

TRAVERSE SWCD AUGUST 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 8, 2024 by Chairperson Doug Frisch.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Supervisors present: Dennis Zimbrick, Greg Hoppe, Jeff Peterson, and Doug Frisch. Absent: Chester Raguse.
Staff and others present: Sara Gronfeld, Trudy Determan, Bruce Johnson, Jerod Lennox, Tate Serocki, and Devon Thompson.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Hoppe to approve the revised agenda, second by Zimbrick and carried unanimously.

Minutes of the July Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Peterson, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

July Treasurer's Reports

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

Correspondence

Gronfeld circulated the correspondence folder and mentioned a thank you card received from the scholarship award recipient Brody Morrow.

District Technical Manager's Report

Johnson mentioned the September 30th deadline for CRP which aligns with the current expiration of the Farm Bill. He attended a planning meeting organized by BWSR staff to discuss ideas for state funding for soil health practices. He attended an RCPP meeting in Wilkin County on Monday, staff finalized details for the current round of applications. He submitted 5 applications from Traverse County, there were 30 total with contracts totaling \$419,000. The field day with Ray Archuleta was successful and well attended by over 140 people. He met with Dusty Jasken to discuss conversion of his Technical Approval Authority to the new Job Approval Authority certification, the meeting outcome was positive and his JAA has been updated. An equipment field day will be hosted on Thursday August 15 in partnership with Stevens and Grant SWCDs at Greg Fynboh's farm near Donnelly. There is an equipment grant available from MN Dept of Agriculture.

A motion was made to fund the SMS registration for 10 scholarships by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Johnson discussed a quote he received for chip sealing the new asphalt on the parking lot. A motion was made by Hoppe to move forward with the chip sealing and accept the quote submitted by Morris Sealcoat, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Bruce and a few other technical staff were trained to use the new ObWell electronic well monitoring equipment to monitor a total of 5 wells in Traverse County under a new contract with MN DNR; wells will be measured once per quarter.

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Peterson, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Anthony Homan SH 22-09 \$9,954

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Peterson, second by Zimbrick. Motion carried unanimously.

Anthony Homan SH 22-10 \$4,410

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Anthony Homan SH 22-11 \$2,520

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Doug Jahnke NSP 19-04-3 \$1,920

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Jacob McClernon SH 22-05-2 \$6,194

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Chester Raguse SH 22-01-1 \$2,860

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Rinke SH 22-02-2 \$14,688

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

James Rinke SH 22-06-2 \$7,440

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Peterson, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

James Rinke SH 22-07-2 \$7,584

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Joel Rinke SH 22-08-2 \$13,112

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Metz CC 20-03-5 \$4,408

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Metz NSP 22-02-3 \$1,056

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick. Motion carried unanimously.

Peyton Bros NSP 19-03-3 \$1,920

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Peterson, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Parker Yost CC 20-05-3 \$950

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Gary Yost CC 20-07-3 \$1,824

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert/Aaron Toelle SH 22-04-2 \$15,168

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Toelle NSP 19-05-3 \$7,680

A motion was made to approve a flat rate contract for non-structural practices by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Toelle SH 22-03-2 \$7,680

A motion was made on a well sealing contract by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick. Motion carried unanimously.

Scott Gilsdorf WS 24-02 \$500

A motion was made by Peterson, second by Zimbrick, to approve the reimbursable contract for a CRP Incentive. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Schmitz CRPI 24-01 \$8,101

District Conservation Technician

Lennox delivered an update on his activities. He helped to repair some equipment and worked on project maintenance services including mowing.

District Engineering Technician

Serocki gave an update on his activities.

District Conservation Technician

Thompson reported his activities including working on a tree shearing project, preparing bids for additional tree shearing projects, and preparing to pour a concrete apron adjacent to the overhead door on the east side of the building.

NRCS Field Office Report

Blake delivered an update about programming from NRCS. He has been busy with contract processing.

BWSR Legislative Report

Pete Waller distributed and discussed a two-page summary of legislative updates from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Office Report

Gronfeld offered a summary of her activity from the past month and distributed a copy of the report presented at the County Board Meeting on Tuesday. She reviewed the report.

A motion was made by Peterson, second by Hoppe, to approve a rain barrel to be given away as a door prize at the county fair booth. Motion carried unanimously.

Comprehensive Watershed Planning

Gronfeld mentioned attending a meeting with Doug Frisch in Ortonville in July. The Policy committee for the Upper MN River Watershed plan approved a cost share policy and bylaws. These documents will need to be adopted at an upcoming meeting.

September Meeting Date

The September meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12, at 7:30 a.m.

Other Business

None.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Hoppe second by Zimbrick to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Motion carried.

DISTRICT SECRETARY

DATE