



MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 19, 2021 BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:29 a.m.

Members Present:

Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Treasurer: Dennis Reynolds

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS Soil Conservationist: Bob Guetter
District Manager: Darren Newville
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Irrigation/Nutrient Mgmt Specialist: Nathan Wiese
Watershed Planner/Coordinator: Ben Underhill
Representative Jordan Rasmusson

Members Absent:

Public Relations: Wayne Enger

Oath of Office: Not required this year.

Reorganization: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt to continue with current organization of board and committee appointments, seconded by Lyle Dittmann. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Agenda: Add Staffing and Vehicle quotes to New Business after item number 23 on the agenda. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to adopt the Agenda with additions. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Steve Inwards to approve the previous month Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

*7:35 a.m. Rep. Jordan Rasmussen entered the meeting

Bills Paid & Bills Payable: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.



COST SHARE

CLC-2022-021399; Central Lakes College Joint Powers Agreement, Cost Share of \$90,000.00 from grant C21-9235 for demonstration irrigation system. Motion to approve made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt. Opposed: none, motion carried.

C21-3238-03; Arnold Bolland; Authorization to approve payment for a forest stewardship plan, with total cost of \$ 978.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$ 733.50 or 75%, whichever is less, in section 30 of Leaf Lake Township. Motion to approve made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards. Opposed: none, motion carried.

PL8/BP; Alan Starzl; Pine Lake Township, Section 21, is requesting cost share assistance for his Shoreline Restoration. The project estimate is \$ 1,615.79 with cost sharing of \$ 1,211.84 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion to approve made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards. Opposed: none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: written and presented by Darren Newville, see attached.

District Conservationist's Report: report by Bob Guetter

- EQIP: working on 2022 applications, assessment/ranking deadline is Feb 25, 2022
- CSP: Feb 4, 2022 application deadline, 24 pending applications
- CRP: 10 applications received, 160 expiring contracts, Tanner training for CRP
- Working with Aimee Duchene on potential applicants for Red Eye 1W1P funds, 8 potential applicants
- Mitch Nietge filling in until new DC starts in Fergus Falls on Mar 13, 2022

County Commissioner's Report: presented by Dan Bucholz

- Betty Murphy is new chair of the Otter Tail County board
- Rode along with plow truck end of December, study was done to see which roads should be plowed first based on traffic.
- There are over 200 vacation rentals in Otter Tail County, discussed noise ordinance – will contact Chris at Land/Resource and report back.

Other Agency Reports: Representative Jordan Rasmuson

- Thanks to EOT SWCD for your work.
- Clean Water Funds dedicated to SWCD at last legislative meeting (Rep. Rasmuson on this committee)
- Jan. 31 – May, next legislative session will be debating what to do with revenue surplus, may not get touched
- Senator Bill Ingebritson announced his retirement, Rep. Rasmuson will be running for state Senate.

*8:15 a.m. Ben Underhill entered the meeting.



Otter Tail County Presentation: Film Plastic Recycling Program, presented by Zach Fjestad, Assistant Director of OTC Solid Waste Dept.

- No longer partnering with Revolution Plastics
- 100 dumpsters first placed in 2016, didn't get enough plastic but left dumpsters in place
- Applied for grant to buy front load dumpster truck as did not have ability to empty front load dumpsters being used.
- 2021: recycled 450 tons of film plastic from farms, boat dealers, and greenhouses
- Will be receiving 50 additional dumpsters soon, there is a waiting list of approximately 20 locations
- Hired part-time (20 hrs/week) driver 6 months ago

Leaf Lake Dam Modification Video shown

Old Business

Water Plan/Watershed Plan update: covered in manager's report

Department of Ag update: covered in manager's report

TSA Update: nothing new to report, next meeting is February 2, 2022

New Business

MDH Groundwater Presentation: Ben Underhill and Nathan Wiese

*9:40 a.m. Ben Underhill left the meeting

Meetings and Training:

- Legislative Days is March 9
- Area Meeting is March 15

Mileage Rate: Federal mileage rate has increased to .585 from .56 for 2022.

Per Diem: Per diem for 2022 is currently at \$125.00. Motion to approve made by Dennis Reynolds, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Official Newspaper: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to keep the Perham Focus as the official District newspaper. Opposed: none, motion carried.



Official Financial Institution: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to keep Bremer Bank as the official District financial institution. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Peterson engagement letter: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, seconded by Steve Inwards to retain Peterson Company Ltd for year-end audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Staffing: Ben Underhill has submitted his resignation. Will need to advertise for this position. Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt to approve resignation for Ben Underhill and approve advertising for the position of Watershed Planner and Coordinator. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Vehicle quotes: Quotes for new vehicles have been received. Old vehicles to be traded in. Motion to approve vehicle quotes made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.