



Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District
1424 E. College Drive, Suite 600
Marshall, MN 56258

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MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District
Tuesday, April 10, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:05 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Supervisors Present: Deutz, Lanoue, Laleman, Meulebroeck, Prairie

Others Present: Biren, Cauwels, Giles, Boerboom, Williams, Crowley

Absent:

Identify Any Conflicts of Interest: None

Approve Agenda – Motion by Meulebroeck, 2nd by Lanoue to approve the agenda with addition of h. NACD FY 24 Conservation Investment – Handout and Approval and i. #05/24 – Anthony Lindsley – Grassed Waterway – Cost Share Contract Approval – Handout and Approval. All in favor, motion carried

Approve March 13, 2024 Minutes

Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Lanoue to approve March 13, 2024 Minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports presented.

Business

- A. GBERBA Update– Handout** – Handout from Danielle going over Area 5 MAWQCP applications and projects and assessments.
- B. SWCD Clothing –Fair Booth - Discussion and Approval** – Motion by Meulebroeck 2nd by Prairie to approve \$200.00 per staff supervisors clothing allowance and new sign for Fair Booth. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. #01/24 – Waldon Schultz – Grassed Waterway – Formally Cancel Contract** - Contract #01/24 for a Grassed Waterway for Waldon Schultz. Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Meulebroeck to cancel the Contract in the amount of \$11,090.40, which is 75% of the total cost of \$8,317.80. Landowner Contribution was \$2,772.60. Waldon has completed the project on his own. All in favor, motion carried.
- D. Area V Board Supervisor Survey – Handout and Discussion** - Survey handed out to board. Cauwels will compile answers and submit results to Becky Bucholz from Cottonwood.
- E. #04/24 – Bob & Charlene Tillemans – Well Sealing Contract – Discussion and Approval** - Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Lanoue to approve the Well Sealing Voucher for #04/24 in the amount of \$390.00 which is 50% up to \$500.00 per Well Sealing Policy. Total amount of the sealing was \$780.00 for a 62', 5" well. All in favor, motion carried.

- F. Pollinator Pathways Grant – Discussion and Approval** – Giles discussed this funding. It is available through the State of Minnesota General Fund. Grants will require a 10% non-state recipient match. Grant applications must be for a minimum request of \$50,000. There is no maximum funding cap on awards. Funding is available for counties, SWCD's, cities, tribal governments, watershed management organizations, nonprofit organizations, and public and non-profit pre-K through grade 12 schools. Ranking would be looking for corridors for pollinators to follow a path. 10% match can be landowner or city, depending on locations. Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Lanoue to approve applying for Pollinator Pathways Grant. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. Amiret Township, Section 15 – Cottonwood River Erosion – Handout and Discussion** – Amiret Township has asked for assistance with repairs/cost estimates to township road. Currently it is a safety issue and looking for approximately 300 feet of reshaping and rock rip rap. Asked Xcel Energy for guidance on their powerline pole. Approve cost estimate for fixing the road and paying for engineering (Moldestad). All in favor, motion carried.
- H. NACD FY 24 Conservation Investment – Handout and Approval** – Motion by Prairie 2nd by Meulebroeck to approve \$ 1,000.00 for the Conservation Investment for FY 2024. All in favor, motion carried.
- I. #05/24 – Anthony Lindsley – Grassed Waterway – Cost Share Contract Approval – Handout and Approval** - Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Lanoue to approve the Cost Share Contract, a Grassed Waterway and Underground Outlet in the amount of \$19,174.50 which is 75% of the total cost of \$25,566.00. Landowner funds of 25% is \$6,391.50. All in favor, motion carried.

District Technician – Courtney, Brock & Blake – Giles – Update on the 2 Pollinator Sites for HELP grant, two burns have not been completed, so looking to wait until April 18th for burn and seeding. No-till drill, Truax will come and fix the lock-out hub for machine. Williams – attended MACFO conferenced, finished 45 feedlot registrations, designing waterways and basins and attended a few ditch meetings. Boerboom – Writing CRP contracts, 8 completed, 20 left for first batching period. CREP 3 closed at end of March and submitted 3 applications. RIM – still working through 3 easements.

District Admin – Anita – Ag BMP funding source information

District Report – John – Water & Quality Storage Grants submitted. Will know awards are granted in July at BWSR Meeting – JD 15 project has been working for about a month. Worked on Landfill repairs for future expansion. 4 Redetermination of Benefit Hearings submitted. Bid award opening on April 16th.

District Conservationist – Kelly Heather/Owen Colline – No report

Pheasants Forever – Vacant – Possible new hire coming in.

Committee Reports

RCRCA

- Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P The Steering Team met virtually on March 20 to finalize the implementation tables and Measurable Goals section. This information will be sent to the Advisory Committee and Policy Committee who will meet in person April 17 at the Springfield Area Community Center. It is hoped that we don't lose many attendees to Spring planting. The draft Plan for review is expected in May.

- Redwood River 1W1P The BWSR grant agreement is executed and 50% (\$119,350) of the grant was received. The first Policy Committee was held April 8 at 1:00 PM at the Lyon County Commissioners Room.

