



Historic Courthouse
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www.millelacsSWCD.org

The mission of the Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District is to assist area people with soil and water resource management.

Frequently Used Acronyms:

(AgBMP) Agricultural BMP Loan Programs

(BMP) Best Management Practices

(BWSR) Board of Water & Soil Resources

(CLWMP) County Local Water Mgmt Plan

(CWF) Clean Water Fund Grant (BWSR)

(DWSMA) Drinking Water Supply Mgmt Area

(MASWCD) MN Assn. of Soil & Water Cons. Districts

(MLLWMG) Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Mgmt Group

(NPDES) Nat. Pollution Discharge Elimination System

(NRBG) Natural Resources Block Grant

(NRCS) Natural Resources Conservation Service

(SCS) State Cost Share

(SRWMB) Snake River Watershed Mgmt Board

(SSTS) Subsurface Sewage Treatment System

(SWCD) Soil & Water Conservation District

(TSA 3) Technical Service Area 3

(TMDL) Total Maximum Daily Load

(WCA) Wetland Conservation Act

(WRAPS) Watershed Restoration & Protection Strategy

(1W1P) One Watershed, One Plan

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 13, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

The meeting of the Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board was held in Conference Room D

Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse, Milaca, Minnesota.

Teleconference Meeting Due to Statewide Stay at Home Order

Members Present:

Chair, Jake Janski, District 3

Vice Chair, Kurt Beckstrom, District 2

Treasurer, Robert Hoefert, District 5

Secretary, Andre LaSalle, District 4

Members Absent:

Member, Kathy Stoeckel, District 1

Staff Present:

District Administrator, Susan Shaw

Administrative Assistant, Maggie Kuchenbaker

Shoreland Technician, Lynn Gallice

Watershed Coordinator, Harmony Maslowski

Visitors:

Commissioner Liaison, Genny Reynolds

NRCS, Barb Zeroth

Kanabec SWCD, Deanna Pomije

1. **Call to Order** Chair Janski called the meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure – Verbal**
Hoefert – No Conflict
Beckstrom – No Conflict
LaSalle – No Conflict
Janski – No Conflict
3. **Motion by LaSalle to approve the amended agenda adding the SEH invoice in the amount of \$6,053.87 to section 8;** Hoefert second. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.

4. **Motion by Beckstrom to approve the consent agenda as presented;** LaSalle second. Affirmative by Roll Call; Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**
 - a. Approve April 8, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. Approve Monthly Financial Report
 - i. March Treasurer's Report
 - ii. Checks written #7520-7538 and electronic transfer's #e20-027-e20-034 totaling \$29,708.86.
 - c. Information Only: Partner Reports
5. **Open Public Forum:** No public comment.
6. **Staff Reports/Presentations**
 - a. SWCD Staff Presentation – Shaw and Maslowski presented the Rum River 1W1P overview of goal statement refinements.
 - b. SWCD Staff Report – written
Shaw introduced the new format to highlight how the District does their work and new categories per the Mille Lacs County Water Plan.
 - c. Administrator's Report – Shaw reported five updates:
 - i. Shaw reported she attends the weekly Mille Lacs County Manager's meetings and finds them very valuable to learn what facilities are doing to keep staff and public safe.
 - ii. Shaw reported that working arrangements were presented in the staff report. The goals are to have individual plans for staff to address specific needs for hosting events, going on site visits and renting of the interseeders and tree planter.
 - iii. Shaw reported that she is working with the Rum River 1W1P partners to strengthen our forestry goals. Five thousand dollars has been informally committed by the DNR for coordination of private forest management activities. Rum partners are exploring taking on this role.
 - iv. Shaw reported she is working on diversifying the funds of the District.
 - v. Shaw reported she will be on vacation next week, but will be checking emails and participating in a few meetings.
7. **District Policy, Planning, Activities, Projects, & Grants**
 - a. District Work Plan Check In – Shaw reported even given the current public health emergency staff are able to implement operations as usual with some strategic adaptation. Maslowski will be resuming water sampling of the Rum River, but strategies are being reviewed to accomplish this efficiently from her remote office location. Sha went on to describe how civic standards are used to evaluate the effectiveness of work plan projects and gave an example using the upcoming opportunity to host well water testing clinics for nitrates. Hoefert inquired if arsenic in groundwater was identified as a local concern and if the SWCD would have a role in addressing the health risk.
 - b. Tree Sale – Kuchenbaker reported the tree sale was a success this year. Sold out of all varieties and people were timely in picking up their trees. She has created a project summary that will be in the June board packet.
 - c. Comprehensive Watershed Planning (1W1P)
 - i. Rum River – Shaw reported the planning team will meet on May 18 to plan next steps for watershed based implementation funding (WBIF) partnership agreements. More information will be provided at the June meeting.

