues of \$4,531.30. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Balstad.

Approve the MCIT Insurance Premium of \$6,698.00. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Balstad.

Approve returning \$2,396.67 of Buffer Law 2019 Funds back to BWSR. Motion by Vettleson, Second by Balstad.

Approve payment of RRVCSA Invoice 2023-30 for Earl Roed's WCA restoration design. Total \$1,663.41. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Accounting Increase Request: Currently \$3,000/quarter. Increase to \$3,600/quarter. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Balstad.

Approve payment to RMB labs for the 2022 lake monitoring. Total is \$4,056.00. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve payment to Carol Larson for a shoreline restoration, CAP-21-1, on Oak Lake. Total cost is \$7,940, 50% equals \$3,970 coming from Capacity 2021. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Balstad.

Approve Audit Engagement Letter for Fiscal Year 2022 from Pederson Company. Motion by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.

Approve Pay Equity Report – prepared by Josie from 2020 payroll. Motion by Vettleson, Second by Kiecker.

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

Effective January 1, 2023 IRS Mileage Rate for is 65.5 cents per mile.

Tree Planter Inquiry brought by Balstad. Jenna will check into rental options for East Polk residents.

Reports:

NRCS Report:

EQIP- We have 31 applications that I am working through- visiting with producers/assessments. Most of my efforts will be focused on processing applications for the near term. A 2nd signup has not been announced, but 2 additional applications were received after signup 1 deadline. One significant change with how contracts will be written starting this year is no more management flexibility. This means producers will need to have a good idea of their crop rotation for each field, up to 3-5 years. Initial allocation for the local fund pool is \$780,000. If you'd like to know more about the various fund pools available to our area (12 total), please let me know. Most 2022 practices have been certified and paid.

CSP renewal- 3 contracts are set to expire this year and will be eligible for renewal. Applications for renewals will be accepted through March 10, 2023

CSP contract admin.- all but 1 E. Polk contract has 2022 practices that have been certified.

I attended the Sandhill River 1W1P advisory council meeting, which I felt was productive with good discussion. There was an area EQIP refresher and a team iPhone app. training I attended this month. We are looking for Earth Team volunteers for the F.O. If you know anyone interested in volunteering, please send them my way.

Member Reports

Balstad: Upcoming North Pod TSA Meeting

Pederson: Attended the SHRWD 1W1P Advisory and Policy Meeting

Kiecker: Checking account should now accrue interest

Vettleson: No Report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- Manager Training – MSP
- SHRWD 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting (x2)
- SHRWD 1W1P Advisory and Policy Meeting

Admin:

- Payroll, month end, board meeting prep
- eLink Reporting
- 4th Quarter Pay & Invoices
- Internship Announcement Sent Out

WCA:

- TEP Meeting with Lynda and Logan
- One Notice of Application for Delineation Concurrence – Cross Lake Campground
- Landowner meeting with Earl Roed
- Year-End reporting
- Inquiries on 10 parcels

Feedlot:

- Year-end reporting
- Inspections

Marea:

Meetings/Trainings:

- WCA TEP Meeting
- 2X WASCOB Review with Logan Handyside
- WASCOB Training Fergus Falls

WASCOB:

- 1 design in East Polk County
- 2 Mahnomon County
- 2 designs submitted to Cassie for JAA Approval

Jenna:

Buffers:

- Desktop reviews
- Compliance letters – 3 parcels

Feedlots:

- CFO Webinar
- Newsletter mailed out
- Inspections

Trees:

- Accepting orders
- 19 orders (1155 trees sold)
- Invoices created for orders

Other:

- Rainfall Data
 - o Need Volunteers for: Columbia, Garfield, Queen

AgBMP Report: No report

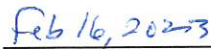
Other/Open Discussion

Next Meeting February 16th, 2023 at 8:30am

Motion to adjourn at 10:15 am by Vettleson, Second by Kiecker.



Secretary



Date