



Minutes of the August 11, 2021 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 4:15pm by Mark Wellner.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

1. Craig Fischer – Chair

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Nielsen to approve the agenda with the addition of District Manager Staff Review Update under New Business.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Discussed the consent agenda items which included the July 14, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, the July 2021 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated July 8, 2021 to August 5, 2021, and the Staff Reports dated July 8, 2021 to August 5, 2021. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Anderson to approve the consent agenda items presented.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Krueger gave report about a WCA violation restoration order and advised that no new DNR permit notices had been received since the last meeting.

PF FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed report provided by Nate Fore.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed report provided by Clarke.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Simonsen gave an update about budget work and meetings this month, COVID funds and ongoing work by public health, new Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Hotovec was hired, Highway 13 road work continues through this month, the county road 8 bridge was sold, and spraying on ditch systems has been completed.

COST SHARE REPORT & CONTRACTS

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share report and presented contract for payment approval.
- ◆ Krueger presented a \$100.00 MAWQCP Incentive payment contract with Dave Tauer. The contract has been approved by Herman Bartsch, MAWQCP Area 6 representative and if the Brown SWCD board also approves today, it will then be forwarded to GBERBA for final payment authorization. Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Wellner to approve the \$100.00 MAWQCP worksheet incentive payment to Dave Tauer.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Supervisor Per Diem & Expense Policy:** Reviewed the draft policy presented. Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Nielsen to approve the Supervisor Per Diem and Expense Policy as presented.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **BWSR Academy:** Discussed information and estimated costs for the annual BWSR Academy training workshop scheduled for October 26-28 at Cragun's in Brainerd. Manager is requesting authorization for the event so fees and lodging can be completed and paid as soon as BWSR opens registration for the event. Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Roiger to authorize staff to attend BWSR Academy.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Highway 14 Tour:** Reviewed the information provided about a Highway 14 soil health tour being planned for 2022 and the request to partner up to host a stop and contribute funds. Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Nielsen to authorize Brown SWCD to partner on the Highway 14 soil health tour and contribute funds up to \$1,500 towards hosting a stop.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **2021 Outstanding Conservationist:** Discussed potential nominees to name as this year's outstanding conservationist in Brown County. Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Roiger to nominate Chris Schewe as 2021 Outstanding Conservationist, if he declines, then nominate Don and Diana Schaefer.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **2021 Tree Program Report:** Discussed the 2021 tree program report.
- ◆ **Authorize 2022 Tree Program:** District Manager requested authorization to proceed with the 2022 tree program with no price increases so inventory could be pre-ordered in September. Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Nielsen to authorize the 2022 tree program with no changes to prices.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **District Manager Staff Review Update:** District Manager conducted a training phase performance review on August 2nd with Jake Cleys and advised her recommendation is that the training phase period is complete with a successful evaluation of employee and to continue employment with Brown SWCD. Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Anderson to approve District Manager's recommendation for Cleys training phase performance review.
Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

◆ **Meeting Reports:**

- ◇ Anderson gave an update about the GBERBA Policy meeting attended on July 16.
- ◇ Nielsen attended the RCRCA meeting on August 5 and gave a report.

◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Roiger to approve the upcoming meetings/events:

- ◇ August 19 & 27 – Personnel Committee Meetings (Nielsen, Wellner, Krueger)
- ◇ Monday, August 30– County Commissioner Meeting-2022 Budget Request (Nielsen)
- ◇ Thursday, September 2 – RCRCA Board Meeting (Wellner)
- ◇ Wednesday, September 8 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:15pm (All)

Affirmative: Anderson, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner

Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 5:38pm

Chair
Secretary:



Date:

9/8/21