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Outcomes Documents – Regular Board Meeting

Location: SWCD Office/Remote Webex Meeting, Tuesday July 21, 2020 3:00 pm

SUPERVISORS: Jan Anderson*, Gene Carda*, Joyce Sawatzky*, Paul Hoppe*, Kevin Belkholm*
STAFF: Deanna Pomije*, Jerah Mattson*, Josh Votruba* (*present in office)

1. 3:05 Roll Call - *Approval of Agenda

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve the agenda as presented with one additional item: Item 5.4 Additional AIS expense-\$6,626.74 curly leaf pond weed spraying on Knife Lake.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

2. NRCS Report (Rasinski). Rasinski absent. No report submitted.

3. Belkholm arrived at 3:10

4. *Consent Agenda (no discussion unless Supervisor requests) Anderson brought up discussion on the Fish Lake/Hwy 65 project grant application, proposed under agenda item 5.9. She asked about the proposed area for this grant, if it could include the Knife River outlet to Knife Lake area (Rosnow Project). She brought up the concern about not having land owner support for the Fish Lake/Hwy 65 project yet, same as for the Rosnow Project. The staff thought that if a verbal approval from the land owners was not obtained for the Fish Lake/Hwy 65 project than they may not submit a grant application and hold off another year to apply.

Motion by Anderson, second by Hoppe to apply for funding for both the Fish Lake/Hwy 65 project and the Rosnow Project under a Clean Water Fund Project Grant, due August 17.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

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

3.2. Outcomes Document:

- Kanabec SWCD Board – June 09, 2020

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

No discussion.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Anderson to approve the consent agenda as presented with one additional discussion mentioned above.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5. *Approve Treasurer's Report

Motion by Belkholm, second by Anderson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Sawatzky commented that she liked that the report is balanced.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6. Business

5.1. Snake 1W1P Update – Pomije went over the kick off meeting details. One will be held 8/4 from 10 - 11:30 am and one 8/6 from 5:30-7 pm. Both meetings will be held remotely using Zoom and Supervisors are encouraged to attend one meeting. The public input survey is available on the Mille Lacs SWCD – Snake 1W1P website. Please share this with other residents around the Snake River Watershed to encourage people to attend a meeting and/or complete the survey. The information gathered will be used to prioritize the resource concerns within the watershed. Our consultant Wenck has started aggregating the watershed natural resources reports and writing the Land & Water Narrative, which sets the stage for our priority concerns.

5.2. 3:21 *Observation Well with the DNR, new 2021 Contract approval, \$600 (4x/year) (previous contract 8x/year for \$1,200)

Motion by Anderson, second by Carda to approve the Observation well contract with the DNR

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5.3. *AIS Expenses – (Total \$17,952.35)

- Fish Lake Improvement Assn. curly leaf pond weed spraying, \$2,984
- Mileage expense, June - Journey, Rachael, \$219.08
- Mileage expense, June-July, personal vehicle, Kyle, \$331.73
- May-June 2 boat Inspector Salaries - \$4,278.12
- SWCD Staff Time Qtr. 2 - \$3,370.68
- Newspaper Ad, AIS education, week July 4 - \$142
- Knife Lake curly leaf pond weed spraying - \$6,626.74 (added to agenda)

Motion by Hoppe, second by Carda to approve the AIS Expenses (new total \$17,952.35) as presented with one addition-Knife Lake curly leaf pond weed spraying in the amount of \$6,626.74

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5.4. *2021 SWCD Budget, start discussion, Co. allocation request

Pomije started the 2021 draft budget discussion with the board. (handout) The 2020 actual expenses have been updated through the end of June. This is still a draft budget with not much changed from the previous 2020 budget. Two additional years were added to project out the budget, a total of 3 years to help account for our multi-year grant funds. Belkholm requested to see the 2019 actual expenses through the end of December. Pomije proposed a 2% increase in our County allocation for 2021 based on the County approved 2% cost of living increase associated with the 2020 Co. pay scale. Belkholm questioned that this draft budget's bottom line didn't justify the 2% increase. It isn't known yet when the Kanabec SWCD is scheduled to go before the County Board to present our budget, usually in August.

No Motion was passed. The staff will work to clarify the budget further for the August Board Meeting.

