

**WATONWAN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2020**

The Watonwan Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office, St. James, MN on January 27, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rich Enger at 8:34 am.

Members Present: Chairman, Rich Enger
 Vice Chairman, Noren Durheim
 PR&I, Bret Braaten

Others Present: Land Management Director, Dave Haler
 Assistant Land Management Director, Heidi Salminen
 District Technician, Chad Hildebrand
 Land Management Sr. Technical Clerk, Kyla Schломann
 County Commissioner, Ray Gustafson
 Watonwan County Auditor, Kelly Pauling
 Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist, Carrie Schultz
 Acting District Conservationist, Betsy Norland

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD

Motion by Durheim, second by Braaten to approve keeping the board positions the same in 2020.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

AGENDA

Motion by Braaten, second by Durheim to approve the January 27, 2020 amended agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Braaten, second by Durheim to approve the December 16, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

ACCOUNTING

FINANCIAL – Haler

Treasurer’s Report - Haler discussed the expense report.

Motion by Braaten, second by Durheim to approve the treasurers report.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Bills to Pay

Motion by Braaten, second by Durheim to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$49,469.08 and return unspent grant funds from FY16 and FY17 state cost-share.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Supervisor Per Diem

Motion by Durheim, second by Braaten to approve Supervisor Per Diems as presented.

1W1P Policy Meeting, December 18, 2019 – Enger

GBERBA Policy Meeting, January 10, 2020 – Enger

1W1P Policy Meeting, January 15, 2020 - Enger

Monthly SWCD Board meeting, January 27, 2020 – Enger

Affirmative: Braaten, Durheim, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Audit

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve engagement letter from Peterson Company LTD. for the audit bid for the fiscal year ending December 31st, 2019 and payment of audit fee in the amount of \$2,675.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

New Technician Position

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to request that the county hire a new SWCD Technician contingent on Chad becoming a part time ditch inspector for the county.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS

GREATER BLUE EARTH RIVER BASIN ALLIANCE (GBERBA) – Rich Enger, alternate Steve Sodeman –

Enger gave update on the last meeting.

MASWCD Area VI – Rich Enger – Next meeting is February 7, 2020.

CO. WATER PLAN –Rich Enger, 1st alternate Noren Durham, 2nd alternate Steve Sodeman –

No Report

SOUTH CENTRAL TSA – Noren Durham, alternative Bret Braaten – Next meeting is January 28, 2020.

LIAISON COMMITTEE – Rich Enger, Jordon Bergeman, Ray Gustafson – Discussion on hiring a new technician pending Chad taking on ditch inspecting.

COMMISSIONER REPORT – Raymond Gustafson – Would like to see some sort of agreement for policy committee on planning for implementation.

BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE – Haler & Salminen

Current Board Positions

Chairman –Rich Enger

Vice Chairman- Noren Durham

Secretary - Steve Sodeman

Treasurer- Jordan Bergeman

PR&I - Bret Braaten

Committees

2019 Committees

County Liaison Committee.....	Rich Enger, 1 st alternate Jordan Bergeman, 2 nd alternate Bret Braaten
Personnel.....	Bret Braaten, Jordan Bergeman
Comprehensive Water Plan/Watonwan Watershed.....	Rich Enger, 1 st alternate Noren Durham, 2 nd alternate Steve Sodeman
Annual Planning.....	Rich Enger, Steve Sodeman
GBERBA Representative and Alternate.....	Rich Enger, Steve Sodeman
South Central TSA and Alternate.....	Noren Durham, 1st alternative Bret Braaten, 2nd alternative Jordan Bergeman
Reinvest in Minnesota.....	Full Board
Cost-Share.....	Full Board
Environmental Education.....	Steve Sodeman
EQIP.....	Steve Sodeman, Bret Braaten
Grants.....	Full Board
PR&I and Legislation.....	Jordan Bergeman, Bret Braaten
WCA.....	Full Board

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve committees as listed above for 2020.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Mileage

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve the county mileage rate of \$0.57 for 2020.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Official Authorization for 2020

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve the County as financial authorization and the Shopper’s Guide as the official newspaper of 2020.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

BWSR Final Financial Signatory

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve the Land Management Director as the BWSR final financial report signatory.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Well Sealing Signatory

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve the Land Management Director and Assistant Land Management Director as the well sealing signatory for approval of contracts. Vouchers for payment will continue to come to the SWCD Board of Supervisors for payment approval.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

State Cost-Share Pre-Construction Cover

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve a flat rate payment of up to \$150 per acre not to exceed 10 acres for state cost-share pre-construction cover.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

State Cost-Share Rates

Motion by Durham, second by Braaten to approve keeping cost-share rates as follows in 2020, Well Sealing: 50% not to exceed \$400 each, Alternative Tile Intake-Gravel Inlet: \$500 each, and Alternative Tile Intake-Perforated Riser: \$200.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

Trees – Salminen gave an update on tree sales.

