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Whitewater Joint Powers Board
July 21, 2016
Whitewater State Park Visitor's Center

Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Matt Flynn called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

Board Members Present: Matt Flynn, Rich Hall, Steve Jacob, Claron Krogness, and Roland Wood.
Arlene Nelson arrived at 8:42 a.m.

Others Present: Matt Kruger, Wabasha County SWCD; Sheila Harmes, Whitewater Watershed; and Joyce Tloutan, Winona County Planning and Environmental Services

2. **Approve Minutes of June 16, 2016**

A motion was made by S. Jacob and seconded by R. Hall to approve the minutes.
Voting: Yes – 5 (All).

3. **Approve Agenda**

S. Harmes stated she had an addition to the agenda; Item 6.e. Website Update. A motion was made by S. Jacob and seconded by R. Wood to approve the amended agenda. Voting: Yes – 6 (All).

4. **Approve Consent Items**

Bills & Payroll

Sheila Harmes explained all bills and payroll items; \$3,000 is included in payment to Winona County for GIS project work with a McKnight Grant. A motion was made by S. Jacob and seconded by R. Hall to approve the Consent Items. Voting: Yes – 6 (All).

5. **Board Reports**

Steve Jacob

Frac Sand information will be presented at this evening's Winona County Planning Commission meeting. An Amish Dog Breeders meeting was conducted on July 20, 2016. It was found they are moving in a good direction, that the facilities are state of the art and well run. He advised that representatives from the State of Minnesota were in attendance.

Arlene Nelson

The Winona SWCD July meeting was held at the Winona County Fair. Amanda Gentry gave an update on AIS. An offer was made to a candidate for the Resource Specialist position. BWSR approved an extension for the Root One Watershed One Plan project work. Bob Bambenek provided an update on land sales, and Shawn Wegman was selected as the recipient of scholarship funding from the Conservation Legacy Fund. A. Nelson also shared an article on Frac Sand taken from the Winona Daily News. She noted that Jerry Burnett of "Agri-Dynamics" shared information on the importance of minerals in agriculture.

Rich Hall

Joint Powers Board Members

Matt Flynn, Chair Olmsted Co. Commissioner	Steve Jacob, Vice-Chair Winona Co. Commissioner	Richard Hall Wabasha Co. Commissioner
Roland Wood, Secretary/Treasurer Wabasha SWCD Supervisor	Arlene Nelson Winona SWCD Supervisor	Claron Krogness Olmsted SWCD Supervisor

46 Wabasha County Planning and Zoning is dealing with a dispute regarding the location of a new
47 Fertilizer Plant and two disputes regarding zoning petition questions. An EAW is being considered for
48 the Fertilizer Plant. Wabasha County approved a solar power contract with SolarStone.
49

50 Roland Wood

51 The Wabasha SWCD presented a budget request at the Wabasha County Board meeting; they are
52 requesting a 5% increase. He attended the SWCD Resolution meeting in Stewartville.
53

54 Claron Krogness

55 Advised there was a fairly contentious meeting at the Olmsted County SWCD meeting regarding
56 wetlands. A landowner contracted to have some land tiled. A Conservation Officer advised them to
57 stop, but project work was completed through the wetland. Roland Wood advised that Wabasha has
58 the same problem with a house near wetland, the owner is filling in the wetland. This case will likely go
59 to court.
60

61 Matt Flynn

62 Martin Larsen is hosting a "Cover Crop Day" in August.
63

64 **6. Board Discussion and Action Items**

65 a. Financial Update:

66 S. Harmes explained the financial update.
67

68 b. Ag Certainty Update:

69 1. Corrected Amendment to sub-agreement between TSA and Whitewater JPB.

