



MACDE Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 22nd, 2022

10:00am – 12:00pm

1. Call to Order
 - a. Nicole called the meeting to order at 10:12 am
2. Welcome
 - a. Board Members in attendance: Nicole Bernd, Jessica Albertsen, Andy Arens, Ashley Brenke, Meghan Darley, Cody Fox, Shelly Lewis, Tara Solem, and Nathan Wiese
 - b. Others in attendance: Jason Weirnerman – BWSR, Sheila Vanney – MASWCD, Paul Sandstrom – RC&D, Shannon Wettstein – Morrison SWCD, Josh Hanson – Morrison NRCS, and Mindy Williamson – Fillmore SWCD
3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion was made by Andy, seconded by Cody to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
4. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Motion was made by Jessica, seconded by Cody to approve the May 18, 2022 minutes. Motion carried.
5. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Meghan reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Discussion on fund balance. Motion was made by Cody, seconded by Nathan to approve the Treasurer's Report with a change to the balance date. Motion carried.
6. Directors' Reports
 - a. Area 1 – Nathan provided an update on their RCPP funding for irrigation technology in 16 counties. A Red River Basin partnership tour was recently held. Soil Health and Capacity grants went out to all Districts.



- b. Area 2 – Jessica reported they had their Area meeting recently. Monitoring is wrapping up for the season and the Water Festival is coming up.
 - c. Area 3 – Tara reported that staff are busy with WRAPS, SWAG and discussion on the second phase of WRAPS.
 - d. Area 4 – Meghan reported their Area is working on Metro District plans and WBIF.
 - e. Area 5 – Shelly reported their Area is busy with CREP and WBIF.
 - f. Area 6 – Ashley reported their Area Technical Team held a meeting about JAA a couple of months ago. The Area 6 Managers are meeting next week.
 - g. Area 7 – Cody reported they held a technical training team meeting during active construction on a project.
 - h. Area 8 – Andy reported they've been using PRAP to look at TSA staffing needs, especially as they receive WBIF funds.
7. Partner's Report
- a. BWSR
 - i. Jason reported BWSR is almost fully staffed at the regional operations level and a BWSR staff attorney has been hired.
 - ii. A number of grants are getting rolled out through eLINK.
 - iii. IDPs are due tomorrow.
 - iv. BWSR Academy will be held Oct 25-27.
 - b. MASWCD
 - i. Sheila reviewed a funding request to help offset the costs of a training opportunity to be held at MASWCD Convention. They have contracted with Franklin Covey to host a training, The 4 Disciplines of Execution, over two rounds totaling 4 hours for each group. Their goal is to have no registration fee. The training will be Monday, December 12. BWSR is contributing \$5,000. The total cost is ~\$23,000. Online license to access Franklin Covey's resources for \$6,000 more: ~\$29,000 total. MASWCD is



also asking MASWCD Areas for funding. The training is for managers or the manager delegated staff. Motion was made by Jessica, seconded by Nathan to support up to \$5,000 towards this training. Motion carried.

- ii. 1W1P will be the topic of a lot of the breakout sessions at Convention. Doug Thomas with HEI will present on the results of workload analyses. Breakout sessions will be on OJT, reduction estimators, communicating success, data practices, and other topics.

c. RC&D

- i. Paul Sandstrom, Executive Director of Minnesota Association of RC&D, provided a program update. They have a program now that emphasizes reforestation to reduce atmospheric CO2. Additional information is on the state association website: minnesotarcd.org

d. NRCS – Josh Hanson

- i. Josh reported that Local Work Group comments are getting reviewed.
- ii. The Inflation Reduction Act provides \$19.5 billion in additional funding to NRCS programs over the next 10 years.

8. Old Business

a. MACDE Education Grant Reimbursement request and presentation – Fillmore SWCD

- i. The new Fillmore SWCD website was reviewed as part of the presentation.

9. New Business

a. BWSR Academy – MACDE meeting, social?

- i. Consensus reached to not have social at BWSR Academy
- ii. The annual MACDE meeting will be held at the end of the day during BWSR Academy

b. Cottonwood SWCD Training Request: Dates-Oct 21, Nov 7, 8, 9, or 10

- i. Consensus reached to have it in late winter, early spring



- c. MASWCD “The 4 Disciplines of Execution” – see above
 - d. Extraordinary Contribution Award – Andy A.
 - i. The award winner will be recognized at BWSR Academy
 - ii. The Awards Committee will review the applications and pick the winner.
 - e. MACDE Scholarships: creative/innovative opportunities to utilize the money and help support employees
 - f. Improvements, feedback and suggestions as an Association – Jessica A.
 - i. Jessica reached out for feedback on MACDE in her Area and reviewed some of the comments and suggestions
10. Other
- a. Committee Assignment updates
 - Awards: Andy*, Shelly, Tara
 - Membership Development (new): Cody
 - By-laws: Dan*, Meghan, Nathan Wiese
 - Communications: Tasha*, Ashley, Meghan
 - Website: Tasha
 - Events: Cody*, Shelly
 - Grants: Nicole*, Meghan, Dan
 - Professional Development: Cody, Nicole
 - Strategic Planning: Tara*, Dan, Jessica, Andy
 - Technical Team: Cody, Alternates Mike, Nathan Wiese
11. Nicole declared the meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm