

Pomme de Terre River Association
JPB MINUTES
October 13, 2023, 8:30 a.m.
Morris Fire Hall & via Webex

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

Present: Rod Wenstrom, Lee Rogness, Jeanne Ennen, Jeff Klages, Ken Johnson, Keith Englund, Alan Golden, Paul Groneberg, Larry Mahoney, Dave Lonergan. Others present: Pete Waller, BWSR; Aaron Larsen, TAC representative; Jared House, Watershed Coordinator; Chris Staebler, Stevens SWCD.

The Agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Keith Englund and second by Larry Mahoney.

The Minutes from the September 8, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Larry Mahoney and second by Paul Groneberg.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Jeanne Ennen and second by Jeff Klages.

Jeff Klages moved to approve the Bills to Pay. Second by Larry Mahoney. Passed unanimously.

Funding Overview

Jared summarized the funding available in existing grants. Currently, we have 2 open grants: 2021 and 2023 WBIF.

- The 2021 grant is 51% spent and all project funding has been encumbered or pre-encumbered. The TAC recommends the JPB request a one-year extension to this grant to allow for delays in project completion. Lee Rogness moved to request a one-year extension of the 2021 WBIF grant. Second by Jeff Klages. Lee Rogness moved and Larry Mahoney seconded a friendly amendment to allow Jared House to sign digital documents related to the grant on behalf of the JPB. Motion and friendly amendment passed unanimously.
- The 2023 WBIF grant is about 19% spent with some LGU time spent and some project funding encumbered. Jeanne Ennen moved to move \$10,000 of non-structural ag practice project funding to a new activity, Urban Stormwater. Second by Keith Englund. Passed unanimously.
- Jared will add the project expense spreadsheet to the monthly report as the board like the information he presented visually at the meeting.
- The board reviewed the CRP State Incentive Pilot Program policy as drafted by Aaron Larsen and reviewed by the TAC. Once the work plan for the grant agreement is approved, this policy will effectively be adopted. Jeanne Ennen moved to approve the CRP State Incentive Pilot Program grant agreement (\$30,000 reimbursable), to allow Jared House to digitally sign documents related to the grant, and to approve the draft Contract for Services between the PDTRA and the individual districts. Second by Larry Mahoney. Passed unanimously.

TAC Report

- Aaron Larsen thanked Jared for his hard work on interim coordination.
- Some of the TAC and some members of the Chippewa watershed TAC will be meeting in the near future to discuss a potential joint coordinator.

- TAC has been working together to re-allocate and move funding around to get it spent prior to grant expirations.

Interim Coordinator Report

Jared has been spending about 20% of his time on watershed coordination at this time. This will increase in the next month or so as he processed Quarter 3 reimbursements to LGUs.

Jeanne Ennen asked if there is potential for Jared to continue as watershed coordinator. He noted that this would have to go before the Grant SWCD board, as they initially approved him spending time on watershed activity only on an interim basis.

Agency Reports

Pete Waller, BWSR, mentioned supplemental WBIF funding available to existing WBIF grantees. Deadline to request funding is January 7 and funding will be allocated shortly after that. This would be made available through an amendment to the existing grant agreement. He also mentioned the soil health funding made available through both general and Clean Water funds. There will be a 4-year competitive grant (no match required) available to fund staff time and also non-competitive grant funding available to complete projects.

Closing

The next meeting will be held December 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Ennen, Secretary/Treasurer

Date