

Pomme de Terre River Association
Joint Powers Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 12, 2022
8:30 a.m. Morris Fire Hall

Chair Wenstrom called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Rod Wenstrom, Jeanne Ennen, Kurt Mortenson, Dave Lonergan, Ken Johnson, Paul Groneberg, Jeff Klages, Dan Morrill. Others present: Bill Kleindl, TAC representative; Micayla Lakey, Watershed Coordinator; Chris Staebler, Stevens SWCD. Present via Webex: Mike Cleary (Douglas alternate). Others present via Webex: Pete Waller, BWSR.

The Minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Jeanne Ennen and second by Kurt Mortenson.

The Agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Kurt Mortenson and second by Paul Groneberg.

Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Dave Lonergan and second by Jeanne Ennen.

There were no bills to pay.

2023 WBIF application

This application is in progress. Micayla is completing the application in elink using information provided by the LGUs. This should be ready to submit within the next week, which will result in BWSR sending a grant agreement to be approved. Micayla showed a copy of the 2021 grant agreement and asked the board to approve entering into the grant agreement and authorize her to sign the agreement when it is ready. Ken Johnson moved to authorize Lakey to sign the 2023 WBIF grant agreement when it's ready and the board will review the application at the next meeting. Second by Kurt Mortenson. Passed unanimously.

Funding Overview

2019 CWF funding is completely encumbered. There may be one contract in WOT that needs to be cancelled which would free up just under \$12,000 in funding. She is awaiting confirmation on this and doesn't anticipate a problem re-allocating that funding before the grant expires. All staff & LGU time has been spent.

2019 Federal 319 project funding is mostly encumbered. There is a small amount of funding for staff time remaining.

2021 WBIF grant funding for staff time is about half spent but there is a large amount of project funding still available. Big Stone County will release all but \$1000 from the funding they had allocated for time.

Micayla summarized funding across all grants by county. She also summarized items paid for with county funding instead of directly by grants over the year so far. The board discussed how this information will help with future county funding requests as well as grant funding requests.

Coordinator’s Report

She has been working on required interim grant reporting and final reporting for recently-closed grants.

She has been meeting with county and SWCD boards and has been putting up booths at county fairs.

Grant SWCD is hosting a field day at a producer’s farm regarding soil health.

She will be giving several presentations at area youth education events this fall.

TAC Report

Bill Kleindl, Stevens County Environmental Services Director, reported on recent activity in the TAC. Soil health sub-committee will be expanding and planning more field days in the future. Otter Tail recently hired an engineer to help with project planning. He discussed other projects throughout the counties in the association. BWSR information officer will be invited to view a large project in Stevens. They have also been working with Micayla on the 2023 WBIF application. He summarized discussions the TAC has had regarding the project on Silver & Patchen Lakes.

Micayla showed the board the Facebook post BWSR posted with photos and information about the large project in Stevens County near Perkins Lake. Pete noted a full story/report on this will be presented in the future.

Agency Reports

Pete had nothing additional to report. The next BWSR board meeting will be held in the Red River Valley area.

The next meeting will be held September 9 at 8:30 in the Morris Fire Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Ennen, Secretary/Treasurer Date _____