



522 South Johnson Drive • Litchfield, MN 55355

320.693.7287

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 4, 2022, 8:00 a.m.
Meeker SWCD Offices
522 South Johnson Drive
Litchfield, MN 55355

Present: Dan Barka, Greg Jans, Bob Schiefelbein, and Fred Behnke. John Haffley present remotely. Staff Present: Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, Ann Steinhaus and Lacey Clark, SWCD; Josh Pommier, Pheasants Forever; Jacob Stich and Melissa Rothwell, NRCS.

The meeting was called to order by Bob Schiefelbein at 8:08 a.m.

Election of Officers: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to dispense with the rules of order and vote that each officer succeed himself in the office of the previous year. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Agenda: Motion by Barka and seconded by Jans to approve the agenda with the removal of the Anderson & Rice cost share items and the addition of the FY22 Crep Grant Agreement, an updated cover crop policy, and the cost share contract for Dylan Terning, FY21-04. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Minutes: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2021, meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit, including bills payable in the amount of \$51,116.14 and bills paid. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Correspondence: Clark reported on a reminder received from the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, and the MCIT Certificate of Excellence that Meeker SWCD received.

Field Office Report: Norman, Anderson, and Steinhaus reported on recent activities and programs. Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the updated cover crop policy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to approve the FY22 Crep Outreach and Implementation Grant. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Farm Bill Report: Pommier, Rothwell, and Stich reported on their activities.

Meeting/Training Reports: Norman, Clark, and Haffley reported on the MASWCD convention they attended. Norman and Haffley also reported on the WCTSA Board meeting they attended.

Training/Meeting Requests: None.

Committee Assignments: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka that Barka and Behnke be appointed to serve on the Meeker SWCD Personnel Committee, Haffley be appointed to be Meeker SWCD's representative on the WCTSA Committee with Scheifelbein being alternate and Haffley be appointed to be Meeker SWCD'S representative on the North Fork and South Fork 1W1P Policy Committees with Scheifelbein being alternate. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Bank and Newspaper Designation: Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to maintain a checking account at Home State Bank in Litchfield, Minnesota, and Certificates of Deposit and a money market savings account at Center National Bank in Litchfield and that the official newspaper of Meeker SWCD continue to be the *Independent Review* in Litchfield, Minnesota. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Mileage Rate: Motion by Barka and seconded by Jans to pay the highest mileage rate allowed by the IRS during 2022. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

PERA Rate: Clark reported that there have been no changes to the PERA rates for 2022.

Supervisor Compensation Rate: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke that the Supervisor compensation rate for 2022 be set at \$125 per diem. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Blanket Payment for Rent, Internet and Reimbursable Copy Expense: Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to allow blanket payments for 2022 on rent for the office, internet service, data plan, employee life insurance, sales tax and reimbursable copy expense at the Meeker County Recorder's Office. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Review of Existing Policies: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to reinstate the vacation hours cap for 2022. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Modifications: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the modifications to the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan as presented by Clark to include the updated recommendations from the CDC. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Cost Share: Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to approve payment in the amount of \$5,306.75 on a lined waterway contract for Kyle Schroeder from FY21 local capacity, project number FY21-02, pending TSA certification. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion by Barka and seconded by Jans to approve payment in the amount of \$1,400 on a cover crop contract for Dylan Terning from FY21 Local Capacity, project number FY21-04. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 8 a.m.

Adjournment: After a motion by Jans, Chairman Schiefelbein adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Secretary

Date