

## **Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board**

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**Minutes of the  
Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board Meeting  
March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Regular Meeting  
Held at Eagle Bluff Learning Center, Lanesboro, MN**

Commissioners Present: Brad Anderson (Goodhue County), James Brady (Steele County), Steve Jacob (Winona County), Rodney Peterson (Dodge County), Duanne Bakke (Fillmore County), Fred Arnold (Houston County).

Others Present: Bridgette Timm (SEMWRB), Beau Kennedy (Goodhue SWCD), Donna Rasmussen (Fillmore SWCD), Adam Beilke (BWSR), Shania Keseley (BWSR) Shelia Craig.

Meeting called to order by Chair Anderson at 9:32am following a brief review of the Karst Exhibit at Eagle Bluff. Display items that are in need of updating and fixing were documented and will be reviewed at the next WRAC meeting.

Approve March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Agenda: Motion by Duane Bakke (Fillmore County) to approve the agenda, seconded by James Brady (Steele County); motion passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes of January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board Meeting: Motion by Fred Arnold (Houston County) to approve the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Minutes, seconded by Steve Jacobs (Winona County); motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Bridgette Timm presented the December and January Budgets vs Actual financial report. Motion by Rodney Peterson (Dodge County) to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Brad Anderson (Goodhue County). Discussion: Duane Bakke (Fillmore County) suggested that for the May 2018 SEMN Water Resources Board meeting that a 2017 financial summary (Budget vs Actual) be included in the financial packet; motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report: Bridgette Timm, Executive Director, updated the Board on projects, events, and noted that she will be on vacation for 2 weeks in the first part of April. No action taken.

### New Business

1. Consideration and recommend approval of auditor's engagement letter.

Motion by Duane Bakke (Fillmore County) to move forward with hiring Peterson Company LLC to conduct annual audit, seconded by Steve Jacobs (Winona County); motion passed unanimously.

2. Discuss and consider cancelation of workers compensation coverage.

Motion by Steve Jacobs (Winona County) to cancel workers compensation coverage for SE MN Water Resources Staff due to Olmsted County now providing that coverage, seconded by Rodney Peterson (Dodge County); motion passed unanimously.

Dodge – Fillmore – Goodhue – Houston – Mower – Olmsted – Rice – Steele – Wabasha – Winona  
Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board

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Information/discussion

1. WRAC recommendation on new project priorities

Discussion on the role that the SE Water Resources Board staff could play in the Zumbro 1W1P planning process ensued. The Board did not support donating SE Water Resource Board staff time on the preplanning efforts associated with a 1W1P BWSR Planning Grant or being the day-to-day contact for the Zumbro Watershed during that process. The Board did however suggest that they revisit this topic once 1W1P planning dollars are in hand in the Zumbro to see if staff could assist with the process.

Also discussed was GIS contracting services with the Root River 1W1P. There is an opportunity for the SE Water Resources Board to be hired to conduct GIS analysis using watershed tools to help prioritize local BMP implementation projects. The Board suggested that further details on regional GIS capabilities and services be provided at their May 2018 meeting.

2. Wastewater Initiative program update and provide direction on 2019 Wastewater Initiative Grant application

Motion by Rodney Peterson (Dodge County) to proceed with grant application(s) for BWSR AIG and other grant opportunities to further the SE MN Wastewater Initiative program, seconded by Fred Arnold (Houston County); motion passed unanimously.

3. Review and discuss current bylaws and any need for updates (encl)

Motion by Rodney Peterson (Dodge County) to suggest updating by-laws to account for 1 County Commissioner from each County getting 1 vote on the SE Water Resources Board. Each County would also have a selected alternate. Seconded by Steve Jacobs (Winona County); Discussion: it was pointed out that each member would need to have any by-law changes approved by each one of their local County Boards. Second by Steve Jacobs (Winona County) was rescinded. Further discussion; it was suggested that Bridgette put together possible by-law updates/changes for each board to review and comment on. Original motion failed due to lack of second.

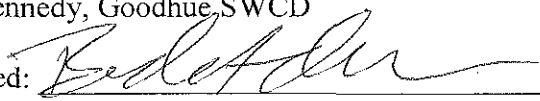
4. Agencies Report (BWSR, MPCA, DNR, others)

Adam Bielke (BWSR) updated Board on BBR requests.

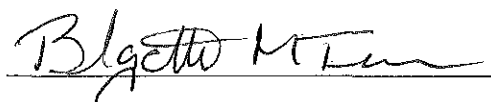
Adjournment: A Motion by James Brady (Steele County) to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Rodney Peterson (Dodge County).

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am by Chair Anderson

Respectfully submitted,  
Beau Kennedy, Goodhue, SWCD

Approved:   
Chairperson

Date: 5-14-18

Attest: 

Date: 5.14.18