

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
July 18th, 2024
Wood County River Block/Online

Attendees: Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Al Drabek (Marathon); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Ken Borzick (Marquette); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Gary Beastro (Member-at-Large); Amberle Schwartz (Portage); Nancy Eggleston (Portage); Jared Mader (Marathon); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Kevin Munkwitz (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Nathan Sandwick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Bob Walker at 11:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Tomandl, to approve the May 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hilgart provided the Treasurer's Report for May through June. The Associated Checking Account ending balance was \$6,366.57. The Associated Savings Account ending balance was \$39,394.49. The Associated Money Market Account ending balance was \$89,906.28. The Simplicity Money Market Account ending balance was \$235,617.80. The Simplicity Savings Account ending balance was \$100.04. A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Eggleston, to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

ELECTIONS:

Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer were solicited. Walker noted that three officers (Wucherpennig, Beastro, and himself) had previously expressed willingness to continue to serve in their current positions. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Tomandl, to elect these three for another term in their respective positions: Wucherpennig as President, Walker as Vice President, and Beastro as Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Thorstenson explained the need for council members to fill officer positions, including Secretary. Our bylaws allow the position of Treasurer to be combined with Secretary. Beastro expressed that he could not fulfill both, just Treasurer. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to postpone the election of secretary until the next meeting. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Groundwater Legislation: It was noted that the Wisconsin Legislature will not be in session again until January.

WI RC&D Association: No recent updates from WI RC&D Association. Walker noted that he has yet to be replaced since stepping down as president.

PRESENTATION: Maliepaard gave a presentation on Solar Grazing. Maliepaard's presentation touched on solar grazing in the context of Agrivoltaics, various benefits, options for fencing and water supply, available forage recommendations, types of livestock, and other design considerations. Glad distributed a short informational handout about the proposed Vista Sands project for reference, and noted that Lynn Markham is invited to provide additional information about the topic at a future Council meeting.

NEW PROJECTS: Glad presented the NRCS co-employment project. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to approve the NRCS co-employment project continuation. Motion carried.

STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES: Staff reports were sent out prior to the meeting and paper copies were available during the meeting. Upon request, Glad shared updates on new hires in recent months. Walker noted that growth comes with new administrative challenges.

AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Walker suggested that the Council hold off on discussing committee reports and proceed to the next item on the agenda. No one objected.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Glad noted that Golden Sands RC&D will be developing its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) plan. She distributed a form for council members to provide demographic information about themselves.

Glad urged Council members to stay to get their pictures taken immediately after today's meeting. Glad provided an overview of delegates' roles and voting rights on the Council according to bylaws. She also noted that several counties have yet to pay 2024 membership dues, and that invoices for 2025 dues will be sent out soon. The Council regularly meets on the third Thursday of odd numbered months. Upcoming meeting dates are noted on the agenda.

It was reported that the Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee had moved to propose dividing itself into two separate committees, namely "Agriculture" and "Forestry and Wildlife". A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Eggleston, to reorganize the Council's Forestry/Agriculture/Wildlife Committee into two separate committees: "Agriculture" and "Forestry and Wildlife". Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned upon a motion that was made by Walker.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Sandwick
Temporary Recording Secretary