

MINUTES FOR THE MAY 11th, 2023, BOARD MEETING OF THE SUPERVISORS FOR THE CLAY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN MOORHEAD MN.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hildebrandt at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Members present:

Joel Hildebrandt, Chairperson
Randy Schellack, Vice Chairperson
Carol Schoff, Treasurer
Jerry Butenhoff, Secretary
Richard Menholt, Reporter

Others present:

Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
Gabe Foltz, District Technician/CFO
Tony Nelson, Natural Resources Management Technician
Alyssa Schill, District Technician/CAI
Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner

Absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Chairperson Joel Hildebrandt administered the oath of office to Richard Menholt as District Supervisor representing Area 1. Richard will take over the Reporter role.

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve the above resolution. Motion carried.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Alyssa gave a brief introduction of herself. Board and Staff introduced themselves to Alyssa.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A draft copy of the April 13, 2023, meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the May meeting.

M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the above-listed meeting minutes. Motion carried.

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TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mandy discussed the report.

M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

APPROVE BUFFALO-RED WATERSHED 1W1P PROJECTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

Swenson Grain & Cattle BRR1W1P-2304.....	Water and Sediment Control Basin.....	\$21,846.60
T. Schauer BRR1W1P-2305.....	Water and Sediment Control Basin.....	\$103,819.50
J. Nord BRR1W1P-2109	Water and Sediment Control Basin.....	\$19,367.15
J. Nord BRR1W1P-2303	Water and Sediment Control Basin.....	\$19,367.15

M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve the above-mentioned contracts for assistance. Motion carried.

APPROVE BUFFALO-RED 1W1P PROJECTS REQUESTING PAYMENT:

B. Bang BRR1W1P-21-01	Water and Sediment Control Basin.....	\$1,897.80
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M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve the above-mentioned contract for payment. Motion carried.

APPROVE STATE COST-SHARE PROJECTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

J. Sip CSF23-13.....	Field Windbreak replacements.....	\$407.97
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M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve the above-mentioned contract for assistance. Motion carried.

APPROVE STATE COST-SHARE PROJECTS REQUESTING PAYMENT

K. Just CSSH23-04.....Field Windbreak\$1,065.30
P. Braseth CSSH23-00Field Windbreak\$1,172.06
K. Just CS23-08.....Tubex\$ 169.12
M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve the above-mentioned contracts for payment. Motion carried.

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID: The list of vouchers from 2355-2361 and QuickBooks #21583-21603 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by the due date. **M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed.** Motion carried.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN POSITION:

There was a discussion held on the interview that was conducted earlier today with K. Little. The Board decided to offer the position to K. Little. Kevin will contact him this week with the job offer.

SEASONAL HELP:

There was a discussion held to offer J. Hansen the position.

M/S/P, Schoff/Butenhoff, to approve hiring J. Hansen for the position at \$16/hour with no cap. Schellack abstained from the vote. The motion was carried.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE:

Kevin gave a brief update on the Legislative Session. There was a discussion held on the potential paid Family Leave Act and the concerns with the cost of the program. Kevin stated that he received an email from Sheila Vanney asking SWCD's to reach out to our local legislators on the tax committee as well as the local legislators to let them know the importance of the SWCD Aid. Kevin sent emails on both subjects.

MASWCD BOARD "COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE":

Kevin stated that he was invited to listen in on the meeting that will be held on May 12th via ZOOM With SWCD's BWSR, and MASWCD to discuss upcoming Area agendas.

MASWCD AREA 1 MEETING:

Kevin stated that the next Area meeting will be held June 20th at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. Norman SWCD is the host for the meeting. There was a discussion held about the meeting, the potential for a Secretary/Treasurer for the Area, the resolution process and deadline.

MASWCD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:

Tony and Mandy stated that they will attend the next session that will be held July 13-15 in Lanesboro, MN.

2024 COUNTY BUDGET REQUEST:

Kevin discussed the 2024 County budget request that will be coming sometime next month.

2020 BUFFALO GRADE STABILIZATION PROJECT (CLEAN WATER FUND) BWSR RECONCILIATION PROCESS:

Mandy stated that the Audit is complete and that we are good to go. There was a discussion held on the audit report.

TSA MEETING:

Carol discussed the meeting that was held April 27th. She recommended that the Joint Powers Agreement was tabled until the June meeting..

