

TRAVERSE SWCD MAY 2023
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 11, 2023 by Vice Chairperson Doug Frisch.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Supervisors present: Greg Hoppe, Doug Frisch and Dennis Zimbrick. Absent: Chester Raguse and Jeff Peterson. Staff and others present: Sara Gronfeld, Trudy Determan, Bruce Johnson, Jerod Lennox, Max Tostenson, NRCS District Conservationist Britta Haseman, and County Commissioner Dwight Nelson.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Hoppe to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Zimbrick and approved unanimously.

District Technical Manager

Johnson reported on his past month's activities. Field conditions were wet but they have improved and staff have been working diligently to complete tree planting on many sites. Johnson estimated almost half of the sites have been planted.

A motion was made to cancel the septic system upgrade grant contract upon request of the applicant by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe.

Pamela Miller SSTS-22-05

Approved: Frisch, Zimbrick, and Hoppe. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe, to approve a new contract for a septic system upgrade.

Pamela Miller SSTS-23-02

Approved: Frisch, Zimbrick, and Hoppe. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

District Conservation Technicians

Jerod Lennox reported on his activity the past month. He helped with flagging sites and tree planting.

Max Tostenson reported on his activity the past month. He assisted with flagging tree planting sites and planting. He also attended training for two days.

Minutes of the April Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick and approved unanimously.

April Treasurer's Reports

A motion to approve the April treasurer's report as presented was made by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick and approved unanimously.

Update to the Committee Assignments

Gronfeld discussed the vacancies on a few committee assignments. Doug Frisch offered to fill the position for alternate personnel committee member, Greg Hoppe offered to fill the opening on the capital purchase committee, and Doug suggested that they add Jeff Peterson's name to the alternate member for the Technical Service Area Joint Powers Board.

Correspondence

Gronfeld circulated the correspondence folder.

NRCS Field Office Report

Britta delivered the NRCS report.

Program Reports

Gronfeld offered updates on grant programs and a general SWCD business.

1W1P Updates

Gronfeld offered highlights from recent meetings for both the Upper Minnesota River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) process and the Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Comprehensive Plan and grants.

Conservation Corp Apprentice

Staff reviewed several applicants resumes but a placement has not been completed to date. Staff await further correspondence from Conservation Corps staff.

TSA Service Area Update

Gronfeld discussed a brief summary of the meeting business from the meeting on April 27. The full board recommended approval of revisions to the Joint Powers Agreement and asked that each member SWCD present the JPA to their boards for review and approval. A motion was made by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick, to approve the revised JPA. Approved: Frisch, Hoppe, and Zimbrick. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Janitorial Services Agreement

Gronfeld received notice from Matt Dawson that he has taken on additional jobs and would prefer to terminate his existing contract for janitorial services. Max Tostenson expressed interest in accepting the role to provide janitorial services at the same rate of reimbursement. A new contract with Max Tostenson was drawn up to reflect this change. A motion to approve the contract as presented was made by Zimbrick, second by Hoppe and approved unanimously.

Poster contest judging

Supervisors reviewed many Community Waters poster contest entries and selected three posters to receive cash prizes of \$30, \$25, and \$20 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places respectively:

- 1st place Jacinth Darden
- 2nd place Lieschen Steffens
- 3rd place Oakley Martinek

June Meeting Date

The June meeting will be held on Thursday, June 8, at 7:30 a.m.

Other Business

Tostenson and Johnson talked about potential development of designs for solar array for the building, opening up a discussion. Supervisors present at the meeting did not voice opposition to a presentation with more information about further development of a potential project.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Hoppe second by Zimbrick to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 a.m. Approved: Frisch, Hoppe, and Zimbrick. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

DISTRICT SECRETARY

DATE