5.5. *Request Josh Votruba, District Technician – authorization to sign checks

Motion by Hoppe, second by Anderson to approve Josh Votruba authorization to sign Kanabec SWCD checks and remove Nick Smetana from this authority.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5.6. *Request Josh Votruba, District Technician - \$50 clothing allowance with SWCD logo

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda to approve Josh Votruba \$50 clothing allowance with SWCD logo and the District covering the cost of imprinting the logo.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** Anderson

5.7. *SWCD Board/Staff Conflict of Interest Policy, renewed annually

Pomije presented the policy; not as a requirement, but as a good standard of ethics practice.

Motion by Belkholm, second by Anderson to approve the SWCD Board/Staff Conflict of Interest Policy to be renewed and signed annually with board and staff.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.8. *Approval for re-enrollment on State Surplus Site

Pomije said there's no proposed purchases at this time, just a re-enrollment as needed for future use.

Motion by Anderson, second by Carda to approve re-enrollment on State Surplus Site

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5.9. *Approval for BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant application for Fish Lake / Hwy 65 fishing access

erosion protection project (Votruba) – previously discussed and approved above, under item 4, consent agenda.

5.10. *Approval to bid \$6,000 on NRCS 2009 Dodge Ram on GSA website (agenda add on item)

Our previously approved bid of \$2,651 has been out-bid with this auction closing tomorrow, 7/22. **Since then, we found out we did not will the bid. We were out bid by about \$500.**

Motion by Belkholm, second by Carda to approve a \$6,000 cap on bidding for 2009 Dodge Ram on the Federal GSA auction website.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

7. Board Discussion – Strategic Planning Session with Board – proposed date this fall – now set for Dec. 2020

Agenda Items were presented briefly, looking for any additions or suggestions. It was recommended to include all current Supervisors and the newly elected Supervisors from November. It was proposed to have the meeting offsite, at Freddie's in Mora, possibly with lunch covered by the District. This will give the outgoing Supervisors a chance to share their knowledge and for the new Supervisors to be part of the discussion on revising our next 5-Year Strategic Plan in addressing our concerns for the District's future.

8. Project Updates:

The consent agenda includes details on project developments.

- *Request to continue to contract with Casey Field (Mille Lacs SWCD) for technical fencing assistance on the McVay fencing exclusion, paid thru our St. Croix Nutrient Reduction Grant, exp. 12/1/20.

Motion by Hoppe, second by Belkholm to approve contracting with Casey Field (Mille Lacs SWCD) for technical assistance on the McVay fencing exclusion through 12/1/20.

Affirmative: Hoppe, Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- Other Projects

Kernza is ready to be planted on the District Land. To be planted, pending Belkholm is able to locate seed available for purchase. Since the meeting, Belkholm called and expressed concerns on planting Kernza, due to a resistant strand of waterhemp growing predominantly in the two west-most fields. If he sprays a complex herbicide to kill the waterhemp, there may be herbicide carry-over issues in trying to grow Kernza. He may opt to plant annual rye or hay as an alternative.

9. General Discussion / Public Input

9. Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports – assume all remote meetings - next meeting dates

- 7/23 - Rum Policy Cmte. Meeting, 5-6 pm
- _____ - East Central Landscape Cmte. Meeting (Hoppe)
- 7/16 cancelled, next meeting 9/17 – Forestry Assoc. Remote Meeting, McGregor 10-10 pm (Hoppe, Carda) Cancelled, next date set for September
- July 30 – Local Work Group Meeting, 1:30 pm, WebEx
- 7/27 – Snake 1W1P Policy Cmte. Meeting, 10:30 am (Hoppe, Pomije, Mattson)
- 8/11 – Tues. **Regular SWCD Board in-person meeting**, 3 pm (all)
- 8/13 or TBD – Snake 1W1P Potential 1st Technical Advisory Cmte., (TAC) Remote Meeting 1:30 pm (Pomije, Mattson)
- 9/10 – COLA-AIS Remote Meeting, 5pm, in-person meeting Library Park, Mora (Sawatzky, Votruba, bring a chair)
- Date TBD, 4th Mon. – Snake River Watershed Board, 9 am (Hoppe, Pomije)
- Area 3 Annual Meeting (Sept.) – To be cancelled, instead action items send out for District boards to review.

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

Agenda items for next month?

11. 4:38 Adjourn Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Carda, seconded by Belkholm adjourn meeting at 4:38pm.

Affirmative: Anderson, Carda, Sawatzky, Hoppy, Belkholm

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

***Seeking Board Decisions**