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### **Outcomes Documents – Regular Board Meeting**

~~Tuesday, August 17, 2021 2:00 pm~~, Postponed

Rescheduled: Tuesday August 24, 2021 2:00 pm

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

**SUPERVISORS:** Jon Sanford, Norma Heggernes, Kevin Belkholm, Kim Johnson, Gene Carda  
**STAFF:** Deanna Pomije, Jerah Mattson, Josh Votruba, Mary Krueger\*, (\*remote attendance)

#### 1. 2:00 Roll Call – \*Approval of Agenda

**Motion by Johnson, second by Sanford** to approve the Agenda as presented

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

#### 2. NRCS Report (Shannon Rasinski) Not present. No written report provided.

#### 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 –July 20, 2021

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Sanford asked about the recent revision to the open meeting law. Pomije explained with the Governor's Emergency Order no longer in effect; we are in essence back to open meetings with the public invited to attend. Voting board members are only allowed now to vote remotely due to military service or a doctor's order not to attend public meetings. Will still plan to have a remote option; as it provides another option for the public to listen in, especially with Covid still lingering.

Pomije updated Sanford on the conversation with Commissioner Smith on the discussion about the Ann Lake Treatment.

**Motion by Johnson, second by Belkholm** to approve Consent Agenda as presented

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

#### 4. \*Approve Treasurer's Report

**Motion by Sanford, second by Belkholm** to approve Treasurer's Report as presented

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

**5. Business**

5.0 Fair Outreach Evaluation: Suggestions for next year are to take the booth down earlier on Sunday as the foot traffic was slow. Yes, keep booth for next year. Consider entering the parade next year.

The Conservation Plinko Board brought in more kids to the booth. Possibly revise the Plinko Board questions to be easier and more questions for kids. Overall, the effectiveness of this outreach was mixed with a lot of kid interaction. The name sign-up sheet for tree orders went over well. Pomije requested the need for another table and 4 chairs for the fair and other outreach events. Heggernes volunteered to donate 2 tables.

**Motion by Sanford, second by Belkholm** to approve reimbursement to Pomije for the Plinko Board construction materials in the amount of \$41.28.

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

5.1. \*AIS – payment approval, Lewis Lake, curly leaf pond weed delineation report, total \$825  
AIS newspaper ad. July \$171.57, (COLA approved 7/15, \$200)

**Motion by Sanford, second by Belkholm** to approve AIS payment approvals in the amount of \$996.57

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

5.2. Snake 1W1P Planning Update. Pomije reviewed that there is planned Policy Committee Mtg. on September 27, which will be a joint meeting with the PC and the Snake Board. This meeting will be in-person and also online. The meeting will start with any Snake Board business, then a joint PC / Snake Board meeting discussing 1w1p organizational options with the last part of the meeting for the PC to review for approval the latest Technical Advisory Cmte. (TAC) progress on the plan. The TAC is nearly done with four issue goals and priority areas to be presented soon. The next steps for the TAC are to discuss staff capacity and public outreach for filling in the 10-year timeline describing which priority areas will be worked on and when. Public input meetings are planned for December and January to gather input on the strategic implementation timeline. Changes may occur, depending on the progress made.

5.3. BWSR Academy training approval, estimate \$800, Oct 26-28 Craguns, Brainerd-BWSR Academy has been changed to online for 2021. No motion needed.

5.4. \*Capacity FY19 completed. Approval signature on final financial report

**Motion by Belkholm, second by Sanford** to approve final financial report in concluding the Capacity FY19 grant.

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

5.5. \*Payments Authorization, request for District Manager to approve expenses up to \$1,000 within budget

**Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson** for District Manager to approve expenses up to \$1,000 within budget

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

**6. Project Updates**, in consent agenda – any questions.

\*Payment voucher, 3 hand dug wells sealed, Monson, Ken & Doris, payment approval for \$862.50, 50%, total cost \$1,725, Ann Lake Sec 32, funding source – State Cost Share FY20

**Motion by Sanford, second by Carda** to approve payment in the amount of \$862.50 to Ken & Doris Monson to cover 50% of their well sealing costs.

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

**7. Board Discussion**

\*District Land Management – private ditch maintenance clean – out request – wetlands

District Land Committee (Belkholm, Carda)

A full board discussion ensued on how to manage the cropland and remaining non-cropped area of the District Land to best utilize the land based on the original deeded covenants of using the land for conservation demonstration and education. Sanford suggested utilizing Pheasant Forever Biologists to develop a plan for the non-cropped area. It was suggested that the District Land Committee meet this winter '21-22 to develop a long-term plan for the land in line with the deeded covenants and conservation plan. Belkholm provided some of the history of the District Land. He mentioned that there is an access agreement for our western property owner, Michael Boster to use the north-south field lane through the middle of our property to access his land. At the meeting the board was provided a summary of board action on the District Land over the last 5 years. Pomije presented her findings on the liability questions brought up at the July Board Meeting. Our MCIT risk manager suggested putting the land operation out for bid to avoid any perceived or potential conflict of interest with Belkholm as the operator. He also suggested a contract developed between the District and the chosen land operator. In discussing planting Kernza, Belkholm mentioned the ideal time to plant it is between now and Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>. It may also be planted in the spring as a secondary (not preferred) planting date. He has applied to get Kernza seed, but may not hear back for 60 days. On the request to clean out the ditch; concerns were brought up over the impact to wetlands and other downstream land owners and a reference to our land deed covenants about wetland protection. Pomije suggested the hunting options for this land and liability concerns to be discussed by the board in September.

The request to clean out the ditch failed for a lack of a motion.

Due to the time sensitive nature of planting Kernza now, the board has decided to forgo requesting an operator public bid on the land.

**Motion by Johnson, second by Carda** to approve a long-term (5-year) Kernza contract with Belkholm assuming it is mutually agreeable with Belkholm and Kanabec SWCD. In addition, would like the contract to include a termination clause for both parties; then with the option to request a public bid for a land operator.

**Affirmative:** Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** Belkholm

**Motion by Johnson, second by Carda** to enter pursuant with Pheasants Forever or a similar organization to develop a management plan for the non-crop land for educational purposes.

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda

**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

**8. General Discussion / Public Input**

Johnson attended the comp plan meeting at the courthouse. The outside firm is receiving more input than expected and is proposing to extend the public input period through next year, 2022. He will continue to attend the remaining comp. plan meetings.

Tom Mortenson is floating the idea of development of a State Park for educational purposes in Ford Twp. on his land in the lower Snake River falls area.

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

- 8/12 – COLA – AIS Meeting 5pm library park (Sanford, Votruba)
- 8/16 – SRWMB Meeting, 9am (Pomije, Belkholm)
- 8/27 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Soil Health Field Day, Jon Stevens Pine Co.
- 9/10 – proposed date Mora Area Soil Health Field Day, 9-1 (all staff)
- 9/16 – Forestry Assoc. Meeting (Carda)
- \*9/21 – Propose new date, conflicts with Area 3 Meeting – Tues. **Regular SWCD Board Meeting, 2pm** (all)

**Motion by, second by** to approve new date of September 15th to hold the SWCD Regular Board Meeting

**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda  
**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

- \*9/21 – Area 3 Meeting, Duluth South St. Louis SWCD hosting (all Supervisors invited)  
**Motion by Sanford, second by Belkholm** to approve payment of attendance/lunch fees for interested board/staff in attending the Area 3 Meeting  
**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda  
**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

- 9/27 – Snake River Watershed Mgmt. Board (SRWMB) mtg., 9 am (Belkholm, Pomije, Votruba)
- 9/27 – Snake 1W1P Policy Cmte. Meeting, 10:30 am (Belkholm, Pomije, Mattson)

\*Seeking Supervisor report on meeting attended, Johnson – Rum PC meeting 7/22

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

**11. 4:06pm Adjourn Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson** to adjourn meeting at 4:06 pm  
**Affirmative:** Belkholm, Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Carda  
**Opposed:** None      **Abstain:** None

**\*Seeking Board Decisions**