

**East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District  
July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

**\*\*\*This meeting was held in the conference room with the option for conference call participants\*\*\***

Board members present: Al Bauer, Ken Pederson, Dave Kiecker, and Scott Balstad

Other's present: Marea Schommer, Rachel Klein, Joan Lee, Jenny Burrack, Justin Bellefeuille, and Josie Myhre

Meeting called to order at 8:31 am by Chairman Pederson

Motion to Approve July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Agenda. Motion by Balstad, Second by Bauer.

**Secretary's Report:**

Approve June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Bauer, Second by Kiecker to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Approve the June 2020 Financial Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Kiecker and seconded by Balstad to approve the financial report.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Approve the June 2020 Treasurer Reports subject to revisions. Motion by Kiecker, Second by Balstad to approve the treasurers report.

**Old Business:**

Balstad provided a potential rainfall monitoring contact in Brandsvold township.

Targeted Watershed Grant. This grant has been completed and the district spent \$397,910.36 and will be receiving a final payment from BWSR of \$2,790.36.

**New Business:**

2021 County Budget was presented and discussed. The board would like to ask for a 2-3% increase if West Polk agrees. Klein will talk to West Polk's manager and will adjust the budget if needed. Motion to accept the budget and potentially add a 2-3% increase dependent on West Polk SWCD's participation. Motion by Balstad, seconded by Kiecker.

**Vote on Resolutions**

1. State Cost Share for Septic Replacement: Disapprove
  - a. Balstad: No. Bauer: Yes. Kiecker: No. Pederson: No.
2. Maintain/Restore Co-Mingling of NRCS & SWCD Staff Withing Field Offices: Disapprove
  - a. Balstad: No. Bauer: No. Kiecker: No. Pederson: No.
3. Sustainable Grazing Incentive Act: Disapprove
  - a. Balstad: No. Bauer: No. Kiecker: No. Pederson: No.
4. Increase State Cost Share for Unused Well Sealing: Disapprove
  - a. Balstad: No. Bauer: No. Kiecker: No. Pederson: No.

5. Supervisor Pre-Diem: Approve
  - a. Balstad: No. Bauer: Yes. Kiecker: Yes. Pederson: Yes.
6. Pollinator Habitat on Public Land: Approve
  - a. Balstad: Yes. Bauer: Yes. Kiecker: Yes. Pederson: Yes.
7. State Cost Share for Farmstead Windbreaks and Living Snow Fence Establishment: Approve
  - a. Balstad: Yes. Bauer: Yes. Kiecker: Yes. Pederson: Yes.
8. Leverage NRCS Federal Program Funding to Implement 1W1P, Not Supplementing With State Watershed Implementation Funds: Approve
  - a. Balstad: Yes. Bauer: Yes. Kiecker: Yes. Pederson: Yes.

David's Landsverk Project, CAP-17-1. Klein reported that David came in requesting additional funds for more dirt work on his project. State Funds cannot be used for this since the project has already been completed. The estimate came to \$10,400 for the additional work. Klein will talk to the RLWD, NRCS, and potentially the township to see if they can help cover these additional expenses. This item will be tabled until next month.

Balstad report on LeRoy Johnson's potential project along side of the Vesedal wetland bank. Klein will need to check with BWSR and see if this would be a project that would qualify to use state funds. She will also check with the SHRWD to see if they would be willing to help fund this project. This item will be tabled until next month.

2020 Grants: The board would like to apply for a WASCOD grant in the Clearwater River Watershed of the RLWD. A grant for Cameron Lake would also like to be discussed further with the RLWD to see if we could get an application together to help improve that resource concern. Klein will contact the SHRWD to see if there's any WASCOD or other related grants that they would like to apply for as well.

### **Reports:**

#### **NRSC Report**

Had a total of 70 EQUIP applications equaling about 5 million. 14 preapproved EQUIP applications, for approximately 1.75 million dollars, we have a preapproved CSP application for 75,000 dollars, and we have a new soil con technician that started June 22<sup>nd</sup>. His name is Justin Bellefeuille, a recent UMC graduate. He is doing good and working on CRP field reviews (we have 121 re-enrollments) and N/HEL determinations right now.

#### **Member Reports**

None

#### **Staff Reports**

Rachel:

Meetings: (all conference calls or webinars)

- Wild Rice 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting
- Manager's Meeting

Admin:

- Targeted reconciliation and reporting are done.
- MDA 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Invoice
- Board 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Payroll
- County Budget

WCA:

- Site visits with Steve for violations and inquires.
- Meeting with Conservation Officer Tom Hutchins to go over WCA violations in the county.
- Site visit with Tom for a complaint on Maple Lake
- Multiple larger violations currently. Also, many inquiries, applications, and site visits.

Other:

- Shoreline/Rain Garden site visits with Marea

Marea:

Trainings:

- Private Lands Restoration with the Minnesota Land Trust Webinar

Shoreline Restoration/Rain Garden:

- 1 site visit

WCA:

- Site visits with Rachel and Steve

Other:

- Rainfall Monitoring
- Lake Monitoring
- Stream Monitoring
- WASCOB Maps

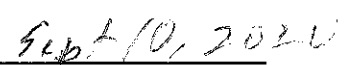
AgBMP Report

No new applications

Motion to adjourn at 10:23 am by Kiecker, Second by Bauer.



Secretary



Date