



2008 Mahogany Street, Suite 3
Mora, MN 55051
(320) 679-3982
info@KanabecSWCD.org

Outcomes Documents - Regular Board Meeting

Location: Kanabec Courthouse, Tuesday, November 12, 2019 3:00 pm

SUPERVISORS: Joyce Sawatzky, Paul Hoppe, Gene Carda, Kevin Belkholm

STAFF: Deanna Pomije, Nick Smetana, Jerah Mattson

OTHERS: Dennis McNally

1. 3:03 Call to Order - *Approval of Agenda

Pomije made an announcement that advertising for the upcoming Plat Books is now available.

Motion by Carda, second by Belkholm to approve the agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

Hoppe arrived at 3:06

2. NRCS Report – Rasinski absent, no report

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

The following items from the consent agenda were asked about and brought forward for discussion:

Belkholm asked about the status of the Rosnow project. Pomije reviewed the following with the board.

Rosnow Project: As requested a letter was sent to the Knife Lake Improvement District (KLID) requesting them to reconsider sponsoring this project in lieu of the land owner, Rosnow. It included a request for the KLID to obtain a signed contract between them and Rosnow, relinquishing this authority over to the KLID for the duration of a project, to include also the operation and maintenance, of usually a 10-year term. Pomije attended the KLID meeting on 10/19. In attendance were Cms. Anderson and Supervisor Carda. There was some discussion over the project design with a want for rock rip-rap. Pomije mentioned briefly, that the conservation technical staff learn through doing and have moved away from recommending rock since the previous rip-rap design was completed in 1998. In the end the KLID decided since there are no expenses to be incurred, would proceed with seeking a signed contract between them and Rosnow. They are planning to seek assistance from the Co. Attorney. There is no planned KLID meeting in Nov. Pomije mentioned that Rob Schloemer had spoken with her briefly in passing – he suggested that she accompany him on the contract discussion with the County Attorney.

Hoppe commented the following on the McVay potential project: He compared the McVay potential project to the past Felger project in that we need to take care to address the environmental concerns that the land owner has, to ensure a successful project. McNally also commented that the landfill has soil for fill as needed for the gully project.

McVay Land Co. – 11/1 – Arthur Twp., Section 21, NE ¼ of SE ¼; Stopped out to chat with Jacob Stegner (McVay Land Manager) regarding an Ann River Nutrient Reduction Project. He described a couple areas of concern he had particularly regarding erosion. He said himself and Mr. McVay would have interest in a potential project on a gully just south of Hwy 23 and an additional site north of the farmstead, given the prices are reasonable. I pointed out the June 2020 funding deadline for the grant,

so there is an urgency to get project(s) moving towards design. He will call within a month to set up an appointment for us to evaluate the sites with TSA (Mary & Matias).

- 3.1. Financial – receipts & disbursements, balance sheet, profit & loss report
- 3.2. Outcomes Document – October 8, 2019
- 3.3. Staff Reports
- 3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Motion by Carda, second by Belkholm to approve the consent agenda as presented and called out for discussion, above.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

4. *Approve Treasurer’s Report

Pomije presented some of the highlights from the treasurer’s report. McNally questioned how the AIS funds are processed for reimbursement. Smetana explained the process. Hoppe inquired if the RIM monitoring payments were sufficient for the work performed. Pomije answered that the funds are just adequate if no extra work is needed.

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda to approve the treasurer’s report as presented.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5. Business

Pomije reviewed briefly that the bulk of these funds are used for staff salaries.

- 5.1 *Final financial report approval – FY 2017 Capacity Funding, spent \$137,500

Motion by Hoppe, second by Belkholm to approve final financial report

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 5.2 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Invoices

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda to approve AIS invoice in the amount of \$3,422.43 for staff time providing service on AIS for 2019 Qtr. 3.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 5.3 *Office Lease Space Needs – Square Footage / Rate

