

Pomme de Terre River Association
Meeting Minutes
2 p.m. September 20, 2019
USDA-ARS Soils Lab

Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

Board members present: Paul Barsness, Paul Groneberg, Joe Fox, Tim Kalina, Keith Swanson, John Lindquist, Rod Wenstrom, Dave Lonergan, Dan Morrill. Others present: Pete Waller, BWSR; Steph Adams, Watershed Coordinator; Matt Solemsaas and Chris Staebler, Stevens SWCD.

Rod Wenstrom moved to approve the August 9 Minutes. Second by Tim Kalina. Passed unanimously.

John Lindquist moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Second by Paul Barsness. Passed unanimously.

Joe Fox moved to approve submission of the management's letter to the CPA stating we submitted info as needed for completion of the audited 2018 Financial Statements. Second by Paul Groneberg. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously on a motion by Dave Lonergan. Second by Tim Kalina.

John Linquist moved to approve the bills to be paid. Second by Rod Wenstrom. Passed unanimously. The BWSR Academy registration will be held for submission until just before the deadline.

Steph would like to request an extension for the 2017 CWF grant. If approved by the board, this will be extended through the end of 2020 to allow for projects involving 2016 Federal 319 match funding to be completed. Most of the CWF grant money is spent but BWSR requires the match funding to be expended during the grant period as well. Joe Fox moved to approve the 2017 CWF grant extension request. Second by Dan Morrill. Passed unanimously.

Steph summarized progress on the other open grants as well—WRAPS Implementation, 1W1P, 2017 CWF, 2019 CWF, 2016 319. The 2019 Federal 319 grant will also be available soon but has not been executed. Work plan and budget have been approved and the executed grant will probably arrive in October or November. This is about \$300,000 in funding that can be spent over 3 years. Written request to extend the 1W1P grant through Dec 2020 has been submitted. Paul Barsness moved to approve the 1W1P grant extension request. Second by Tim Kalina. Passed unanimously. The work for this grant is scheduled to be completed in June.

Coordinator's Report

- BWSR Board tour attended/coordinated.
- Water Fest in Glenwood last week.
- Has been meeting with Andy A, Joe M and Andy R regarding soil health team
- Personnel meeting August 23 to finalize position announcement and interview questions.
- Still working with EOR to submit and respond to comments on 1W1P.

TAC Report by Matt Solemsaas

- Person to person interviews need to be conducted as part of the WRAPS. Discussed applying for cover crop grant. This is open until later in October and they will make a determination on whether to apply or not before that.
- Steph discussed the 1W1P timeline with the board. There will be a 2-month informal review by the board of the 1W1P within the next couple months.

Personnel Committee Report by Chair Swanson

- There were 6 applicants. 3 members of the TAC recommended three to be interviewed. The pool of applicants in general is very good. The committee gave their recommendation and options. Paul Groneberg moved to offer the position to Bailey Zeiher. Second by Paul Barsness. Passed unanimously.
- The board needs to determine starting date and starting salary to be offered. John Lindquist moved to offer \$21 per hour. Paul Barsness seconded. Motion defeated. Rod Wenstrom moved to let Keith offer her the position and negotiate a starting salary within the range listed on the position announcement. Tim Kalina seconded. Passed unanimously. The board recessed in order for Keith to call her. They did not reach agreement but he agreed to call her back tonight after thought.

BWSR Report from Pete

- He thanked board members and staff for their work on the BWSR Board tour that was held here at the end of August. Chair Swanson also thanked Pete for his help in getting the board to visit as well.

The board thanked Steph for her excellent work and she thanked the board for the opportunity as well.

The next meeting will tentatively be held October 18 at 1 p.m. Keith will send a doodle poll to set the date for sure.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.