

Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District

154 Friesen Avenue, Steinbach, MB, R5G 0T5

Telephone: (204) 326-1030

www.srrwd.ca

Minutes

February 20, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jake Hiebert, Chair SD-7 and Chair of Board
Brian Grier, Chair SD 3&4
Ed Penner, Chair SD-6 & Vice-Chair of Board
Les Schewe, Provincial Appointee

Neil Claringbould, Chair SD-2
Harold Janzen, Chair SD-5
Natashia Lapeire, Chair SD-9

REGRETS:

Stan Toews, Vice-Chair SD-7

Ken Prociw, Chair SD-8

GUESTS:

Kelsey Benson, Provincial Watershed Planner

STAFF:

Joey Pankiw, Assistant Manager
Chris Randall, Project Supervisor
Dani Gosselin, ALUS/PAC Coordinator

Béatrice Mukahirwa, Bookkeeper
Virginia Janzen, ReGen Ag Coordinator
Alex Wolf, Watershed Technician

I. CALL TO ORDER at 9:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

02-2024: Les Schewe – Natashia Lapeiere

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2023
- b. Electronic Minutes for January 16, 2024

03-2024: Neil Claringbould – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2023 and the Electronic Minutes for January 16, 2024 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

04-2024: Natashia Lapeiere – Les Schewe

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board excuse the absence of Stan Toews and Ken Prociw at the Board meeting.

CARRIED

IV. CHAIR REPORT

- Renovations are looking great – very functional
- Employee evaluations were completed by the Personnel Committee
- Several Board members attended Red River Basin in Fargo in mid January

V. MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WATERSHEDS REPORT, Jake Hiebert

- two positions have been filled at MAW with a project coordinator and project assistant hired
- more cheques have been sent out for PWCP

VI. SUB-DISTRICT & PAC/LGC REPORTS

ALUS/PAC

05-2024: Harold Janzen – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following PWCP Rotational Grazing project for Don Winnicky of Pine Valley Ranch located at Piney in Sub District 2 for a cross fence to be added on a 160 acre piece to divide into two 80 acre sections for total of \$1,889.44 as funding becomes available.

CARRIED

06-2024: Harold Janzen – Natasha Lapeire

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following PWCP Nitrogen Management projects for the following for this funding year of 2023-2024: Ag Air Farms Ltd. (Paul Sabourin) located in SD 2 for the use of Dual Inhibitors on 300 acres for total funding of \$4,760; Blue Clay Farms 98 Ltd. located in SD 5 for Equipment Upgrade (upgraded air drill to have mid row banders) for total funding of \$10,000; J. Creek Grain Ltd. (Karsten Mueller) located in SD 2 for the use of Dual Inhibitors on 1230 acres for total funding of \$10,000; KM Growers Ltd (Kristoph Mueller) located in SD 2 for the use of Dual Inhibitors on 1224 acres for total funding of \$9,945; Osterwick Farms Ltd. located in SD 7 for the use of ESN and soil testing for total funding of \$6,608.67.

CARRIED

07-2024: Harold Janzen – Les Schewe

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following PWCP Nitrogen Management projects for the following for the next year's funding for 2024-2025: Cadieux Farms Ltd. located in SD 2 for the use of Dual Inhibitors on 1235 acres for total funding of \$10,000; Sabourin Growers Ltd (Dominic Sabourin) located in SD 5 for the use of inhibitors and split application on 640 acres for total funding of \$6,250.90.

CARRIED

08-2024: Harold Janzen – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following PWCP Cover Crop projects as funding becomes available for the current funding year: Ag Air Farms Ltd. (Paul Sabourin) located in SD 2 for 315 acres for total funding of \$11,025; Simeon Gerschheimer located in SD ¾ for 45 acres for total funding of \$1,575.

CARRIED

09-2024: Harold Janzen – Neil Claringbould

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following PWCP Cover Crop projects as funding becomes available for the funding year for 2024 - 2025: George Martens located in SD 2 for 75 acres for total funding of \$2,625; and Jeffrey Kostyniuk located in SD 2 for 60 acres for total funding of \$2,100.

CARRIED

10-2024: Harold Janzen – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approves the following Growing Roots Cover Crop project as funding becomes available for Ag Air Farms Ltd. (Paul Sabourin) located in SD 2 for 100 acres x \$50 / acre for the 3 years 2023 – 2025 for total funding of \$15,000 for the 3 years.

CARRIED

Ed Penner joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

SD 2

- Paperwork has been submitted for Gardenton Pastures and waiting for Crown Lands approval

SD 3 & 4

- Had a meeting with Maple Leaf and they are eager to proceed with the projects; will work on the smaller one and prepare for the bigger water retention for next year.

