

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - Tompkins County SWCD
May 11, 2020
Via Teleconference

Present: Aaron Ristow, Dave McKenna, Callan Space, Deborah Dawson, Alan Teeter (Directors)
Staff: Jon Negley, Kym Jackson, Paul Gier, Angel Hinickle, Abby Hogan

A Ristow, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:06am. A quorum was present.

The addition of an invoice was added to May Vouchers.

C. Space moved to approve the March 30, 2020 Special Board Meeting Minutes. D. Dawson seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

D. Dawson moved to approve the April 29, 2020 Special Board Meeting Minutes. A. Teeter seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

Agency Reports

NYS SWCC provided a written report and it is attached.

D. McKenna joined the meeting at 11:10am.

Financial Report

D. McKenna moved to approve the financial reports for April as presented. D. Dawson seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Carried.

Vouchers

D. McKenna moved to approve the May vouchers as presented along with a subscription renewal for SmartDraft Suite & an invoice for Jimmie Joe Carl. D. Dawson seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Staff Reports

None.

Cooperator Agreements

None.

Old Business

Approval of Reconstitution of Operations Plan. D. Dawson made the motion to approve. D. McKenna seconded. J. Negley reviewed the dates tentatively scheduled for re-opening. Everything is still preliminary and subject to change. The District would like some clarity on the "health screenings" as mentioned on page 8 of the document. D. Dawson made the motion to amend the Plan to reopen May 15th under Phase 1 to "or at such time Tompkins County establishes screening guidelines and then start the following Monday". C. Space seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Budget Amendments. D. Dawson made the motion to approve. C. Space seconded. J. Negley announced there would be a 25% reduction to the third quarter appropriation payment from Tompkins County. Because of this, J. Negley recommended holding off on filling the vacant Water Resource Engineer position. The District would still put out an RFQ for part time engineering consultation position. A 4th quarter reduction may be announced later, as well. All in favor. Carried.

Beginning new construction under Executive Pause Order discussion and decision. The State is slated to open construction on May 16th. D. Dawson moved to wait until New York State Phase I and/or if a farm project is deemed

essential to the health and safety of the public and without moving forward would impact the environment. If a farm moves forward, it would be at their own financial risk. No vote currently.

New Business

RESOLUTION 2020-27 – Hydrilla Plant Community Monitoring Bid Award. There were two (2) bids received. One by Racine-Johnson and one by GEI Consultants, Inc. J. Negley questioned GEI's original assumptions and omissions on their bid and they resubmitted. The District is not confident in their ability to do the work. In addition, they would be subcontracting out some of the work and it is not clear what the background is of their subcontractors or the amount of work they would be performing. Whereas, the District has worked with Racine-Johnson for approximately seven (7) years. In addition, there was an issue in the past with another company over misinterpretation of what was required. D. Dawson moved to approve Racine-Johnson as the award recipient with a contract to be developed not to exceed \$148,080.00. D. McKenna seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Approval of Addendum Memo to Landowner Contracts regarding Covid-19 requirements. A. Teeter made the motion to approve. D. Dawson seconded. J. Negley reviewed the memo. All in favor. Carried.

P. Gier addressed the Board with a request from Carey Farms to perform his project in two (2) phases, this year and next with reimbursement of 75% prior to completion of the project. The Board discussed this would be a policy shift and would need to apply to all future projects and the District would be taking a risk if the State did not consider the first part of the project as a completed BMP. The Board recommends no payment to the farm until there is a fully completed BMP.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2020 at 11:00am.

A. Ristow moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:56pm. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kym Jackson, Secretary

Aaron Ristow, BOD Chairman