

**Beltrami Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting
Thursday, February 18, 2021
Beltrami County Board Room
701 Minnesota Ave. NW
Bemidji, MN 56601**

*OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SERVICES
IN BELTRAMI COUNTY*

Members Present: Shane Bowe – Chair
Ray Hendrickson – Vice Chair
Ruth Trask – Treasurer
Rachel Gray – Secretary
Sam Christenson – Public Relations

Others Present: Brent Rud – District Manager
Zach Gutknecht – ESD/SWCD
Aly Bergstrom – ESD/SWCD
Megan FitzGerald – ESD/SWCD
Corey Campbell – ESD/SWCD
Jody Peek – NRCS

Chair Shane Bowe called the Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting for February 18, 2021 officially to order at 9:30 a.m.

Additions to agenda: Item 5.a.ii. NRCS/SWCD Memorandum of Agreement and Item 5.b.iiib. Rapid and Lower Rainy River 1W1P Resolution of Support. **Motion by Sam Christenson to approve the amended agenda. Motion seconded by Ray Hendrickson. Motion carried and approved.**

Secretary’s Report:

Motion by Rachel Gray to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2020 and January 21, 2021 SWCD meetings. Motion seconded by Ray Hendrickson. Motion carried and approved.

Treasurer’s Report:

Ruth Trask reviewed the IFS statement for January 2021. **Motion by Ruth Trask to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion seconded by Rachel Gray. Motion carried and approved.**

NEW BUSINESS

Reports:

NRCS – Jody Peek

- CSP – Signup deadline is March 26. 7 CSP renewals.
- EQIP – 20 applications received. Must be ranked by March 5.
- CRP – Signup ongoing, deadline unknown. Most payments have been made on existing contracts.
- Staffing – New Soil Conservationist and Engineer Technician. Each area may be getting an agronomist and a forester.

- NRCS/SWCD Memorandum of Agreement – Jody summarized the MOA, which allows NRCS and SWCD offices to share services. **Motion by Ruth Trask to approve the NRCS/SWCD Memorandum of Agreement. Motion seconded by Sam Christenson. Motion carried and approved.**

District Manager – Brent Rud

- MASWCD Area VIII Dues – Area VIII dues for 2021 total \$275. **Motion by Ruth Trask to approve payment of Area VIII dues. Motion seconded by Ray Hendrickson. Motion carried and approved.**
- Officer Elections – **Motion by Ray Hendrickson for Supervisors to continue in their current positions. Motion seconded by Rachel Gray. Motion carried and approved.** Sam Christenson will assume Del Olson’s role as Public Relations Officer.
- Roseau River One Watershed, One Plan Resolution – Brent presented a resolution of support for the Roseau River 1W1P. Beltrami County has a very small portion of land in this watershed, and will not play an active role in the planning process. **Motion by Rachel Gray to approve the resolution of support for the Roseau River 1W1P. Motion seconded by Sam Christenson. Motion carried and approved.**
- Rapid and Lower Rainy River One Watershed, One Plan Resolution – Brent presented a resolution of support for the Rapid and Lower Rainy River 1W1P. Beltrami County has a very small portion of land in this watershed, and will not play an active role in the planning process. **Motion by Sam Christenson to approve the resolution of support for the Rapid and Lower Rainy River 1W1P. Motion seconded by Ray Hendrickson. Motion carried and approved.**
- IFS Overview – Brent presented a report detailing the meaning of financial codes in the monthly IFS report.
- 2021 Budget – Brent presented the 2021 Beltrami SWCD budget. Total revenue equals \$62,034 and total expenditures equal \$61,514. **Motion by Rachel Gray to approve the 2021 budget. Motion seconded by Ruth Trask. Motion carried and approved.**

Staff

- Staff provided updates on recent activities. Updates include Mississippi River 1W1P implementation document development, Thief River 1W1P implementation activities, Tree Program, Grace Lake water quality sampling plan, forest stewardship planning, buffer/ditch projects, and RIM application.
- Technical Training – Area VIII trainings planned: Ecological Classification System/Native Plant Community; tree and shrub site prep and establishment; shoreline restoration on Lake Marquette; and GIS training.
- Virtual Classrooms – Zach has been working with Red Lake DNR and Headwaters Science Center to create virtual classes to replace the Water Festival.
- PMA 25 – Zach provided an update on the PMA 25 project. Applied for and received 500 work hours from Minnesota Conservation Corps for bio restoration and seeding.

Supervisors’ Report

- Mississippi River Headwaters One Watershed, One Plan – Zach provided an update on the 1W1P review process. The Plan is currently in the informal review process, requiring feedback from local boards. Supervisors received an 8-page summary of the Plan as well as a summary of Plan Implementation Regions for review.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Regular Board Meetings

- March 18, 2021
- April 15, 2021
- May 20, 2021

Motion by Sam Christenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ray Hendrickson. Motion carried and approved. Meeting adjourned.

Recording Secretary

Date