- ii. Snake River – **Motion by Beckstrom to authorize Shaw to sign and execute the contract with Wenck Associates, Inc. and Freshwater Society for consulting services for the Snake River 1W1P project, per the recommendation of the Snake River 1W1P Policy Committee, not to exceed \$169,710.00; second by Hoefert. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.**
- iii. Mississippi St. Cloud/Sartell – no planning activity at this time
- d. **Contracts**
 - i. **Motion by Hoefert to approve cost-share application for a shoreland project for Stacie Blaskowski in an amount not to exceed \$1,223.50 of 50% of the estimated cost of \$2,447.00 to be paid from CWF-FY17 Coordinator Grant C17-9721, second by LaSalle. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.**
- e. **Mille Lacs SWCD Resolution for Area 3:**
 - i. Establishment of a Civilian Conservation Grazing Corp Resolution – Discussion. Shaw and Beckstrom will work together to amend the current resolution and will present it at the June meeting.
- f. **Coronavirus Response Plan** – Shaw reported that the plan is recommended to have in place, but is not mandatory for government agency. Shaw reported that Mille Lacs County is working on a similar plan and she will work with Mille Lacs County staff to mirror their plan. The new plan will be presented at the June meeting.
- g. **NRCS Memorandum of Agreement – Motion by Hoefert to approve signature of the Chair on the agreement after Troy Daniell, NRCS State Conservationist signs; second LaSalle. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.**
- h. **Board Self Evaluation** – this will be presented at the June meeting.

8. Financials

- a. Stoeckel approved the statement audit verbally before the meeting.
- b. **Motion to approve SEH invoice in the amount of \$6,053.87; second Hoefert. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.**

9. Informational Updates


- a. **Watershed, Workgroups**
 - i. 1W1P Snake River Policy Committee Meeting (Beckstrom) – Beckstrom reported it was a Zoom meeting and the committee interviewed two contractors and voted to approve Wenck as the contractor.
 - ii. County Local Water Management Plan Advisory Committee (Stoeckel) – Kuchenbaker reported the meeting was a virtual round table discussion where everyone reported their individual progress on the water plan goals.

10. Meetings & Events

- a. 1W1P Rum River Policy Committee Meeting..... May 28 @ 5:00, teleconference
Janski attending
- b. Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group.....May 18 @ 10:00, teleconference
Janski attending
- c. SWCD ForestryMay 21 @ 10:00, teleconference
LaSalle attending
- d. **Other Planned Committee Meetings**
 - i. Finance Committee.....TBD

Motion by Hoefert to approve meetings, Beckstrom second. Affirmative by Roll Call: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle. Opposed: none. The motion carried.

- 11. Supervisor Updates – Hoefert reported he hopes that next month the Board can meet in person.
- 12. Evaluate the Meeting: None
- 13. Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 6:00 pm, Historic Courthouse, Conference Room D.
- 14. Chair Janski adjourned the meeting at 7:46 pm



Andre LaSalle, Mille Laes SWCD Secretary
Jake Janski, Alternate

6/10/20
Date