1W1P Update – Haler gave an update on One Watershed, One Plan.

Contractor Workshop Presentation – Hildebrand gave update on Contractor Workshop hosted by the Land Mgt./ SWCD office.

PROJECTS

Update – Salminem updated on the state cost-share grants.

Noren Durham

Contract: 17-02

Project: Alternative Tile Intake- 171 M

Funding: FY17 State Cost-Share

Motion by Braaten, second by Enger to cancel contract 17-02, Noren Durham.

Affirmative: Braaten and Enger. Durham abstained from voting.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Caleb Hoffman

Contract: 17-LCG-AW-25
Project: Well Sealing
Funding: FY17 Local Capacity Grant, State Cost-Share

Caleb Hoffman

Contract: 17-LCG-AW-26
Project: Well Sealing
Funding: FY17 Local Capacity Grant, State Cost-Share

Brad Carlson

Contract: 17-LCG-AW-17
Project: Well Sealing
Funding: FY17 Local Capacity Grant, State Cost-Share

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve state cost-share vouchers for well sealing for contracts 17-LCG-AW-25 in the amount of \$237.50, contract 17-LCG-AW-26 in the amount of \$300, and 17-LCG-AW-17 in the amount of \$375 and to send to Watonwan County for payment.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Dale Eckstrom

Contract: 16-11
Project: Structure for Water Control- Side Inlet
Funding: Watonwan State Cost-Share FY 16

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve payment for contract 16-11, Dale Eckstrom, in the amount of \$3,783 and to send to Watonwan County for payment.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Lance Mikkelson

Contract: 16-10
Project: Alternative Tile Intakes 171M
Funding: FY16 State Cost-Share

Lance Mikkelson

Contract: 16-09
Project: Alternative Tile Intakes 171M
Funding: FY16 State Cost-Share

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve payment for contracts 16-10 and 16-09, Lance Mikkelson, in the amount of \$261.74 (16-10) and \$587.53 (16-09) and to send to Watonwan County for payment.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Jim Hopman

Contract: 16-12
Project: Alternative Tile Intakes 171M
Funding: FY16 State Cost-Share

Motion by Durham, second by Braaten to approve payment for contract 16-12 in the amount of \$1,125 and to send to Watonwan County for payment.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Scott Sizer

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve payment of contract 17-04 in the amount of \$375.00 upon receipt of voucher from Scott no later than Friday, January 31, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

MEETINGS

Jan. 28	TSA meeting- Mankato	Supervisors, Staff
Jan. 30	CREP contractor meeting- Windom	Heidi
Feb. 4	Contractor workshop- Human Services	Staff, Supervisors
Feb. 5	1W1P-Steering Team- TBD	Dave, Heidi
Feb. 7	Area 6- Chair planning meeting- Turner Halle	Chair or Vice-Chair
Feb. 11	Annual Twp. Meeting- St. James	Staff
Feb. 17	Office Closed- President's Day	
Feb. 18	Nitrogen: MN Challenge & Compelling Opportunity-Alexandria	Chad
Feb. 19	1W1P- Policy Committee- TBD	Rich or Noren, Dave, Heidi

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to above meetings as listed.
Affirmative: Bergeman, Durham, and Enger.
Opposed: None. Motion carried.

WCA LGU – Dave Bucklin – No Report

FARM BILL BIOLOGIST – Carrie Schultz – Verbal and Written Report

NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST – Vacant – Betsy Norland acting – Verbal Report

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN – Chad Hildebrand – Written & Verbal Report

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Braaten, second by Enger to adjourn at 10:33 am.
Affirmative: Braaten, Durham, and Enger.
Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting will be on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 8:30am at the District Office.

District Supervisor

District Administer