



**Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 20, 2021**

The meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday October 20, 2021 at the Becker SWCD Shop 1366 Mallard Street, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501.

Present were Supervisors Travis Schauer, Tony Beck, Eugene Pavelko, Michelle Andresen and Curt Ballard. Staff members in attendance were District Administrator Bryan Malone, Office Manager Deana Westberg, NRCS Soil Conservationist Travis Doeden and County Commissioner Barry Nelson.

Call to Order

Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

September 15, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes; Employee Program Reports

Motion (Ballard, Pavelko) to approve the September Meeting Minutes. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Financial Reports

Treasurers Report and Bills for Approval

Malone reviewed the September Treasurers Report and the Revised September Bills for Approval.

Motion (Andresen, Beck) to approve the Treasurers Report and Bills for payment. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

2020 Audit

December 31, 2020 audited Financial Statements were distributed to each board supervisor at last month's meeting to take home and review. No questions or discussion.

Motion (Beck, Pavelko) to approve the 2020 Audited Financial Statement. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

MCIT Claim Report

MCIT suggested checking with a third-party insurance carrier if further coverage is desired. Malone met with the county attorney for further clarification on our lease and present coverage. Suggestion by the board to check with a few local insurance companies and get quotes to ensure feasibility.

Unemployment Insurance Status

Westberg called and spoke with a representative from the Minnesota Unemployment Office and was instructed to file an online issue. A Determination of Eligibility was received, and it stated that the applicant quit their employment due to other employment that was equal or better and that Becker SWCD is responsible to pay for those benefits.

Set 2022 Tree Program Prices

Changes to the 2022 Tree & Shrub Order Form:

- Tree & Shrub Bundle Price \$43.75 per quantity of 25
- 1 gallon Potted Evergreens Individual Price of \$10.00 each
- 2 gallon Potted Evergreens Individual Price of \$15.00 each
- Apple Trees Individual Price of \$30.00 each
- Tree tubes: 5' at \$4.00, 4' at \$3.75, 4' stakes at \$1.00

Motion (Ballard, Beck) to approve the 2022 Tree Program Prices. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

District Reports

District Administrator Malone reported:

- *Budget* – Budget was presented to the county board on September 21st. The \$8,712 for District AIS was eliminated but the 3% budget increase was approved.
- *1W1P* – Still working on a grazing system in the Redeye. Postcards sent out to all landowners in the Redeye. Attended the Otter Tail public input meetings in DL and Fergus Falls and joined on the Bus Tour. Technical Advisory Committee meeting on October 4th. Phil Doll completed a flyer for the staff identifying practices and priorities for each watershed.
- *Projects* – Received extension for the Lake Protection grant. Also received the next 40% of the Wild Rice grant. Buffer and Cost-Share workplans completed in elink and funding received.
- *Meetings and Other* – MTTC and ATTC joint meeting. Completed IDP and BWSR Academy registration. Investigated MCIT building claim. JAA virtual session with the BWSR training engineer.
- *AgBMP & SSTS Fixup Grant* – Still get calls but not much action.
- *Vehicles* – Received a few quotes from several local car dealerships. One Subaru needs to be replaced before winter. The Board agreed to go ahead and purchase a vehicle this year.
- *TSA* –
 - Executive Committee meeting on September 20th to review Haverland's job description.
 - Board meeting in Mahnomon on September 29th to kick off the BWSR PRAP grant and HEI presented their plan.
 - Completed the workplans in elink for the 2022 BWSR grants.
 - Attended virtual State Host District Manager meeting.
- *RRVCSA (TSA1) Workload Assessment and Analysis* –
 - A survey is being filled out now by all sixteen Districts to gather input on strengths, weaknesses, needs and workload; estimates of types of projects and number of projects anticipated in the next four to six years and goals for JAA levels in the next five years and availability of staff with JAA to work on projects.
 - HEI will conduct two workshops, one with the TSA staff and District Managers on November 2, 2021 and the second one with TSA1 Board Supervisors and the Host District manager on November 4, 2021.
 - Final report and close out meeting planned for February 2, 2022.

Open Forum

Schauer requested the Becker SWCD evaluate the proposed new Becker County Fairgrounds site for any Environmental concerns and permitting issues.

Local Water Management

Cost-share policy for Forest Stewardship Plans

- Discussed examples of other SWCD Forest Stewardship Cost-share policies
- Requires a Certified Plan
- Must meet the DNR requirements
- Tax reductions are available through SFIA
- More information requested before deciding on a cost-share policy

Buffalo-Red River WD – WBIF Sub-Agreement

- To be reimbursed from the fiscal agent, a WBIF Sub-Agreement is needed
- Becker SWCD must follow the BWSR rules for Quarterly Invoicing
- Need to submit proof of all projects to the BRRWD
- Are responsible for inspections after projects finished

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve the Buffalo-Red River WD – WBIF Sub-Agreement. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

Wild Rice Watershed District Public Hearing – Redistribution of Board Managers

- Currently Becker County is not allowed to appoint managers to the WRWD Board
- Clay County is allowed to appoint 2 managers although they cover approximately the same amount of area in the watershed as Becker.
- Letter of support requested from Becker County
- Becker SWCD supports 1 or 2 board managers appointed by Becker County to the Wild Rice Watershed District

Motion (Ballard, Pavelko) to approve a Letter of Support for Becker County to appoint one Board Manager to the Wild Rice Watershed District. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried.

RIM Easements

Landowner request for Easement Alteration

Landowner Geray did not submit a plan as requested for the proposed alteration and but did notify the SWCD that he does not have any land available to meet the BWSR replacement requirement . No further action needed.

Grant Agreements

BWSR FY22 SWCD Local Capacity - \$141,644 and Buffer Implementation - \$21,500

Motion (Beck, Andresen) to approve and authorize the District Administrator to sign the BWSR FY22 Local Capacity & Buffer Implementation grant agreements as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

BWSR FY22 Buffer Implementation Supplement (new this year) - \$10,000

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to approve and authorize the District Administrator to sign the BWSR FY22 Buffer Implementation Supplement grant agreement as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

MN DNR – Farm Bill Assistance for 2022 - \$40,000

Motion (Andresen, Ballard) to approve and authorize the District Administrator to sign the MN DNR grant agreement as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

2021 MASWCD Resolutions

Proposed Resolutions

Proposed Resolutions were each read and briefly discussed. Board Supervisors made their individual votes for each proposed resolution.

2021 Resolution Ballot

The 2021 Resolution Ballot was combined and sent by email

Clean Water Legacy Contracts

- CWL-84-LP Julie Herman, Conservation Cover - Total Project Cost \$1,020:
75% Cost Share \$990
- CWL-86-LP Stan Johnson Group, Conservation Cover - Total Project Cost \$12,084.56:
50% Cost Share \$6,042.28

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve Clean Water Legacy Contracts as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried


Clean Water Legacy Vouchers

- CWL-72-LP Audubon Township, Grade Stabilization - Total Project Cost \$27,685:
40% Cost Share \$11,074.00

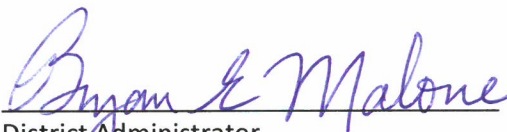
Motion (Beck, Andresen) to approve payment of the Clean Water Legacy Vouchers as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Chairman Schauer adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.



Board Secretary
12-22-21
Date



District Administrator
12/22/2021
Date