

ISANTI SWCD

**REGULAR SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES 8:00 A.M.
May 17, 2023**

Attendance

Present: Al Koczur, Clark Anderson, Valerie Anderson, Tom Anderson

Staff Present: Tiffany Determan, Linda Gehrking

Board Member not Present: Medvecky

Others Present: Bill Berg, County Commissioner

1. Approve Agenda

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/Koczur to approve agenda with additions 5.b.3. FY20 Spec Lake CWF: Contract 2023-3, stormwater runoff control for \$7,560. and 5.b.4. Lower St. Croix Soil Health CWF: Contract 2022-02, 3 yr. Multi-species cover crops interseeded into corn, 52.96 acres for \$9,532.80.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Consent Agenda

a. Treasurers Report April 2023

b. Regular Board Meeting Minutes - April 19, 2023

Motion/Seconded: No motion needed.

4. Old Business Items

None

5. New Business Items

a. Call for MASWCD Resolutions

Resolutions need to be voted on at the Area meeting on June 20th.

Discussion on the resolutions related to Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in permanent conservation easements and Human Resources for SWCDs. The board concurred that Determan should write a resolution to initiate the development of a committee to investigate shared human resource needs across the state.

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/T. Anderson to approve Human Resource Exploration resolution.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

b. Contracts:

1. Green Lake 319: Contract 2023-1, Practice 570 Stormwater Runoff Control for \$4,549.50.

The total cost of the 100 square foot rain garden project is estimated at \$6,066.

Motion/Seconded Koczur/V. Anderson to approve Contract 2023-1, Practice 570 Stormwater Runoff Control for \$4,549.50 from the Green Lake 319 Grant.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Green Lake 319 and FY23 Rum River WBIF: Contract 2023-2, Wetland Restoration for \$103,085.

Determan explained that the wetland restoration is 4 acres and will result in a 26-pound phosphorus reduction. This project will be funded by a combination of Green Lake 319, Rum River Watershed Based Implementation Funds and Sportsman Club donated funds. In addition, there may be phase 2, but it would involve a ditch plug and ditch abandonment.

Motion/Seconded T. Anderson/V. Anderson to approve Contract 2023-2, Wetland Restoration for \$103,085 to be funded by Green Lake 319, Rum River FY23 WBIF and Sportsmen's club funds.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

3. FY20 Spectacle Lake CWF: Contract 2023-3, stormwater runoff control for \$7,560.

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/Koczur to approve Contract 2023-3, stormwater runoff control for \$7,560 funded by the FY20 CWF.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

4. LSC SH CWF: Contract SH I 2022, 3-yr multi-species cover crops interseeded into corn, 52.96 acres for \$9,532.80.

Determan noted that the farmer has additional acreage in that they are interested in seeding with cover crops; however, Isanti SWCD currently does not have funding to cover the acres. Determan noted that she will check with Anoka Conservation District to see if they have funding, they would be willing to transfer. There was discussion regarding Nitrogen focus of the grant.

Motion/Seconded Koczur/V. Anderson to approve Contract SH I 2022, 3-yr multi-species cover crops interseeded into corn, 52.96 acres for \$9,532.80 from the LSC Soil Health Grant.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

c. LCCMR PILOT Tree Planting Project

Determan provided an information sheet developed by BWSR. There is money from LCCMR grant to plant trees on Rum River on conservation easements and sustainable forest incentive act (SFIA) lands. Determan went on to note that LCCMR grants must be used on permanently protected land. The goal is to reach the 1-million acre of reforestation. Mille Lacs SWCD is the coordinator for this project. Determan plans to reach out to existing eligible landowners. There is money to purchase tree planters; however, they are only good for open field sites. Determan noted that she spoke with Medvecky and he is in agreement not to house a tree planter at this time because we do not know what the interest level in the county is. The board concurred that

Isanti should share with another county if possible. Determan will request tree bars from BWSR.

Motion/Seconded: No motion needed.

5. Approve Payment of Bills

Gehrking reviewed the district expenses. Checks as follows: Check #'s 7065 through 7077 and direct deposits for staff, and all electronically paid bills. Discussion was had regarding CDs or other options with high interest rates.

Motion/Seconded C. Anderson/V. Anderson to approve payment of bills and to approve Koczur, Determan and Gehrking to meet with First Bank & Trust and to decide on new options for CDs or Money Market if monthly interest could be increased.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

6. Reports

a. Staff

Determan spent time on quarterly granting tracking, reimbursements and closing out the Conservation Partners Legacy grant. She also communicated with partners and State representatives regarding SWCD Aid.

Remer spent time coordinating volunteer surface water monitoring and collected water samples from Skogman Lake inlets and Tiger Street basin. Remer has also been doing site visits with NRCS and worked on the development of a Soil Health group with Determan and Godfrey. Lastly, Remer did a site visit near Stanchfield creek which erosion issues and a potential water and sediment control basin. Lastly, Remer mentioned again that he is looking for additional LSC funds for non-structural projects and that he would likely contact Anoka Conservation District.

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/Koczur to approve Determan and Remer to pursue additional funding for non-structural projects in the Lower St. Croix.

Affirmative: Koczur, C. Anderson, V. Anderson, T. Anderson

Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Kulaf spent time coordinating and designing projects on Green, Blue and Skogman Lakes. He noted that the wetland restoration project on CD16 was delayed due to the warm winter. Kulaf indicated that the Cartwright project on Wyanett Creek (CD23), it is like the CD 16 project.

b. NRCS District Conservationist

None

c. Committee Reports

Koczur reported on the RRWP: he attended the May 8th Staff Technical meeting where they discussed tracking implementation, the updated statement of work, Education and outreach, and a new RRWP logo. He mentioned the group also spent time talking about the deed restriction process for structural projects over \$5,000. you will need to have a deed restriction.

d. Commissioner Report

Berg mentioned that the board has not had a conversation on the use of the remaining ARPA funds. Berg went on to explain that the County board is starting the 2024 budget discussions. He also noted that the board appointed Determan as the County representative on the Metropolitan Drinking Water Supply committee.

7. Board Training; OPTIONAL Site visit to Future Rain Garden on Spectacle Lake.

Kulaf will be speaking on how it is determined to install a rain garden. T. Anderson and Koczur will be going.

8. Information

a. Approved meetings & events

Meeting/Event	Approved	Date/time
Treasures Report and Bank Reconciliation Review	Koczur	Monthly
MASWCD Area IV Summer Meeting	Koczur/V. Anderson/T. Anderson	June 13 th
NRCS Local Work Group	Koczur/Medvecky/ T. Anderson	June 20
RRWP Board Meeting	Koczur/V. Anderson	June 22 nd
St. Croix River Workshop	Koczur/V. Anderson/ T. Anderson	June 27 th

9. Adjourn

Motion C. Anderson to Adjourn meeting at 9:23

Board Secretary: 

Date

6.21

, 2023