



Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday November 17, 2021

The meeting of the Becker Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Wednesday November 17, 2021 at the Becker County Courthouse- 1st Floor- Board Meeting Room, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501.

Present were Supervisors Travis Schauer, Tony Beck, Eugene Pavelko and Curt Ballard. Via telephone conference was Supervisor Michelle Andresen. Staff members in attendance were District Administrator Bryan Malone and Office Manager Deana Westberg. Others in attendance included NRCS District Conservationist Ed Musielewicz and County Commissioner Barry Nelson.

Call to Order

Chairman Schauer called the meeting to order at 8:29 a.m.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda Items

October 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes; Employee Program Reports

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

Financial Reports

Treasurers Report and Bills for Approval

Malone reviewed the October Treasurers Report and the Revised November Bills for Approval.

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

District Reports

District Administrator Malone reported:

- 1W1P -
 - Otter Tail River 1W1P Draft Issue Statements handed out and discussed
 - Attended the Otter Tail Technical Advisory Committee meeting to continue developing the resource concerns list.
 - Studied forest management cost-share policies from other SWCD's.
 - Reviewed cover crop cost-share policy with BWSR staff.
 - Attended Redeye River Policy Committee meeting. Outreach this winter for potential projects. Our Ag waste pit closures could possibly be funded through this.
- Projects –
 - Visited Straight Lake Beach with Shoreland Technicians to develop ideas for improvements.
 - Revised the Lake Protection grant workplan budget.
 - Received grant expiration date extension to 12/31/2022 for Top-Down grant.
 - Ann Wessel from BWSR visit to view progress on Wild Rice Phase II grant, taking photos of projects. These photos will be published in BWSR Snapshots in a few months.

- Assisted CAI Watland with the Wannigan Park Natural Resources Management section of the proposed plan.
- Buffers – Adam Mortenson has been checking up on our list of noncompliant parcels. BWSR has been helpful for training for alternative practices and reporting.
- WCA – Viewed the Lillestol restoration for Ed Clem.
- Meetings and Other-
 - Attended BWSR academy sessions for three mornings the end of October.
 - Reviewed grant log with Deana and Alisa for elink.
 - Attended the County Department Head meeting.
- AgBMP & SSTS Fixup Grant – Still get calls but not much action.
- TSA –
 - Completed survey for HEI workload analysis.
 - Attended the two workshops beginning of November for the Workload Analysis.
- Newsletter- Discussion if Becker SWCD should send out a newsletter and what it could contain. Will get more information and the costs for further discussion.

District Conservationist Ed Musielewicz reported:

- *CSP*
 - *6 applications*
 - *2 funded*
- *CSP – Northwest Area*
 - *90 applications*
 - *18 funded*
- *EQIP*
 - *\$27 million for EQIP funds*
 - *Monarch Butterfly Initiatives*
 - *Wildlife Habitat*
 - *How to rank & score Engineering applications*
- *Construction still going on - even in the snow.*
- *Soil Health Data*
 - *4 years of data compiled*
 - *Six sites monitored and recorded every fall*
 - *Successfully shows what benefits grazing can do*
 - *PLFA measures biological activity. > 4,000 is excellent, grazed sites measure > 7,000*
 - *Grazed Cover Crops – lots of producer questions with high visible site grazed this fall*
 - *90 lbs of manure a day*
 - *2000 lbs of Nitrogen produced*
 - *28 days to not feed 200 cow/calf pair*
 - *Way to increase biological activity & nutrients on the farm*
 - *Win – Win for both livestock and grain producers!*

Open Forum – No discussion

MASWCD Annual Convention

December 12 – 15, 2021 Annual MASWCD Convention Program Schedule, meals and travel arrangements were discussed and planned. December 1st deadline for convention cancellations. Decision was made to donate to the auction held on Monday December 13th. Proceeds go to the State Envirothon.

Local Water Management

Cost-share policy for Forest Management

A 75% Cost-Share example was displayed and discussed. Other questions and statements made for discussion:

- Does this policy include logging?
- Check with the DNR and local Consulting Foresters.
- The Forest Management Plan would be a minimum of 8 years.
- Minimum of 20 Acres of woods required.
- Needs to be an approved plan by the DNR.
- Incorporate practices into the cost-share policy.
- Property Tax break incentives available for Managed Forests.
- 2c Incentive payments

Cost-share policy for Forest Management tabled for more information.

Grant Agreements

BWSR FY22 CREP - \$16,549

NRBG for 2022: LWM \$13,071

WCA \$24,237

SSTS \$18,600 (stays with Becker County)

Shoreland \$10,739 (stays with Becker County)

Motion (Beck, Ballard) to approve and authorize the District Administrator to sign the BWSR FY22 CREP and NRBG agreements as presented. Affirmative: Unanimous. Carried

State Cost Share Vouchers

- SCS-20-05 Travis Schauer, Windbreak Establishment - Total Project Cost \$1,945:
75% Cost Share \$868.85; \$589.90 CRP

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to approve payment of State Cost Share Voucher as presented. Affirmative: Schauer abstained from voting. Carried

Clean Water Legacy Amendment

- CWL-15-WR Bob Gullard, Change of Ownership to Joey Gullard & Increase Total Amount Authorized to \$49,815.07.

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

Clean Water Legacy Vouchers

- CWL-15-WR Joey Gullard, WASCB and Grassed Waterway - Total Project Cost \$66,420.10:
75% Cost Share \$20,372.27; EQIP \$21,109.47 & Wild Rice WD \$8,333.33
- CWL-30-TD Luke Langerud, WASCBs - Total Project Cost \$10,982.21:
90% Cost Share \$4,858; BR319 \$4,858
- CWL-86-LP Stan Johnson, Conservation Cover - Total Project Cost \$7,610.12:
50% Cost Share \$3,805.06

Motion (Beck, Pavelko) 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 10:55 a.m.

Michelle Anderson

Board Secretary

12-22-21

Date

Angela Malone

District Administrator

12/22/2021

Date