



2008 Mahogany St Ste 3
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Outcomes Documents – Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday October 19, 2022, 2:00 pm

Location: SWCD Conservation Office 2008 Mahogany St. Ste #3 Mora MN 55051
Or Remote Webex Meeting

SUPERVISORS: Norma Heggernes, Jon Sanford, Kim Johnson, Kevin Belkholm

STAFF: Deanna Pomije, Jerah Mattson, Brian Steffen

Others: Dennis McNally **Absent:** Gene Carda

*Remote Attendees

1. 2:03 Roll Call – *Approval of Agenda

Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson approve the agenda as presented

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 2. NRCS Report –**Kanabec Co. has zero Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts with the next sign-up in Jan. Grassland Conservation Initiative (GCI) has zero applications for Kanabec Co. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) has 22 current active contracts. November 18th is the deadline to sign up for EQIP. GCI contracts have received zero applications. The GCI program is currently on hold. Five NRCS positions have been posted for hiring.

Heggernes arrived at 2:25

3. *Consent Agenda (no discussion unless Supervisor requests)

3.1. Financial – receipts & disbursements, balance sheet, profit & loss reports

3.2. Outcomes Document:

- Kanabec SWCD Board –September 21, 2022

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Motion by Johnson, second by Heggernes to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

4. *Approve Treasurer’s Report

Motion by Sanford second by Belkholm to approve the September 2022 Treasurer’s Report as is presented by Johnson

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5. Project Updates, in consent agenda – any questions.

5.1. Arthur Twp. Sec. 34 – Shoreland Restoration, not to be installed this year due to high bids and no additional offered funding, State Cost Share funds, Plan to seek out current project invoices to see how much current inflation is affecting project costs.

5.2. Arthur Twp. Sec. 30 – Livestock Trail will not be installed this year, SRWMB funds, Planning to request a 1-year extension with the SRWMB

Public Input - none present

6. Business Section

7.1. MASWCD Resolution Roll Call Voting – discussion as needed, see the MASWCD policy committee recommendations, The four Supervisors voted on all 14 resolutions with staff providing input as requested.

7.2. *Request staff SWCD logo clothing allowance, \$75/staff, total \$225, any request for Supervisor clothing, the SWCD generally pays for the logo application

The board is also requesting a few options for clothing with our logo for the board themselves.

Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson to approve staff SWCD logo clothing allowance in the amount of \$75/staff member, total \$225.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

7.3. *Snake Watershed Planning Update

- Mille Lacs & Kanabec Co. concern over ML Band language in plan
Pomije gave the board an update on which LGUs have approved the plan. Two LGUs have not approved the plan; instead, they are requesting the ML Band language in the plan be revised. In discussing any language change with the board; there was a mix of opinions. Some ok with a change in language, hopeful that BWSR would approve any changed language AND others wanting assurances that the SWCD has a vote on the new implementation board if the language change is approved.
- Approval of plan by all Local Govt. Units (LGU) for next step, submission of final plan to BWSR for their 90-day review
The Steering Committee has started work on our 1st biennium work plan. This will eventually need to be approved by the new implementation board and also approved by BWSR. Staff's goal is to have a partial draft ready for review by Thanksgiving.
Pomije presented the Snake plan 10/11 to the Aitkin Co. Board and on 10/18 to the Aitkin SWCD Board.

Motion by Johnson, second by Belkholm to approve the Snake 1W1P plan (9-30 version) for submission to BWSR.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

7.4. *Snake Watershed Plan – organization option discussion, board preference (handout) Willingness to sign a plan implementation agreement.

The board discussed which of the 4 options they prefer for organizing implementation of the Snake Plan. Much is unknown in not knowing how the SRWMB will decide in organizing themselves for implementation. With that said the 4 options were discussed, favoring options 1- forming a new entity (mix of SWCD and Co) or 2- the SRWMB merging with the Policy Cmte. Option 1 would involve duplication of governance whereas option 2 would not. Option 1 may include the best of both worlds; a new entity inviting all LGUs to join as well as the SRWMB, which could retain their powers to levy taxes, pass ordinances and condemn land watershed wide. Preferences were expressed for options 1 or 2 with SWCDs still retaining a vote on the implementation board – for option 2, would be dependent on if the SRWMB allows merging with the PC.

The question was posed if we would be willing to sign an implementation agreement (needed) if the new implementation board were to be led by all county commissioners. It was agreed that this option was not favored.

7.5. Plat Books 2023, discussed bidding or requesting a quote
The board decided not to seek bids, as we are not required given the low cost (<\$5,000).

7.6. *New Soil Health – Cost Share Grant contract approval, \$14,175, expires 12/31/24
Motion by Sanford, second by Belkholm to approve the New Soil Health – Cost Share Grant contract in the amount of \$14,175 expiring 12/31/24

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

8. Discussion Session:

9. Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports – next meeting dates

- TBD (4th Monday) – SRWMB Meeting TBD, courthouse basement, 9-noon (Belkholm, Pomije)
- 10/13 Meeting – Kettle 1W1P PC, location TBD, 9am (Johnson)
- 10/24 – Snake PC Meeting, Mora Courthouse, 9am (Pomije, Mattson, Belkholm)
- Oct. (25-27) BWSR Academy Training, Craguns Brainerd (all staff). Note Office will be Closed during this training.
- 11/11 – Office Closed: Veteran’s Day
- 11/16 – **Regular SWCD Board Meeting, 2 pm** (all)
- 11/17 – Forestry Association Meeting, McGregor, remote option 10am (Carda)
- 11/24 – Office Closed: Thanksgiving
- 11/30 – Rum Watershed Partnership Meeting, 4:30pm (Johnson)
- 12/8 – COLA – AIS Meeting, 5pm SWCD office (Sanford, Pomije)
- *Dec. 12-14 – MASWCD Annual Convention, Bloomington (supervisors, staff) SWCD business meeting, SWCD supervisor, DM & staff training, conservation awards
To be discussed for approval at our Nov. board meeting.

*Seeking Supervisor report on meeting attended

10. Evaluate the Meeting – What worked? What needs further discussion?

11. 5:48 pm Adjourn Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Sanford second by Johnson to adjourn meeting at 5:48 pm

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

*Seeking Board Decisions