



**Minutes of the July 14, 2021  
Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting  
Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN**

**Meeting was called to order at 4:19pm by Craig Fischer.**

**PRESENT**

1. Craig Fischer – Chair
2. Mark Wellner – Vice-Chair
3. Brandon Anderson - Secretary
4. Jeff Nielsen – Treasurer
5. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
6. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison

**ABSENT**

1. Greg Roiger – PRI

**AGENDA**

- ◆ Motion was made by Wellner and seconded by Nielsen to approve the agenda with the addition of FY22 PF Partners Agreement under New Business.  
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Wellner  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- ◆ Discussed the consent agenda items which included the June 9, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, the June 2021 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated June 3, 2021 to July 7, 2021, and the Staff Reports dated June 3, 2021 to July 7, 2021. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Anderson to approve the consent agenda items presented.  
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Wellner  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS**

- ◆ Krueger gave a report on two DNR water permit notices received and a WCA violation restoration order Gleisner has been working on with John Hansel and Andy Meyer.

**PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT**

- ◆ Krueger advised new employee is scheduled to start on July 26.

**NRCS REPORT**

- ◆ Reviewed report provided by Clarke.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

- ◆ Commissioner Simonsen advised the final Auditor-Treasurer interviews were held today, discussed ongoing ditch redeterminations and duties of drainage authority staff with the group, advised budget meetings are next month with final budget approval in December as usual, and answered road project questions from the group.

## COST SHARE REPORT & CONTRACTS

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share report. There were no contracts for approval this month.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **2021 Quarter 2 Budget Report:** Reviewed budget report.
- ◆ **Open Meeting Law Updates:** Reviewed and discussed information in the MCIT July newsletter regarding updates to the Open Meeting Law Statute.
- ◆ **Legislative Session Updates:** Reviewed the information provided regarding outcomes of the 2021 Legislative Session. Discussed the Supervisor Per Diem Cap increase to \$125 effective August 1, 2021. As discussed, Manager will present a policy for board approval at next month's meeting.
- ◆ **2021 Outstanding Conservationist:** MASWCD sent notice the annual convention will be in-person this year and the usual slate of awards program will be offered. Brown SWCD needs to decide if they plan to honor an Outstanding Conservationist for 2021 at the August board meeting. Discussed options for nominees and Krueger explained the usual process and activities associated with the award.
- ◆ **FY22 PF Partners Agreement:** Discussed the annual agreement. Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Anderson to approve the FY22 Local Partners Agreement between Brown SWCD and Pheasants Forever.  
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Wellner  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **District Technician Position:** Reviewed the handout requesting authorization to move forward with hiring for the vacant District Technician position and an estimated timeline for the hiring process if approved at today's meeting. Discussion was held. Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Nielsen to authorize the Personnel Committee to proceed with the hiring process for the vacant District Technician position and make a hiring recommendation to the Board.  
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Wellner  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Meeting Reports:**
  - ◇ Anderson gave a report on the June 24 SCTSA meeting he attended.
  - ◇ Wellner gave a report on the July 1 RCRCA Board meeting he attended.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Wellner to approve and attend the upcoming meetings/events:
  - ◇ Friday, July 16 – GBERBA Policy Meeting (Anderson)
  - ◇ Thursday, August 5 – RCRCA Board Meeting (Wellner)
  - ◇ Wednesday, August 11 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:15pm (All)
  - ◇ Personnel Committee Meetings (up to 3 meetings with dates/times to be determined, Nielsen, Wellner, Krueger)  
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Wellner  
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

**Meeting Adjourned – 6:02pm**

Secretary:  Date: 8/11/2021