

TRAVERSE SWCD APRIL 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2024 by Chairperson Doug Frisch.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Supervisors present: Dennis Zimbrick, Chester Raguse, Greg Hoppe, Jeff Peterson, and Doug Frisch. Absent: None. Staff and others present: Sara Gronfeld, Trudy Determan, Bruce Johnson, Jerod Lennox, Tate Serocki, Devon Thompson, NRCS District Conservationist Blake Bartz, County Commissioners Dwight Nelson and Chad Metz, Board of Water and Soil Resources staff Pete Waller, Tom Gile, and Jared House.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Zimbrick, second by Raguse to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of the March Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes with changes noted was made by Hoppe, second by Raguse. Motion carried unanimously.

March Treasurer's Reports

A motion to approve the March treasurer's report was made by Raguse, second by Zimbrick. Motion carried unanimously.

Quarterly Report

The quarterly report was distributed for review.

Correspondence

Gronfeld circulated the correspondence folder.

District Technical Manager's Report

Johnson reported on his recent activities including finalizing plans for tree planting and attending the MACFO (MN County Feedlot Officers) conference. He was absent due to illness last week. Johnson received a bid from Joe Riley Construction for asphalt paving of the parking lot. Discussion followed and Johnson will ask for a revised bid for the smaller area.

District Conservation Technician

Lennox provided an update on his recent activities.

District Engineering Technician

Serocki delivered an update on his activities in the past month.

District Conservation Technician

Devon Thompson reported his activity in his first month on the job.

NRCS Field Office Report

Blake Bartz is currently serving in his new role as District Conservationist in Traverse County. Bartz provided updates about programming and upcoming deadlines.

7:30 Bois de Sioux Watershed District Staff and Managers

Buffer Alternative Practices

Lucas Croaker, Linda Vavra, Allen Wold, and Jamie Beyer appeared on behalf of the Bois de Sioux Watershed District (BdSWD). Traverse County Attorney Matthew Franzese was also present for the discussion. The BdSWD Soil Loss Committee reviewed options under Minnesota Statutes and the BdSWD's Buffer Rule, and established a preferred alternative practice whereby landowners could install and maintain a 16.5-foot no-till strip with a cover crop in-lieu-of the grass buffer strip along public ditches. Representatives from BdSWD requested time on the agenda to discuss alternative practices and options. Discussion about this topic ensued for approximately 45 minutes.

Office Report

A motion was made to approve a SSTS upgrade grant, Raguse, second by Hoppe and approved unanimously.

Nathan Heck	SSTS-24-01	\$7,500
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Peterson, second by Raguse and approved unanimously.

Lee Erickson Trust	LWO-23-01	\$2,700
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Lorna Kenney Trust	LWO-23-10	\$2,700
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Gary Carlson	LWO-231-13	\$1,350
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Ila May Hervey	LWO-23-14	\$1,350
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A motion was made to approve the contract by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Doug Frisch	LWO-23-15	\$4,050
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Peterson, second by Hoppe and approved unanimously.

Eavon Morrow	LWO-24-01	\$1,350
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Peterson, second by Hoppe and approved unanimously.

Philip Brink	LWO-24-02	\$2,700
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick and approved unanimously.

Travis Rogahn	LWO-24-03	\$1,350
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Michael Hervey	LWO-24-04	\$4,050
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A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Zimbrick, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Jesse Morgan LWO-24-05 \$1,350

A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Philip Deal LWO-24-06 \$1,350

A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Peterson and approved unanimously.

Kent Krenz LWO-24-07 \$4,050

A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick and approved unanimously.

Wayne Bock LWO-24-08 \$1,350

A motion was made to approve the contract amendment by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe and approved unanimously.

Greg Johannson LWO-24-09 \$5,400

Gronfeld discussed approval of the Conservation Cooperative for Working Lands Program. Three Supervisor positions are up for re-election this year. Filing for candidacy opens in May. Gronfeld circulated the Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan annual update. A steering committee meeting was held on April 4 and staff will be planning for work plan development and budgeting for the next round of grant funding.

Area I Meeting report

Zimbrick attended the meeting in Mahnomen with Gronfeld in March. Meeting notes are available for those interested. The next Area meeting is scheduled in June.

May Meeting Date

The May will be held on Thursday, May 9, at 7:00 a.m.

Other Business

None.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Peterson second by Zimbrick to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

DISTRICT SECRETARY

DATE