

ISANTI SWCD

REGULAR SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES 9:00 A.M.

March 20, 2024

Attendance

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

Staff Present: Tiffany Determan, Linda Gehrking

Call meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance

1. Approve Agenda with addition 4.f. Tree bar rental and deposit fee.

Motion/Seconded T. Anderson/Koczur to approve Agenda with addition 4.f. Tree bar rental and deposit fee.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

2. Public Comment/Correspondence

None.

3. Consent Agenda

a. Treasurers Report

b. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2024

Motion/Seconded: No motion needed.

4. New Business Items

a. Approve ISG Scope of Services for Concept Plans for Wetland Restoration

The Concept Plan from ISG is \$3,000 for design of wetland project. If the project moves forward, ISG will provide an additional proposal for complete design of the next phase of the project.

Motion/Seconded Koczur/V. Anderson to approve ISG Scope of Services for Concept Plans for Wetland Restoration.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

b. Approve agreement with Skogman Lake Improvement District for 2024 monitoring Services

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/T. Anderson to approve agreement with Skogman Lake Improvement District for 2024 monitoring Services.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

c. Rum River Watershed Partnership Statement of Work approval: 2023-ISWCD-TE, Well Sealing & Groundwater PD

The statement of work will go to Rum River Board on Thursday. SOW includes several activities: 1) Staff time to administer and promote well sealing with a goal of 10 wells sealed over the next two years. The goal is to seal 70 wells over the next 10 years and 2) Hiring of a technician to complete land protection activities. Isanti SWCD will put up the match.

Motion/Seconded Koczur/V. Anderson to approve Rum River Watershed Partnership Statement of Work: 2023-ISWCD- TE, Well Sealing & Groundwater PD.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

d. MPCA 319 Grant Extension Amendment

The 319 grant expires on August 31st. Staff are worried that delays in construction will not allow for completion of projects. MPCA is working with EPA to file a one-year extension. Determan would like authority to sign the amendment when it is complete.

Motion/Seconded V. Anderson/T. Anderson to approve MPCA 319 Grant Extension Amendment and give Determan authority to sign the agreement when it arrives.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

e. Approve \$400 donation to State Envirothon

Medvecky attended Metro Conservation District (MCD) meeting. MCD board approved to reduce 2024 Membership dues from \$1,600 to \$800. Recommendation was to contribute \$400 of dues reimbursed from MCD to be used towards the MN State Envirothon.

Motion/Seconded Koczur/T. Anderson to approve \$400 donation to State Envirothon.

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

Opposed: V. Anderson. Motion carried

f. Tree bars rental and deposit fee.

Five tree bars were purchased using the Lessard Sam's funding and can be used for planting trees on private land. Determan asked other counties how they charge for rental and they require a \$100 deposit by check.

Motion/Seconded T. Anderson/Koczur to approve \$100 deposit for rental of tree bars.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

5. Old Business Items

- a. **Final payment for Cartwright Wetland Restoration, Contract 2023-2, Sportsman's Club Funds, for \$4,697.49**

Motion/Seconded Koczur/T. Anderson to approve Final payment for Cartwright Wetland Restoration, Contract 2023-2, Sportsman's Club Funds, for \$4,697.49.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

- b. **Rum River Watershed Partnership- Land Protection Staff update**

Determan working on position description hopefully complete and posted within next 2 weeks. Determan would like the new hire to start in June of this year. C. Anderson or Medvecky will participate in the interview process.

Motion/Seconded No motion needed

6. Approve Payment of Bills

Gehrking reviewed the district expenses. Checks as follows: Check #'s 7164 through 7171, and all electronically paid bills.

Motion/Seconded C. Anderson/T. Anderson to approve payment of bills.

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

Opposed: None. Motion carried

7. Activity Reports

a. Staff

Determan mentioned the date for appreciation dinner for everyone that has done projects with us be on August 27th. Determan, Koczur and V. Anderson attended the day at the capital. Determan reviewed the Skogman Lake report. She went on to give an update of the Isanti County Comprehensive Plan noting that she is consulting with Emmons and Oliver via Lower St. Croix Partnership funding. Determan also mentioned the BWSR Soil Health Grant Application for new hire sharing with Chisago and Washington Counties focusing solely on Soil Health was funded.

Kulaf shared a video of Cartwright Wetland drone progression project. Kulaf working on more concept designs with other landowners that are interested in wetland projects. Kulaf working on Woods project and going out there during the week to see how it is coming along. Woods project should be done in two weeks if snow does not slow it down. Kulaf working with Fish and Wildlife on restoration projects. Kulaf also working with Dave to tie in some possible Lower St. Croix projects. Finally, Kulaf started learning how to use the survey equipment.

Remer attended CentraSota winter Ag event meeting in St. Cloud. Remer also attended the second outreach event with Rum River Watershed Partnership in Princeton with Sherburne and Mille Lacs Counties. Remer attended Farmer Led Group meeting yesterday. Remer is also working on several new RIM easements. Remer attending Ag lunch and learn next Tuesday, March 26th. Finally, Remer checking into pricing for new drill rental we will be getting in June or July 2024.

Gehrking noted that she provided administrative support as usual.

b. NRCS District Conservationist

A new District Conservationist will be starting next Monday at the Cambridge office. Twenty EQIP applications were approved for Isanti. NRCS is working with district on all EQIP plans to get Remer's planning certification and certified JAA. Steffen attended Rum River Watershed Partnership meeting in Milaca on March 11th.

c. County Commissioners

Berg was not present but provided an update: Comprehensive plan still under review, there will be an update at the Commissioner meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd. Isanti County Bauman family farm of the year celebration.

d. Committee Reports

Medvecky attended the MCD meeting on February 28th. MCD board approved to reduce 2024 Membership dues from \$1,600 to \$800. Recommendation was to contribute \$400 of dues reimbursed from MCD to be used towards the MN State Envirothon. Next MCD meeting is August 28th. Medvecky also attended the Farmer Led group and they had a discussion on incentive rates for cover crops. The cover crop rates will be discussed further at the next board meeting and need a proposed plan for Isanti SWCD policy.

8. Board Training- Rapid overview of 2024 Staff Planning Session/Activities

Determan presented overview of 2024 staff planning session.

9. Approve SWCD meetings & Events

Meeting/Event	Approved	Date/time
Treasures Report and Bank Reconciliation Review	Koczur	Monthly
RRWP JPE Meeting	Koczur, V. Anderson	March 21, 4:30-6:30, Mille Lacs Courthouse
MASWCD Area IV Spring Meeting	Koczur, T. Anderson	March 26, 9am-12, Ramsey County Public Works
Ag Lunch N Learn	Medvecky	March 26, 9:30am-12:30, Cambridge Library

10. Adjourn

Medvecky to Adjourn the meeting 11:02.

Board Secretary: _____

Date 4.17, 2024