

Minutes
Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board Meeting
May 13, 2013

Present: Marcia Ward (Winona County), Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Jake Gillen (Rice County), Tim Gabrielson (Mower County), Bruce Kubicek (Steele County), Polly Glynn (Mower County), Dana Kjome (Houston County), Richard Samuelson (Goodhue County), and Tom Kaase (Fillmore County).

Others: Linda Dahl (SEMWRB), Beau Kennedy (Goodhue County), Terry Lee (Olmsted County), Scott Golberg (Steele County), Steve Lawler (Board of Water and Soil Resources), Ron Meyer (Root River), and Dean Schrandt (Dodge County).

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Jake Gillen at 9:10 a.m.**

Item 1. Approve May 13, 2013 Agenda:

Motion by Bruce Kubicek and seconded by Richard Samuelson to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Approve Minutes of January 7, 2013 Board Meeting:

Motion by Tim Gabrielson and seconded by Marcia Ward to approve the January 7, 2013 Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Approve Minutes of March 4, 2013 Board Meeting:

Motion by Tim Gabrielson and seconded by Dana Kjome to approve the March 4, 2013 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4. Approve January 31, 2013 Budget vs. Actual:

Motion to Approve the January 31, 2013 Budget vs. Actual made by Richard Samuelson and seconded by Tim Gabrielson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5. Approve March 31, 2013 Budget vs. Actual:

Linda Dahl provided a brief description of the budget report. Linda explained how the budget is currently set up to anticipate the MCIT dividend.

- Kubicek stated that in the future we should not assume we will get the dividend due to the state of MCIT finances.

Motion to Approve the March 31, 2013 Budget vs. Actual made by Richard Samuelson and seconded by Bruce Kubicek. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 6. Recommend to Approve SE MN Domestic Well Network Grant:

Linda provided information on the domestic well grant. Linda stated that the new grant will include additional parameters. The grant will be done over a two year period. The current network now includes 675 randomly selected wells (identified from a grid pattern). The existing network is low cost with well samples sent to each water planner. The next monitoring will involve samples being sent to MPCA with additional parameters. This will help characterize the wells, and from that point, 100 or 200 wells will be selected to test additional parameters. The full network nitrate monitoring will continue every five years. The total cost of the Domestic Well Grant will be \$109,128, which will include her time, monitoring expenses and monitoring coordinator time.

- Ward asked whose brain child was this again.
- Linda stated that the coordinators have seen a steady decline in participation, and testing the whole network every year may not be needed. Adding new parameters is a way to keep volunteers interested and to utilize the network to its full potential.
- Ward asked MPCA or Public Health
- Linda stated Department of Health and MPCA were both involved in planning the work plan.
- Ward asked whether people were being notified.
- Linda stated, yes we will send out consent forms.
- Kubicek stated that Steele County chose not to be a part of the nitrate network, but with the new parameters whether it was possible to reenter.
- Linda stated that may be a possibility
- Linda said the first round will include groundwater assessment parameters, including: Chloride, Bromide, Sulfate, ammonia, nitrate and nitrite.
- Ward then asked why the different parameters were being looked at.
- Linda stated that the parameters chosen for the first round were chosen to help characterize the wells for further narrowing down the selection to 100-200 wells for future monitoring.
- Ward then asked, just to clarify, whether it was a two year grant through the MPCA.
- Linda responded, yes.

Motion to Approve the SE MN Domestic Well Network Grant made by Bruce Kubicek and seconded by Tim Gabrielson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 7. Authorize Signer(s) for State Contracts in SWIFT:

Linda described the new state accounting system for contracts, called SWIFT. She said that rather than signing paper copies, there will be electronic approvals. There will still be the required formal approval/motion from the board.

- Gillen stated that Linda should be allowed to sign with board approval.

Motion to Authorize Signer for State Contracts in SWIFT made by Marcia Ward and seconded by Rodney Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 8. Executive Director's Report:

Linda provided information on the following grants:

- a. Nitrate Monitoring Network- Linda explained to the Board that the draft of the statistical analysis is complete from the statistician. At this point revisions are being made. Tisha Hooks, Statistics professor and WSU will be asked to present at a future WRB meeting.
- b. Feedlot IV and V- Linda stated that Feedlot IV is almost done. She did apply for an amendment to move about \$2500 from financial fees and cost share to technical assistance; allowing the remainder of the grant to be expended. She is planning to apply for continued feedlot fix funding through the current 319 fund RFP.
Ward asked if Linda had the updated numbers of feedlots in the counties.
Linda responded not at this time.
Ward stated she was wondering because counties are updating their feedlot numbers.
- c. Wastewater V- Linda stated that Sheila and Aaron have been nominated for an environmental initiative award and awards will be given out next Thursday. Linda also stated that SEMWI is looking at the regional needs for advanced inspectors.
- d. Civic Engagement (CE) grant- Linda stated that meetings are going well. They started out with 30 and only one individual dropped out. Usually 26 or 27 individuals attend the meetings.

Item 9. Motion to Adjourn:

Motion was made by Tim Gabrielson and seconded by Dana Kjome to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mocol-Johnson
Environmental Planner
Rice County

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Chairperson

Attested: _____ Date: _____