

**East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District
September 10th, 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, Larry Vettleson and Scott Balstad

Other's present: Marea Schommer, Rachel Klein, and Joan Lee

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

Motion to Approve September 10th, 2020 Agenda. Motion by Vettleson, Second by Bauer.

Secretary's Report:

Approve July 16th, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Bauer, Second by Vettleson to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on July 16th, 2020.

Treasurer's Report:

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

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

Old Business:

David Landseverk's Project, CAP-17-1, needs additional work for complete the project. Klein reported that due to the engineer signing off on the project last fall the SWCD cannot allocate any state funds. The RLWD had approved cost sharing up to 25% of the total project cost and that will cover the cost share portion for the additional work.

Leroy Johnson Project – Vesledahl Wetland Bank. Klein provided an update from the Sand Hill River Watershed District on the issues surrounding the wetland bank and what the watershed has been doing to try to find a resolution. Balstad had attended a SHRWD board meeting to inquiry about funding options for the Leroy Johnson project. At this time the SHRWD board will not pursue funding individual projects.

Klein attended the County Board Meeting on August 18th, 2020 to submit the East Polk SWCD's annual budget and provide a program update to the county board. The county has received Corona Relief Aid and has allocated \$10,000 to the East Polk SWCD. This money needs to be spent by December 1, 2020.

New Business:

Reports:

NRCS Report:

August's Meeting Report: 14 preapproved EQIP 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 22nd. His name is Justin Bellefeuille, a recent UMC graduate. He is doing well and working on CRP field reviews (we have 121 re-enrollments) and N/HEL determinations right now.
September's Meeting Report: We are still very busy with EQIP and CRP workload. We are finishing up obligating over 2 million dollars in EQIP funding, spread over 14 contracts. Finished CRP contracts which totaled 122 contracts for East Polk.

Member Reports

Bauer: No report

Balstad: Attended the SHRWD board meeting to discuss the Leroy Johnson project, attended the RRVCSA meeting, and is a part of the area in East Polk that is having watercourses re-added to the buffer map.

Pederson: No report

Vettleson: No report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings: (all conference calls or webinars)

- Wild Rice 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting
- Manager's Meeting
- TEP Meeting
- Water Festival Meeting – will be virtual
- RRVCSA

Admin:

- 2019 Audit Prep (this is an offsite audit this year so everything must be sent electronically)
- 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 and Badger 15
- Multiple larger violations currently. Also, many inquiries, applications, and site visits.

Other:

- Shoreline/Rain Garden site visits with Marea

Marea:

Meetings:

- Water Fest Meeting
- LWG Meeting

Shoreline Restoration/Rain Garden:

- 1 Site Visit on Maple Lake

WCA:

- Site visits with Rachel

Other:

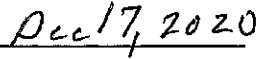
- Rainfall Monitoring
- Lake Monitoring
- Stream Monitoring
- New District Map
- New WCA Map
- Supervisor Election Letter
- Scanning Historical WCA Documents

AgBMP Report:
No new applications

Other/Discussion:
No grant application was submitted for FY21 competitive grants.

Motion to adjourn at 9:31 am by Balstad, Second by Vettleson.


Secretary


Date