"POTENTIAL" REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (RCPP) PROPOSAL:

Kevin stated that Wilkin SWCD would like to submit a proposal for funding a Soil Health Initiative. There was a discussion held on the proposal. Currently waiting to hear from partners to see what the interest is.

BRR1W1P:

Kevin stated that there is currently a construction project being worked on and that there haven't been any meetings for a while.

WR-M1W1P – UPDATE:

Kevin stated that there are possible WASCB projects in the works and that there haven't been any meetings for a while.

CREP:

Tony discussed current projects and where they are in the process.

NO TILL DRILL DISCUSSION:

There was a discussion held on the No Till Drill and issues with the older drill. It was decided to try to fix the drill and we will discuss it again this fall.

ENCLOSED TRAILER PURCHASE:

Kevin stated that we purchased a new trailer that we picked up Wednesday last week. It has worked great for moving trees and barrels so far.

POLLINATOR PINT NIGHT RECAP:

Mandy stated that the event was scheduled to be held on April 24th from 4-7 but had to postpone the event to April 25th. It was a beautiful evening that was very well attended. Junkyard donated \$1 for every pint sold that evening back to our pollinator program. Pheasant's Forever and the University of MN Extension had a table at the event as well.

SENIOR ENVIROTHON RESULTS:

Mandy stated that she attended the Senior Envirothon on May 3rd that was held at Detroit Mountain in Detroit Lakes. There were 27 teams that registered for the event. Fergus Falls placed 1st in the event and 1st in the Oral Presentation. DGF placed 2nd in the event. Both teams will be moving onto the State event that will be held May 15th at the Prairie Wetlands Center in Fergus Falls.

"REFOREST THE RED – MOORHEAD"

Kevin stated that the event is planned for May 23rd at Gooseberry Park in Moorhead. He will deliver the trees.

CRESTWOOD POLLINATOR SITE:

Mandy stated that there is a clean-up and tree planting planned for May 25th.

AMERICORPS COMMUNITY FORESTRY INITIATIVE:

Kevin stated that he contacted Corey Bang at Solid Waste and that he stated that he does not currently have an AmeriCorps employee on staff. It was decided that we will not move forward working with an AmeriCorps member at this time as we don't have the space available at this time.

OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST:

Kevin stated that Supervisor Richard Menholt will choose the Outstanding Conservationist for 2023.

FORKHORN YOUTH CAMP:

Mandy stated that she was contacted by a past camp attendee's parent asking about the scholarship for the camp. There was a discussion held on the scholarship.

M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve a scholarship for the above-mentioned camp. Motion carried.

NRCS ITEMS: See Sharon's report.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

Jenny gave a brief update on County programs and current projects. She stated that 2024 budget requests are coming up.

MASWCD:

Randy stated that at the last meeting there was a long discussion on the legislative session. He gave a brief update on the legislative session.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Joel gave an update on projects.

TSA UPDATE:

See the above report.

URBAN CONSERVATION:

Mandy gave an update on workshops that have happened as well as upcoming workshops. There was a discussion on barrel shortages.

CFO/TREE/NO-TILL DRILL PROGRAMS:

Gabe gave an update on the tree program. He stated that he attended the County Board meeting to get approval for our CFO 2022 annual report. He has had one feedlot registration and another feedlot looking to expand.

CAI UPDATE:

Alyssa stated that there have been quite a few people coming in for Pest Tests. She is learning the program between tree planting and matting.

WCA/LWM/AIS UPDATE:

Tony gave an update on current projects in the Wetland Conservation Act.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 12 – MASWCD Board “Committee of the Whole” Meeting via ZOOM
- May 15 – State Envirothon – Prairie Wetlands Center, Fergus Falls, MN
- May 17 – Make and Paint Rain Barrel Workshop – Moorhead, MN
- May 22 – MN Legislative Session Ends
- May 23 – “Reforest the Red – Moorhead” – Tree Planting Event @ Gooseberry Park
- May 24 – 2nd day of Make and Paint Rain Barrel Workshop – Moorhead, MN
- May 25 – Crestwood Cleanup Site
- May 25 – Crestwood Tree Planting Project
- May 29 – Memorial Day – Office Closed
- May 31 – Pollinator Workshop – Moorhead, MN
- June 3 – Breakfast on the farm – Kasin Farm

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: June 8th, 2023 @ 3:00 pm.

ADJOURN: Supervisor Hildebrandt called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **M/S/P, Butenhoff/Schellack, to adjourn the meeting at 4:50.**

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Jerry Butenhoff Signature after approved
Secretary Treasurer

Date