



PENNINGTON SWCD BOARD MEETING
(Held at the Red Lake Watershed District
Meeting Room and Via Zoom Video
Conferencing)
September 15, 2022
9:30 A.M.

Supervisors Present:

Ricky Peterson, Chair
Linda Hanson, Vice-Chair
ADawn Nelson, Secretary (via Zoom)
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer
Kevin Wilde, PR

Staff Present:

Peter Nelson, District Manager
Barb Molskness, District Coordinator
Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician
Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist
Erika Olson, Resource Technician
Donna Christianson, Outreach Coordinator
Nico Bennett, NRCS
Jill Fejszes, Farm Bill Biologist

Guest:

Pat Gerszewski, Western Professional Building
Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator
Logan Handyside, TSA Engineer

The meeting was held at the Red Lake Watershed District Meeting Room and via Zoom Video Conferencing. Ricky Peterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. Ricky completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff and welcomed guests.

ADawn made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the revised agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Pat Gerszewski, owner of the Western Professional Building, presented plans for a new 60' x 60' office building and 30' x 60' shop that could be built in 2023. Rental cost would be approximately \$26.00 per square foot. Supervisors and staff reviewed the plans. Staff will re-examine the drawings and relay any changes they would like to see made. Peter will keep in touch with Pat and check for any governances that might apply.

Erika Olson was introduced to the Board. Erika started as Pennington SWCD's Resource Technician on September 5th. She is looking forward to meeting new people and working alongside the SWCD Staff.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the August 18, 2022, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Barb reviewed the August 2022 Financial Report. **Greg made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve the August 2022 Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

Linda made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve payment of the following bills:

Sjoberg's	\$ 66.95
Marco Technologies	\$ 135.88
RMB Lab	\$ 1,601.92
Prairie Foods	\$ 58.80
Chase Card Services	\$ 823.19
Verizon	\$ 75.52
Speeds Auto Service	\$ 107.41
School Specialty	\$ 66.96
Nasco	\$ 14.75
Innovative	\$ 258.85
RRVCSA	\$ 2,928.88
TRF Radio	\$ 66.00
The Times	\$ 3,833.64
Pheasants Forever	\$ 6,500.00
AC Analytical & Consulting	\$ 1,100.00
Pennington County	\$ 478.61
Conservation Corps	\$ 1,250.00

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve the following percent-based SSTS Upgrade Grant contract for a mound system:

SSTS FY21-02 \$13,816.69

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by ADawn to pay the following percent-based BWSR SSTS Upgrade Grant and MPCA SSTS Upgrade Grant contract for a mound system:

SSTS FY21-01 \$11,190.00

All in favor, motion carried.

ADawn made a motion, seconded by Kevin to pay the following percent-based State Cost-Share contract for a well sealing:

FY22-04 \$375.00

All in favor, motion carried.

The Greenwood and Wenzlaff projects are now substantially complete. Pictures of the project that Grant Nelson took with the drone were shown. Minnesota Native Landscapes was the contractor for the projects. **Greg made a motion, second by Kevin to make a partial payment on the following percent-based Clean Water Fund contract for work completed on the Greenwood and Wenzlaff Streambank Projects:**

FY19CWF-01 \$114,894.19

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River Watershed Based Implementation Fund contract for streambank and shoreline protection allowing a 10% bid overage:

RLR_WBIF_04_PSWCD \$12,474.00

All in favor, motion carried.

Pennington SWCD will hire the RRVCSA professional engineer and two engineering technicians as district employees starting January 1, 2023. Draft agreements have been drawn up for the transfer. Peter reviewed them with the Board:

- The Agreement for Engineering Services outlines the responsibilities and obligations of each SWCD for the services provided by Pennington SWCD. A billable rate set by the Pennington SWCD using the BWSR billing rate formula will be used to determine the cost of engineering services charged by Pennington SWCD. General administration time will be divided equally by the nine northern districts. The document was sent to each of the nine northern district managers to be reviewed and/or signed by their boards. The Pennington Board tabled the agreement until the September Board meeting.

- The MOA between the RRVCSA and Pennington SWCD provides the transfer of Non-Point Engineering and Enhanced Technical Assistance (NPEETA) funds from the RRVCSA to Pennington SWCD for shared engineering services between Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, West Polk, East Polk, Norman, and Mahnomen Counties. The Board reviewed the document. An equipment inventory list is needed and they would like the wording on item #4 under “The RRVCSA Agrees to” paragraph changed to read 56% instead of \$80,000.00.
- The MOA between RRVCSA, Pennington SWCD, and Jeff Haverlund was discussed. The district would prefer full compensation for all of Jeff Haverlund’s accrued leave, not what the RRVCSA Policy allows. There will be two other MOAs for the employment of the engineer and northern engineering technician.

Pennington SWCD received a \$6,500.00 grant for private landowners to enter into cost-share contracts for the eradication of identified priority weed species in Pennington County. Contracted services are reimbursable up to 50%. Landowner treatments are reimbursable up to 75%. Maximum reimbursable amount is \$500.00 per contract. **Greg made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the Pennington CWMA Weed Management Cost-Share Policy. All in favor, motion approved. ADawn then made a motion, seconded by Kevin authorizing the District Manager to approve and sign the CWMA contracts. All in favor, motion carried.**

Greg made a motion, seconded by Kevin authorizing the District Manager to sign as the District’s authorized representative on the FY2023 State of Minnesota BWSR Clean Water Fund SWCD Local Capacity Services (P23-2497) and Buffer Law Implementation Program (P23-2587) Grant Agreement in the amount of \$146,886. The grant expires on December 31, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to sign the Resolution to Submit, Adopt, and Implement the Clearwater River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. All in favor, motion carried.

The Resolutions Meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 20th.

Donna brought samples of the tumbler colors for the 75th anniversary mugs. We are not able to get the regular and slim line tumblers in the same color blue. Staff will look into other colors so the two tumblers match.

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Three photos were submitted for the September photo contest. The first photo of a bear was submitted by Jan Erickson. The second photo of a duck was submitted by Cheryl Scott. The third photo of a fawn was submitted by Jan Erickson. After some discussion, the Board voted for Jan Erickson's photo of the fawn as the winner. Jan will receive a gift card and her photo will be entered in a grand prize drawing held in October.

Employee reports were reviewed.

NRCS report was reviewed.

Logan Handyside, TSA Engineer, reported on the projects he is currently working on.

Grant Nelson reported on his current activities.

The next Board meeting will be held on October 20th at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room at 9:30 a.m.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Kevin to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

ADawn Nelson, Secretary