



2008 Mahogany St Ste 3
Mora MN 55051
(320) 679-1391
Deanna@KanabecSWCD.org

Outcomes – Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday September 27, 2023, 2:00 pm

Location: SWCD Conservation Office 2008 Mahogany St., Ste #3 Mora MN 55051

SUPERVISORS: Jon Sanford, Kim Johnson, Gene Carda, Norma Heggernes

STAFF: Deanna Pomije, Jerah Mattson

Others: Absent: Kevin Belkholm

1. 2:00 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

2. ***Approval of the Agenda**

Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented with the addition on 6.2 project payment approval that will be reimbursed by the Snake Board. Addition on 8.5, approve FY2025 conservation Delivery and Conservation Contract (previously the State Cost Share)

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Carda, Heggernes

Opposed: None **Abstain:** Belkholm

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 Mtg. – August 16, 2023

3.3. Staff Reports

3.4. Upcoming Staff Meetings / Outreach / Training

Motion by Sanford second by Carda to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with moving item 8.3 small AIS expenses approval from the agenda to the consent agenda-no motion needed.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

4. ***Approve Treasurer’s Report**

Motion by Heggernes second by Carda to approve the August 2023 Treasurer’s Report as presented by Johnson.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Carda

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

5. NRCS Report (Shannon Bodle) EQIP applications are continuing to come in. The applications are for a prescribed grazing system, high tunnel system, cover crops, pollinator plantings and windbreaks.

Staff is working on eligibly with new applicants and components for their conservation plans. They are also certifying cover crops and starting on prescribed grazing certifications.

Steph attended the New Employee Orientation and went to a Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) field day where she learned about the Golden-Winged Warbler habitat.

A NRCS all-employee meeting for the NE area was held September 19-20.

6. Project Updates, in consent agenda – any questions

6.1. *Whited twp. Sec 17, requesting approval on cost-share contract for 2 well sealings at 50%, lowest bid \$1,600, contract #Cap.2023.01 for \$800, funding source Capacity FY2023

Motion by Sanford, second by Johnson to approve the cost share contract for 2 well sealings at 50% cost share for \$800 using Capacity funds.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Carda, Heggernes

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

6.2. *Approve payment amount of \$5,000 to be paid on contract #SRWMB.2022.1 for the completed access road project in Arthur twp. Payment will be reimbursed by the Snake Board

Motion by Johnson, second by Sanford to approve the pass-through payment on contract #SRWMB.2022.1 for the completed access project in the amount of \$5000.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Carda, Heggernes

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

7. Public Input -none present

8. Business Section

8.1. *Conservation Technician, offer position – report from the personnel committee. The committee met on the 10/21 and interviewed 3 people. The position was offered to a selected individual but declined because they accepted another position. Next the position was offered to Emily Larsen with a starting pay of \$24.39. She has accepted the position. The potential start date is October 23rd. She is in need of housing. If you know of available housing please let Pomije know and she'll forward the information to Larsen.

Motion by Johnson, second by Heggernes to approve the Conservation Technician position offered to Emily Larsen at the starting rate of \$24.39.

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Carda, Heggernes

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

8.2. Snake Watershed Partnership Update.

The completed access project under contract #SRWMB.2022.1 was approved, including \$1,751.06 in KSWCD project development staff time. In addition to Pine Co., now Aitkin Co. has submitted a resolution for dissolution of the SRWMB. As a requirement for the proposed dissolution, a public hearing was set for the 23rd of October.

The first Snake Partnership meeting was held 10/23. Seven of the big 8 Snake Partners have signed on to the JPA, with the exception of ML County. During this meeting Kurt Beckstrom was elected chair with Belkholm as vice-chair. A draft of the by-laws was reviewed, bringing up many questions for the group. Questions for example how often do they plant to meet, who signs the project contracts and a need for seeing how projects flow through the Steering Committee and over to the Partnership Board meetings for approval. The next 10/11 Steering Committee meeting will start drafting options to address these questions. No new date/time has been set for the Partnership Board Meeting.

8.3. *AIS funding approval for \$13.95 new base needed on 6' banner, This item has been moved to consent agenda for approval, no motion needed.

- 8.4. *Approval to sign the new Buffer Law FY2024 grant contract, \$10,000 total, expires 12/31/26
Motion by Sanford second by Heggernes to sign the new FY 2024 Buffer Law contract for \$10,000.
Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Carda
Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

- 8.5. *Approve FY2024 and FY2025 Conservation Delivery (\$18,710) and State Cost Share (Conservation Contracts) Funds (\$12,396)
Motion by Sanford second by Johnson to approve the Conservation Delivery and State Cost Share (Conservation Contracts) for FY2024 and FY2025
Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Carda
Opposed: None **Abstain:** None
-

9. Discussion Session:

- 9.1. *AIS funding for controlling carp. Fish Lake is looking to evaluate Carp control using AIS funding.
A discussion was had looking at the materials provided. Different species of carp are listed by the DNR as both Prohibited species and Regulated species. AIS funds have been used for control of prohibited species such as curly-leaf pondweed. Common carp is in the less controlled, regulated species list.
Motion by Sanford second by Johnson to allow AIS funds for the control of carp. The board is requiring an evaluation of the control methods to go along with the funding. (pre and post carp population evaluations)
Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Heggernes, Carda
Opposed: None **Abstain:** None
-

Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports – next meeting dates

Carda provided an update on the Knife River property adjacent to his. He recently spoke with the landowner via. phone and Carda provided some of the history of the land with an offer to purchase.

- 9/8/23 – Conservation Technician Position closed
- 9/11/23 or 9/15/23 – Personnel committee met, candidate selection for Tech. Position (Belkholm, Johnson, Pomije)
- 9/21/23 – Technician Interviews, personnel committee (Belkholm, Johnson, Pomije)
- 9/21/23-9/22/23 – Area III Meeting, Cloquet Forestry Center (Sanford, Carda)

Sandford reported that the Area 3 elections were held with Jack Janski voted in as our new Director. The per diems went up to \$125 and the dues are going up to \$600 from \$300/ yr. The meeting ended on time.

- 9/25/23 – SRWMB Meeting, 9am, Courthouse (Pomije, Belkholm)
- 9/25/23 – Snake 1st Watershed Partnership Meeting, 10am, Courthouse (Pomije, Belkholm)
- 9/27/23 – TSA Area III Meeting, 10am remote (Johnson, Pomije)
- 9/28/23 – Rum Partnership (RRWP) Meeting, 4:30pm, Milaca (Johnson)
- 10/12/23 – COLA/AIS Meeting, 5pm, (Pomije, Sanford)
- 10/16/23 – Kettle PC Meeting, 9am (Johnson)
- **10/18/23 – Regular SWCD Board Meeting, 2pm**
- 11/16/23 – Forestry Assn. Meeting, 10am, McGregor (Carda or Sanford, Tank)

*Seeking Supervisor report on meeting attended

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

11. 3:04pm Adjourn Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Sanford second by Heggernes to adjourn meeting at pm

Affirmative: Sanford, Johnson, Carda, Heggernes

Opposed: None **Abstain:** None

***Seeking Board Decisions**