

**EAST POLK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES JUNE 20TH, 2019 8:30 AM**

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

Others present: Rachel Klein, Kelsey Hedlund, Marea Schommer, Joan Lee, Jenny Burrak, Bob Guetter, and Brett Arne

Meeting called to order at 8:30 by Chairman Al Bauer

Motion to approve the May 9th, 2019 regular board meeting minutes: Bauer, second: Vettleson, approve: all

Motion to approve the May 2019 financial report: Kiecker, second: Pederson, approve: all

NRCS Report:

Burrak: been busy with EQIP/CSP projects

Guetter: Introduced himself as the new team lead of East and West Polk, Red Lake, Mahnomen, Pennington. He will try to make 4 board meetings a year. Team is short staffed. NRCS is trying to fill 2 positions and working to create 1 or 2 new positions. RCPP (Regional Conservation Participation Program) was created to have partners with the NRCS to provide more attention on a local level. Enrollment has passed for 2019. The program is partner led to focus on their concerns. The partners create the priorities and the rankings. Built on a tier system. The application announcement will be made with fine details and deadlines in 2020.

Member Reports:

Keicker: No report

Pederson: Attended the area I meeting. One resolution was made for RIM. Area director talked about legislative issues. Suggested we look into Red Canoe Creative to make displays and brochures for the fair and other.

Balstad: went to the 1W1P meeting. Suggested we create a resolution for 2020 to look into county ditches to predetermine buffers.

Bauer: went to the AIS meeting. Talked about the CD3 cleaning station the AIS taskforce may purchase.

Staff Reports:

Klein: Meetings: County Board Meeting at the end of May for an update and to get the Feedlot Annual Report signed, Feedlot Regional Meeting in Detroit Lakes, Area 1 Meeting in Crookston, Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) Meeting, Attended the Maple Lake Improvement Meeting. They are working with us and the Red Lake Watershed District (RLWD) to improve the water quality. They requested that I help with potential water and sediment basin projects. WCA: Worked on NOD's and restoration orders, had many inquiries about WCA and done a lot of site visits for the inquiries and for violations from last year. Buffers: Site visits and landowner assistance. Still contacting landowners to see if they need assistance or if their buffers have been planted. Lake Monitoring: Helped with the May Lake monitoring to provide a refresher for Kelsey and to train Marea. Weather made it challenging but we were able to get all 11 lakes done in one day! Other: Updated our phone system through Garden Valley and MinnKota. Been slowly working on the policy handbook as time allows. Been providing Josie with Myhre Tax Service the necessary documents she needs to take over and go through

our QuickBooks. Pickup got new tires and the lock cylinder in the driver's door handle was fixed so the key now unlocks the doors. Maple Lake Improvement Meeting.

Hedlund: Meetings: Went to the County Board meeting to give an update on programs. AIS meeting. Trainings: Plant Materials workshop learning about herbaceous cover, seed, and plant ID. Webinars for a 2 day Soil Health Training at the end of June. Lake Monitoring/Stream Monitoring: Started stream monitoring, Corey from the Watershed District came out the first day to give us a day of training, been teaching Marea. Lake monitoring started the 23rd, went well and was able to finish the 11 lakes in 1 day. Shoreline Restorations: Have had a couple contacts call, and I have returned their calls and left messages. Created a Maple Lake Improvement District Lake Leader and sent it to the people of Maple Lake focusing on Shoreline Restoration 'Lakescaping', rain gardens, and rain barrels. Other: Tree Sale day went very well, only a handful of people didn't show up that day and we were able to make arrangements for pick up on other days. Ordered: 6500 trees \$6930.75. Sold: 5311 trees \$8766.39

Schommer: Trainings: Attended the Plant Management Workshop with Kelsey. Lake Monitoring/Stream Monitoring: Assisted with May Lake monitoring. Been training in on stream monitoring, lake levels and DNR wells. Trees: Helped with bundling orders and tree sale. WCA: Been attending site visits with Rachel Other: Entering in rainfall data to the MNGage archive. Helped with Maple Lake, Lake Leader. Started the process of scanning in historical documents from the file cabinets in the garage as time allows.

Old Business:

Policy Meeting- Tabled

Clothing- Tabled

Tree Sales: Kelsey will be creating a yearly report to keep track of tree sales because it hadn't been done in the past.

New Business:

Mhyre Tax Service: Josie has been in contact with Samantha from Pederson's about our 2017's audit report and has been using the end numbers so she can go through and correct our 2018 QuickBooks for the upcoming audit. All the data seems to be there and correct, but the starting numbers were off which she has now corrected. She has been doing some reclassifying of transactions and everything is entered twice like she anticipated so she is also correcting that. She should have everything corrected and ready to go by our audit on July 11, 2019.

Daivd Landsverk Brandsvold 26 WASCB Project: Total project cost is \$73,176. Cost share at 75% would be \$54,882. Rachel will also be going to the RLWD to ask for them to cover 25%, \$18,294, of our 75%. Tabled until next meeting when there is more information.

Brett Arne with BWSR: came to give us a legislative update. BWSR/SWCD had a good session. The money we receive went up this year. Competitive funds have been restored and bettered.

DNR Observation Well Contract: Motion to approve signing the 2020 contract to monitor three observation wells for DNR: Vettleson, second: Pederson, approve: all

Next Meeting July 18, 8:30am.

Motion to adjourn at 9:52am: Pederson, second: Kiecker, approve: all