

Pomme de Terre River Association
Joint Powers Board
Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 14, 2020
8:30 a.m. via video conference

Vice Chair Wenstrom called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Board members present: Keith Swanson, Paul Groneberg, Jeanne Ennen, Joe Fox, John Lindquist, Rod Wenstrom, Dave Lonergan, Keith Englund, Dan Morrill, Paul Barsness. Others present: Micayla Lakey, Watershed Coordinator; Ben Underhill, TAC Chair; Pete Waller, BWSR; Chris Staebler, Stevens SWCD.

Minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by John Lindquist. Second by Dan Morrill. Passed unanimously.

The Agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Dave Lonergan and second by Jeanne Ennen.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Keith Englund and second by Paul Groneberg.

Jeanne Ennen made a motion to pay the bills. Motion was unanimously approved after a second by John Lindquist

Budget Discussion

The Budget Committee met recently to discuss the possibility of asking counties for regular contributions going forward. Jeanne brought this to the Stevens Board of Commissioners at their recent meeting. The others on the committee have not brought it up much at all. Comparing the amount requested from the counties to the return on their investment, Lindquist noted that he sees no problem in approving this. The requested contribution will be the same as the last time a request was made. Micayla presented the information that was discussed at the committee meeting. Micayla sent the presentation to board members at the end of July and it should be sent to county administrators as well. This way it will be added to board meeting agendas and then the JPB board members can help answer questions when it is addressed. Pete suggested that TAC members help Micayla present the information. Lindquist moved to approve the request of funds from each county within the watershed as follows, based on percentages of area and population within the watershed: Big Stone \$708.00, Douglas \$1023, Grant \$5900, Stevens \$17228, Swift \$6412, WOT \$8064. Ennen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. This funding request is for the same dollar amounts as the last request that was made, and will be an annual request, with revision/assessment of funding needed after 3 years.

Coordinator's Report

Micayla reported that she has been working on getting quotes for new computer systems for home and office. She's working on getting set up to be able to do a state bid.

Micayla will be helping at the Grant SWCD Soil Health Field Day and the JPB will purchase some equipment to be used for educational activities going forward.

She gave a quick overview of available funding from existing grants. Most of the 2016 319 grant is encumbered at this point. As a reminder, the grant is extended until August 31, 2021. We are starting to use 2019 CWF and 319 grant funding on new projects coming in.

We did not receive the small watershed focus grant that we applied for through the MPCA. We were next in line to receive funding, There is one more round to apply for and Paul Wymar at the MPCA recommended trying again. She is going to work on finding ways to improve the next application. They do not provide information as to why the application was denied so it's difficult to know what to improve on.

1W1P

Members of the TAC and JPB presented the CWMP to the BWSR North Region committee on August 5. They approved it for recommendation by the BWSR board meeting on August 26. There were several committee member comments on how well prepared and presented our plan was. Pete congratulated the group and commended the group on being an effective team.

Micayla drafted a resolution to Adopt and Implement the Pomme de Terre River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Paul Groneberg moved to adopt the Resolution as presented. Second by Keith Englund. Passed unanimously.

TAC Report

Ben mentioned that the TAC has started to talk about the funding request and work plan for the watershed based implementation funding available through the 1W1P.

Agency Reports

Pete did not have anything to add. He mentioned that SWCD and County Boards will also need resolutions to Adopt and Implement the CWMP similar to the one just adopted by this board.

Other comments & Closing Business

Next meeting will be held September 11 at 8:30 a.m. Format to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Ennen, Secretary/Treasurer

Date