Officers were elected as follows:

Chairman – Luke Johnson (Pipestone County)

Vice Chairman – Tom Andries (Lyon County)

Secretary – Jackie Meier (Murray County)

The standing meeting date is the 2nd Monday of the month at 1:00 in Marshall. Houston Engineering Inc. was hired as the plan consultant and dates for the Kick-off Meetings were set as follows:

- Tuesday, June 25 Lake Benton Community Center 5:30 – 8:00 PM (estimated)
- Wednesday, June 26 Marshall (location TBD) 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM (estimated)
- Wednesday, June 26 Redwood Falls – Community Center 5:30 – 8:00 PM (estimated)

The next meeting will be Monday, May 13 at 1:00 PM at the Lyon County Commissioners Room.

- Lake Redwood MMB is preventing transfer of the CDF property to the City of Redwood Falls and stands firm that the transferee must pay full market value for the property. A letter was sent to MMB from the project attorneys with several documents proving that this transfer was intended from the start. MMB states that the legislation did not authorize agricultural use, nor does the grant agreement, and income cannot be derived from the property. Netze met with Senator Dahms, Representative Torkelson the attorneys and Jim Doering from the City of Redwood to discuss options on March 29. The legislators have taken the documents and are seeking opinions from the House and Senate counsels. Then a meeting with MMB will be scheduled. Dahms feels that we have a chance to plead our case as the income derived from leasing the land, even for grazing or alfalfa production instead of row crop farming, is going into a designated fund, and not the City's general fund, for future lake improvements which is what the original appropriation language includes.

Area II River Basins

- Yellow Medicine Watershed Pilot Water Storage Project The 3rd meeting was held virtually March 22. The project leaders provided more visual details on the identified storage locations. With some changes made to the ranking/scoring, the modelers plan to identify the top 50 sites for each type of: road retentions, wetlands/enhancements, and depressions. The 48-hour retention time for a 10-year storm event restriction has not been applied, so the results are a little deceiving until those criteria are applied to meet the goals of the YM 1W1P. The existing retention structures of Area II and Lyon County have been removed from their model to prevent duplication. The 4th meeting was held virtually April 5. A GIS data viewer is available that displays the retention areas and provided opportunity to comment on individual sites whether they were infeasible, etc. These changes will be made and a new list of the Top 50 provided for the next meeting.
- Corps of Engineers - The Corps has started to require stream mitigation for projects which impact more than 200 feet in length. This is in addition to wetland mitigation. This program is in its infancy and a bank with credits for purchase has not been established but is near. Mitigation can also be achieved by restoring other stream reaches within the same bank service area. It may be possible for the Corps to permit the project with stream credits to be purchased when they become available; however, no dollar amount was estimated at what that cost may be. Area II has two current projects requiring stream mitigation.
- Water Quality & Storage Grants Applications are due April 11 for the \$2.5 million in funding. \$500,000 is also available for engineering/project development. BWSR changed their policy to provide 90% cost-share, which is a game changer as Area II has several projects in the files where the 25% local match was always the problem. Applications will be submitted for: Redwood Falls 5/8/9 Grade Stabilizations (Redwood), North Hero 34 Road Retention (Redwood), Lynd 31 Road Retention (Lyon), Holly 22 Road Retention (Murray), and Ann 17 Grade Stabilization (Cottonwood). A second RFP is expected by October 2024.
- Nordland 18 Grade Stabilization - The property owner requested a grade stabilization to address gully erosion across an agricultural field. Since the project was effective at flow and sediment reduction, but provided little floodwater retention, construction funding from Lyon SWCD was requested for consideration. Since then, the neighboring property owner is willing to work with this property owner to curb stormwater stemming from that property. Since this will involve WSCBs rather than a grade stabilization or small dam, Area II does not intend to engineer these project(s) as Area II funding cannot be used for WSCBs.

Area V – Next meeting in June 14th in Windom. Jeffers Petroglyphs tour.

- **SW Prairie TSA** – Next meeting is in June - Awarded Soil Health Grant
- **Park & Rec** – Camper Cabin construction for Garvin Park
- **Yellow Medicine Watershed** – Cost Share Grants approved and next meeting on 4-17th
- **One Watershed One Plan (Yellow Medicine)** – Managing cover crops, CREP, native seedings.
- **One Watershed One Plan (Des Moines)** – Tech meeting today to go over financials. Almost done with the first 50%. Talked about changing non-structural rates and bring to the policy board. Putting a cap on non-structural policies. Update a \$5000.00 max septic update if it is a health threat. Can't be a property transfer and would need a compliance inspection and would need to use a loan program to get the funds.
- **One Watershed One Plan (Cottonwood-Middle MN)** - The Steering Team met virtually on March 20 to finalize the implementation tables and Measurable Goals section. This information will be sent to the Advisory Committee and Policy Committee who will meet in person April 17 at the Springfield Area Community Center. It is hoped that we don't lose many attendees to Spring planting. The draft Plan for review is expected in May.

- **One Watershed One Plan (Redwood)** - The BWSR grant agreement is executed and 50% (\$119,350) of the grant was received. The first Policy Committee was held April 8 at 1:00 PM at the Lyon County Commissioners Room. Officers were elected as follows:

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- **County** – County Annual Township Meeting – solar and wind turbines conversations with setbacks and authority. Aurora, Auditor Treasurers Office, how taxes are broken down presentation. Capital Purchase plan what county needs are.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date