

**WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**JUNE 15, 2022 BOARD MINUTES**

**APPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular Board Meeting was called to order at 9:00a.m. by Chair, John Rheinberger.

Members Present: John Rheinberger, Chair  
Jim Levitt, Vice Chair  
Tim Behrends, Public Relations and Information  
Diane Blake, Treasurer  
Bob Rosenquist, Secretary

Staff Present: Jay Riggs  
Shari Larkin  
Angela Defenbaugh  
Jennifer Hahn

Other Agencies: Matt Lundberg, NRCS  
Chris Schmidt, NRCS  
Lizzie Dawson, NRCS  
Stephen Schmaltz, CLFLWD Board President  
Mark Gutierrez, MN Soil Health Coalition  
  
David Nuccio, Board Candidate

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Tim Behrends, seconded by Bob Rosenquist. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Items to approve this month are the 2022 Intergovernmental Agreement between the Metropolitan Council and the Washington Conservation District (\$Variable); and the 2022 Ramsey County AIS Agreement in the amount of \$9,976. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Jim Levitt, seconded by Diane Blake. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MAY 11, 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to approve the May 11, 2022 minutes was made by Jim Levitt and seconded by Tim Behrends. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Items to note are DDA Human Resources, Inc. in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the salary analysis; Schumacher's in the amount of \$6,497.00 for trees for the tree program; Tech Sales Company in the amount of \$1,706.00 for a BCWD water monitoring expense; University of Minnesota in the amount of \$4,428.64 for the Agronomist position; Happy's Stillwater Automotive in the amount of \$1,614.61

for vehicle repairs; MAJK Solutions LLC in the amount of \$2,540.00 for a CMSCWD water monitoring expense; MN DNR in the amount of \$749.00 for trees for the tree program; and Postmaster in the amount of \$1,000.00 for postage for our bulk meter. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit, was made by Diane Blake, seconded by Jim Levitt. Motion carried.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Personnel** – The Personnel Committee met to discuss the reclassification of Becca Oldenburg. Diane Blake made a motion to approve the reclassification. All members voting yes. Motion carried.

**Budget and Finance** – Nothing to report.

**Cost-Share** – Nothing to report.

**Communications and Outreach** – The fair sign-up will be discussed later in the agenda.

### **AGENCY / PARTNER REPORTS**

**County** – Nothing to report.

**NRCS** – NRCS has obligated eight new contracts in Dakota and Washington counties, with five more pre-approved. CRP plans are being created for producers. Highly erodible spot checks are beginning. A strip-till contract is being certified. Working with Jennifer Hahn with a landowner in Washington County having some erosion concerns. The field day at Tim Behrend's farm will be held June 24<sup>th</sup>. Mark Gutierrez gave some background and information on the MN Soil Health Coalition.

**BWSR** – Nothing to report.

**MCD/Area IV** – There will be an Area IV tour on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The next MCD meeting will be August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Watersheds** – We are working with the watersheds on 2023 budgeting.

**MASWCD** – Nothing to report.

### **EMPLOYEE REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- a. **WCD and EMWREP Outreach** – *See Attached and Newspaper Article Binder.*
- b. **Presentation** – None this month

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **COVID-19 & Telework Policy** – The telework policy goes into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will reevaluate the policy at the end of the year.
- b. **Building and Vehicles** – The HVAC company was here today to fix a leak. There was another attempt to steal a catalytic convertor over the weekend. The security cameras caught good images of the two people involved and their license plate. Staff has done a great job repairing the grassy pavers out front.
- c. **Equity Follow-Up** – BWSR will be giving their equity presentation to staff on June 29<sup>th</sup>.
- d. **Program Updates** – Convening meetings are taking place for Rice Creek Watershed District. Partners will be presenting proposed projects for Metro Watershed Based Funding.
- e. **2022 Budget and Workplan** – The 2022 Workplan is being adjusted.
- f. **Redistricting and '22 Election** – The redistricting map and resolution was included in the packet.
- g. **Legislative Update** – Nothing to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Lower St. Croix Partnership – Supplies and Materials Purchase Request** – Approval was requested to spend up to \$11,000 from the Lower St. Croix A3 Shared Education budget to support educational programming across the Lower St. Croix Watershed. Jim Levitt made a motion to approve the purchases, subject to confirmation that the funds are in the budget. Bob Rosenquist seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- b. **Lower St. Croix Partnership – Event Agreement** – Approval is requested to enter into an agreement with Winehaven Winery in Chisago City to hold a workshop on August 24<sup>th</sup> at their facility. The cost for the event space rental and catering is \$1,500. Diane Blake made a motion to approve entering into the agreement with Winehaven Winery. Jim Levitt seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- c. **MN DNR Joint Powers Agreement for Metro Phrag Treatment** – The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has grant funding available in FY2022 to support treatment of nonnative phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) in the seven county metro area. To access these funds, the WCD must enter into a joint powers agreement (JPA) with the DNR. Bob Rosenquist made a motion to approve entering into the joint powers agreement with the DNR. Tim Behrends seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- d. **County Fair Sign-up** – A sign-up sheet was passed around for board members to volunteer for fair shifts.
- e. **Updated Non-structural BMP Cost-Share Policy** – Angela Defenbaugh presented updates to the policy. Under this set of funding, the WCD will receive \$30,000 annually. A motion was made by Bob Rosenquist to approve the WCD’s LSC WBIF Non-Structural Agricultural BMP Cost Share Policy, with any changes subject to WCD’s Cost Share Subcommittee approval. Approve WCD staff to submit a project request form for the \$30,000 annual allocation to the Fiscal Agent (Chisago SWCD). Approve the WCD Manager to sign an agreement with the Fiscal Agent (Chisago SWCD) for the annual allocation of non-structural agricultural BMP funds. Jim Levitt seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- f. **MASWCD Resolutions** – If Board members have any suggestions for resolutions, please forward them to Jay.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

None.

Bob Rosenquist moved to adjourn the public meeting. Tim Behrends seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is July 13, 2022 at 9:00a.m.

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Secretary

Approved Date