

Minutes
Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board Meeting
July 15, 2013

Present: Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Jake Gillen (Rice County), Tim Gabrielson (Mower County), Bruce Kubicek (Steele County), Dana Kjome (Houston County), Richard Samuelson (Goodhue County), Duane Bakke (Fillmore County), Dave Harms (Wabasha County), Matt Flynn (Olmsted County), and Tom Kaase (Fillmore County).

Others: Linda Dahl (SEMWRB), Terry Lee (Olmsted County), Rick Frank (Houston County), and Sheila Craig (Wastewater)

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Jake Gillen at 9:03 a.m.**

Item 1. Approve July 15, 2013 Agenda:

Motion by Bruce Kubicek and seconded by Duane Bakke to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Approve Minutes of May 13, 2013 Board Meeting:

Motion by Rodney Peterson and seconded by Richard Samuelson to approve the May 13, 2013 Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. Approve May 31, 2013 Budget vs Actual:

- Kubicek asked if anything has changed from previous.
- Dahl responded- No.

Motion by Dana Kjome and seconded by Dave Harms to approve the May 31, 2013 Budget vs. Actual. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4. Recommend to approve SE MN Domestic Well Network Grant Sub-recipient agreements:

Linda Dahl provided a brief description of the new grant. Dahl explained that the grant agreements were sent out to the county staff, and the new funding is from the MPCA. Additionally, it will involve less work for well network coordinators, and in the future a regional coordinator will be hired.

- Gillen asked how often the whole network will be tested. Dahl responded that the whole nitrate network will be tested every 3-5 years. A subset of 100-200 wells will be tested annually for additional parameters. .

Motion to Recommend to approve SE MN Domestic Well Network Grant Sub-recipient agreements made by Duane Bakke and seconded by Rodney Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5. Discuss Option to Raise Maximum Animal Units for Feedlot VI Grant from 300 to 500:

Linda Dahl provided background information on the existing animal unit numbers and the reasoning. Dahl stated that the 319 grant she wrote was recommended for funding. As she was writing the grant she checked with county feedlot officers, and one request was to raise the maximum animal units from 300 to 500. In the past it was left 300 due to the open lot agreement. The latest grant proposal was written to allow flexibility up to 500 AU's; to be determined after discussion with the board and feedlot officers.

- Dahl provided a brief summary of comments made by county feedlot officers.
- Bakke asked what the maximum dollar amount was
- Dahl stated \$15,000. And, can't piggyback anything over 75%.
- Kubicek asked how long we have to make a decision because it would be nice to know how many are fixed and are currently looking for a fix and approximate sizes.
- Dahl stated that information is being compiled- counties are currently doing registration
- Dahl stated that the eastern counties tend to have a greater number of small feedlots remaining than the western counties
- Bakke stated that priority will still be 300, the only difference is that now we will be able to fund up to 500.
- Dahl responded that as she understands, state cost share through SWCDs is getting more and more difficult to get and the lots must be in riparian areas
Bakke asked- where are individual county CUPs at?
- Gillen- 300
- Flynn- 500
- Bakke responded CUP is allowed under Conditions
- Kubicek- a lot of individuals come in first for an application, however when there's an expansion no one shows up at the hearing.
- Bakke- if we are currently using money up now as is, I have no problem.
- Gillen- it shouldn't make much of a difference
- Dahl stated the new grant is \$180,000 worth of cost share.
- The consensus was to discuss it again at the next board meeting once we know more about the number of remaining fixes per county.

Item 6. Discuss Proposal to Hold Water Quantity forum:

Linda Dahl described a discussion she had with Dodge County regarding water quantity (both surface and ground water). Dahl described staffs concern about signing off on permits without having a good understanding of the state of ground water quantity. Dahl stated that Mower County will be having a discussion on this matter at their Water Meeting on July 30th at the Hormel Nature Center. She will attend that meeting to determine whether a presentation in the region would be helpful. Dahl will send out the Mower Water Plan meeting notice to the board in case anyone wants to attend.

Item 7. Executive Director's Report:

Linda Dahl provided information on the following grants:

- a. Domestic Well Network- The Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network was completed on June 30th and Dahl will be working on the final report. Dahl explained the details of how the new grant will work. There will be a monitoring round in August- currently the supplies are going out to the counties.
- b. Feedlot IV and V- Dahl stated that currently not a lot of fixes are occurring due to the wet spring and early summer weather.
- c. Wastewater V- Dahl stated that SEMWI (Sheila and Aaron) won the environmental initiative award.
- d. Civic Engagement (CE) grant- Dahl stated that meetings are going well. They started out with 30 and only one individual dropped out. The group will be continuing until the end of December. Linda is planning to have some of the group members will come in to discuss what they have learned and how they are applying it.

Bus Tour- The tour is planned for September 16, 2013- quotes for the bus range from \$550 to \$650. A couple stops include: Wastewater Community Fix at Kings Park; Feedlot in Wabasha County; and Dean Schrandt is currently picking out a location in Dodge County to discuss nitrate monitoring.

Item 8. Motion to Adjourn:

Motion was made by Richard Samuelson and seconded by Bruce Kubicek to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Mocol-Johnson
Environmental Planner
Rice County

Approved: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____

Attested: _____

Date: _____