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SD 5

- Grass seeding with RM of Montcalm will take place in spring
- Two projects are in planning stages to happen this spring along the Marsh River

SD 6

- Will plan a sub district meeting and tour at Darrin Warkentin's water retention in early spring

SD 7

- having discussion with PennCo about rain gardens in their new development behind Wal-Mart
- Sub District meeting planned for March 18th

SD 8

- Sub District meeting planned for February 27th

SD 9

- New CAO in place for RM of Taché – will plan to do a presentation for council in the spring
- Working on water retention for Nolan Vermette for this spring

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT

- Staff has been busy going to workshops, conferences, and producer meetings
- Staff evaluations have been completed
- Manager's Meeting in Elkhorn Resort next week February 28th to March 1st
- Envirothon is April 24th at TCDC – looking for volunteers if anyone is interested

11-2024: Natasha Lapeire – Les Schewe

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approve paying up to \$4000 for expenses for the ReGen Ag Day at the Friedensfeld Hall on March 6th (this will include the hall rent, cost of catering lunch, speaker fees, mileage for speakers, hotel accommodations as required.)

CARRIED

VIII. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

SRRWD Board requests Manager to stay for In Camera session

12-2024: Ed Penner – Natasha Lapeire

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD go into camera at 10:07 a.m.

13-2024: Natasha Lapeire – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD come out of camera at 10:22 a.m.

14-2024: Brian Grier – Ed Penner

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD accepts the Personnel Committee's recommendation to give a 1.8% Cost of Living Allowance increase plus 3% for all staff on top of 2023-2024 salaries.

CARRIED

IX. FINANCE REPORT

- Expenses for approval
- Provincial Report
- Increase in Credit Card Limit for Business

15-2024: Ed Penner – Natasha Lapeire

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approve the monthly financial expenses as presented by the Finance Committee for a total of \$108,734.92; whereas, cheques 9783 to 9904 are approved for \$80,834.94; payroll for \$17,948.56; direct deposits for \$6,262.33; and pre-authorized withdrawals for \$3,689.09.

CARRIED

16-2024: Ed Penner – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves the Province Grant Budget Carryover Request for up to \$15,000 to 2024-2025 for Gardenton Community Pastures Water Retention project

CARRIED

17-2024: Ed Penner – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves the Provincial Report for January 2024 as presented.

CARRIED

18-2024: Ed Penner – Brian Grier

WHEREAS the Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District would like to establish a cost shared reserve account;
And whereas the Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District is requesting a cost-shared reserve account for the purposes of Sundown Ridge Water Retention with a proposed maximum annual contribution of \$40,000 in cost-shared dollars, and a proposed maximum cost-shared reserve account balance of \$160,000;
And whereas the Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District agrees to follow program guidelines and procedures to set-up and utilize a cost-shared reserve account;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District requests approval from Watershed Planning and Programs to establish a cost-shared reserve account.

CARRIED

19-2024: Ed Penner – Harold Janzen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves the 2024 – 2025 Interim Budget for Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District as presented.

CARRIED

20-2024: Ed Penner – Neil Claringbould

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approve increasing the overall credit card limit as a company to \$15,000 for Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District.

CARRIED

21-2024: Ed Penner – Natasha Lapeire

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves having Harold Janzen get signing approval for being part of the Finance Committee.

CARRIED

22-2024: Ed Penner – Neil Claringbould

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves getting a credit card for Alex Buhler with limit up to \$2,500.

CARRIED

X. MANITOBA WATERSHED PLANNER REPORT

- Green Team has opened for applications
- all watershed district need to establish a respectful workplace policy into their Policy Manual

XI. NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Training for Public Works Staff in RM of Stuartburn for Survey Equipment

Consensus: SRRWD Board is in agreement for staff to arrange a training day for public works staff at the RM of Stuartburn regarding the use of survey equipment and for any other municipalities that are interested

- b. Well Water Testing Days 2024

Consensus: SRRWD Board is in agreement to organize the Private Well Water testing days for participating municipalities for May 23rd and June 27th

information and water bottles will be sent to participating municipal offices

- c. Order Trees to be Given Away in Spring

23-2024: Natasha Lapeire – Harold Janzen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves purchasing trees for spring giveaway for urban landowners in the Seine Rat Roseau Watershed District in the amount up to \$15,000.

CARRIED

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Hosting Regional Manitoba Envirothon at TCDC April 24, 2024

XIII. POLICY COMMITTEE

- Still waiting for template from MAW to be approved by the Province

XIV. RENOVATIONS COMMITTEE

24-2024: Harold Janzen – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD approves the quote from Budget Blinds for blinds for the main area, and 3 offices and add in a blind behind the TV for up to \$5,000 in total funding.

CARRIED

XV. NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. with Strategic Planning session to follow

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

25-2024: Ed Penner – Brian Grier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BOARD adjourn at 11:40 a.m.

CARRIED

Jake Hiebert, SRRWD CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Joey Pankiw, MANAGER