Pomije reviewed a new offer for consideration from her negotiations with the landlord. It involves the needed 800 sq. ft. plus 100 sq. ft. of shared space at a rate of \$13 & 1/3 / the total 900 sq. ft.; a total of \$12,000 per year on a 5-year lease, payable monthly. The landlord would like an option included in the agreement for the potential for the construction of a hallway through our space if the back unoccupied space is rented. This may be unlikely to happen. She explained that the \$12,000 / yr. amount is within our budget to pay. Pomije will work on drafting a new more detailed lease agreement.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to pay \$1,000.00 per month under a new 5-year lease

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.4 *New Billable Rate, correction – new Adm. Rate - \$20.54 – to start on 10/20/2019
D.M. - \$52.17
Tech. - \$45.76
Adm. – \$41.28

Pomije mentioned this correction was needed as the previously calculated facilities costs did not include the 2018, Sept.-Dec. costs, as these are in a previous company in our QuickBooks software.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Belkholm to approve the new billable rate as presented.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.5 *Snake 1W1P Pre-planning – selection of alternate on the Policy Committee representative

Belkholm volunteered to be the alternate policy cmte. representative in 2020.

Pomije provided a brief update on the pre-planning efforts for the Snake 1W1P, listing those confirmed policy cmte. representatives.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve Belkholm to be the Snake 1W1P Policy Committee alternate representative in 2020.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.6 Progress on Water Plan Implementation

Pomije distributed the current water plan’s implementation schedule. She reviewed the progress on the various items organized by the three priority land uses. We have made remarkable progress with the completion of recent grants.

6. Supervisor Check-In (Supervisors weigh in on topic)

As follow up to the water plan implementation; a further discussion took place on the options for the treatment to Ann Lake to address the high nutrient internal load issue. Pomije reviewed some of the latest DNR concerns over the proposed Alum. treatment; the high sulfate impact it may have on wildrice and a study sited showing that the benthic invertebrates (lake bugs) of the lake may be impacted with and Alum. treatment, but recover after about 2 years. However, the treatment cycle of every other year for 14 years would not allow the invertebrates time to recover. If we sought an Alum. treatment DNR would require us to submit a version of an environmental impact statement. This statement would have to be completed by a consultant and may be part of the estimated expenses planned as part of an implementation grant. Other options were discussed such as a lake draw-down, favored by the DNR, but with questionable improvement on the actual deep-water high nutrients. The next option being researched in the poly-aluminum chloride treatment. Pomije has been continuing conversations with the Ann Lake Watershed Alliance on the details of these options.

7. Project Updates:

The consent agenda includes details on project developments. Smetana reviewed briefly some of his recent land owner site visits.

8. General Discussion / Public Input

Hoppe requested a resolution in support of the appointment of Kurt Beckstrom (Mille Lacs SWCD Supervisor) to the BWSR board. BWSR has a 20-member board with currently 3 SWCD Supervisors on it. Members are appointed by the governor and serve a 4-year term. Pomije will write up a resolution.

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda in favor of a resolution supporting the appointment of Kurt Beckstrom to the BWSR board.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

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

- 11/21 – Forestry Association meeting, McGregor 9:30 am (Hoppe, Carda)
- 11/25 – Snake River Watershed Board, 9 am (Hoppe, Pomije)
- *12/8 – MASWCD Annual Convention, Bloomington (? Supervisors) Register by 11/22, \$250 complete convention

Hoppe mentioned wanting to attend the entire convention and Belkholm to attend one day. Pomije requests Smetana to attend one day. Mattson will plan to send in the registration, please contact her for details by 11/22.

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda in favor of District paying for the registration and associated costs with attending the 2019 MASWCD Convention for those listed above, interested in attending.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 12/11 – Wednesday Conservation Office, **Regular SWCD Board Meeting**, 3 pm (all)
- 12/12 – COLA-AIS Meeting, 5 pm, courthouse basement (Sawatzky)

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

Agenda items for next month?

Pomije mentioned briefly a previous discussion to realign our districts with County Commissioner Districts and to stagger our supervisor terms back to a 3:2 instead of the current 4:1 expiration term. To be discussed more in detail in December.

5:19 Adjourn Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Carda second by Belkholm to adjourn the meeting at 5:19 pm.

Affirmative: Sawatzky, Carda, Hoppe, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

***Seeking Board Decisions**