70 S. Harmes explained the amendment that was approved at last month's meeting needs to be
71 corrected. The TSA needed some funds to divert to other Ag Certainty sub-agreements. She
72 requested that the Whitewater Joint Powers Board rescind last month's sub-agreement and
73 approve and sign the corrected amendment. The corrected amendment dollar amount is
74 \$27,800 (\$4,500 less than the previous amendment). S. Jacob asked if TSA had a higher
75 priority for the money, Sheila advised that there is but that the money would stay in
76 Southeastern Minnesota. A motion was made by S. Jacob and second by A. Nelson to rescind
77 last month's sub-agreement and accept the amended copy. Vote: Yes – 5. Claron Krogness had
78 stepped out of the room.
79

80 2. Approval of cost share assistance for Ag Cert #10

81 Initially the applicant needed funds for a grade stabilization structure, but other funding provided
82 near 75% cost share. The applicant has had some wash outs and needs funds to do repair
83 work. An estimate of \$597.00 had been received for the repairs. A motion was made C.
84 Krogness and second by A. Nelson to amend the cost share. Vote: Yes – All.
85

86 3. Approval of cost share assistance for Ag Cert # 12

87 Matt Kruger explained this is for Grade Stabilization structure. The applicant needs are
88 estimated at \$905.00 to reach the 75% cost share. In case project costs are higher, a \$3000.00
89 maximum was included in the cost share assistance contract. M. Kruger noted that the
90 applicant's property is located in a Cultural Resources Investigative area; it requires an
91 archeological study. He said he didn't know if personnel would get to the property site by the
92 end of 2016. If the applicant had not used the money up by the end of the year, the money
93 goes back. A motion was made by C. Krogness and second by S. Jacob to approve the cost
94 share. Vote: Yes – All.
95

96 4. Approval of cost share assistance for Ag Cert # 13

97 M. Kruger explained this contract is for Terrace Repair. He advised it is an easy fix with a road
98 grader. The contract amount is for \$5000.00. A motion was made by C. Krogness and second
99 by S. Jacob to approve the cost share assistance. Vote: Yes – All.
100

101 c. Watershed Planning Framework Grant update

102 S. Harmes advised that Daryl Buck met with Marty Mollenhauer and progress is being made in the
103 mapping work. She referred to a summary of the work completed through the McKnight grant. The
104 Whitewater JPB was one of several organizations that partnered with the University of Minnesota
105 Water Resources Center to do the Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework tool in small
106 watersheds within Minnesota. GIS staff provided feedback. The U of M report was distributed.
107

108 d. Xerces Society agenda discussion

109 Sheila referred to A. Nelson's mentioning of pollinators in the past. She advised that Thelma Heidel-
110 Baker from WI would come and present but will need travel expenses paid. The Xerces Society also
111 has staff within Minnesota that may be available. Also, Minnesota Extension may have staff for a
112 pollinator's workshop; Jake Overgaard from Winona County Extension would assist. The
113 Whitewater does not have funds for financing this proposed event, but MPCA may have funds
114 available for outreach/educational events for farmers if provided on a regional scale. S. Harmes
115 advised she had been working with A. Nelson on the project and that it would not just be in
116 Whitewater. The event is planned to take place in November.
117

118 e. Website Update

119 Sheila distributed to the board a hard copy draft of Nancy North's work of what the website would
120 look like. S. Jacob referred to some errors within paragraph three; S. Harmes noted them and
121 advised they would be corrected. R. Wood and C. Krogness noted that their phone numbers are
122 incorrect. C Krogness advised to add farm pictures; to show the good practices, what
123 improvements had been made by local people.
124

125 **7. Public Comments**

126 There were no public comments.
127

128
129 **8. Agency Reports**

130 There were no agency reports.
131


132 **9. Next Meeting: August 18, 2016**
133

134 **10. Adjournment**

135 On a S. Jacob motion, the Whitewater Joint Powers Board Meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.
136
137

138 Respectfully submitted by:
139

140 Joyce Tlougan
141 Recording Secretary
142

143 Signed  _____
144 Roland Wood, Secretary/Treasurer