

**MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2024, 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, Reporter
Jerry Butenhoff, Treasurer

Others present:

Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
Tony Nelson, Natural Resources Management Technician
Gabriel Foltz, District Technician/CFO
Kyle Little, District Technician
Travis Doeden, NRCS District Conservationist

Absent:

Richard Menholt, Secretary
Alyssa Schill, District Technician/CAI
Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner
Paul Krabbenhoft, County Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA:

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve the September agenda Motion carried.

Meeting and mileage forms completed by Supervisors.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A draft copy of the August meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the September meeting.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mandy discussed the report.

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

APPROVE BUILDING & STORAGE LEASE AGREEMENTS

S. Schroeder Storage and Lease agreement for one year in the amount of \$1,500.00

M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the above-mentioned building and storage lease agreement.

Motion carried.

APPROVE BRR1W1P COST-SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

J. Thompson BRR1W1P-CC2405 for a Cover Crop Planting in the amount of \$3,000.00

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

APPROVE BRR1W1P COST-SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING PAYMENT:

D. Grefsrud BRR1W1P-CC2303 for a Cover Crop Planting in the amount of \$6,500.00
B. Bjornson BRR1W1P-CC2401 for a Cover Crop Planting in the amount of \$7,500.00
M. Askegard BRR1W1P-CC2404 for a Cover Crop Planting in the amount of \$7,500.00
M. Herbranson BRR1W1P-CC2403 for a Cover Crop Planting in the amount of \$4,500.00
M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve the above listed contracts for payment. Motion carried.

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID:

The list of vouchers from 2506 - 2516 and QuickBooks # 22138 – 22168 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by due date.

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff, to approve the vouchers that had been paid as listed. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

BWSR RCPP: PHASE II - SOIL HEALTH DELIVERY:

Kevin stated that staff met with Brett Arne, BWSR BC and Soil Health Specialist Jared House for work plan assistance on 9/10/2024. There was a discussion held.

WEST CENTRAL MINN RCPP (PARTNERSHIP WITH WILKIN, GRANT, TRAVERSE, & WEST OTTER TAIL SWCD'S)

Kevin gave an update on the program.

RCPP IRRIGATION FUNDING PROPOSAL:

Kevin stated that we are still waiting to see if funding has been approved.

2024 SUPERVISOR ELECTION UPDATES:

Kevin stated that we have requested a photo, brief biography, and responses to a few questions from each of the candidates. We will post the information we receive from the candidates on our website once it is received.

2025 COUNTY BUDGET UPDATE:

Kevin stated that at the Department meeting he attended on Wednesday September 11th, it was reported that all requests stayed in the budget. He listened to the County Board Meeting that took place last week where it was discussed to potentially use the Riparian Aid Funds that the County receives to cover our request. There was a discussion held.

2025 HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE:

Kevin stated that he attended a meeting that was held via ZOOM on August 22 to discuss healthcare trends, statewide pools, and renewals. There was a discussion held on our increase for 2025.

M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff, to approve signing the renewal form for the 2025 increase. Motion carried.

MN STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM:

Kevin stated that on 9/3 a representative from MSRS gave staff a presentation on 2 programs offered through the system. The Deferred Comp Plan (DCP) and the Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP). There was a discussion held about each of the programs. The board approved offering both programs to employees with the employees making the overall decision if they want to participate or not.

M/S/P, Schellack/Butenhoff to approve offering the MSRS programs to employees. Motion carried.

VEHICLE INSURANCE COVERAGE:

Kevin stated that after the discussion at last month's meeting about full glass coverage, he contacted MCIT to find out that they do not offer it.

2024 PICKUP PURCHASED:

Kevin stated that we purchased a 2024 Chevy one ton pickup on August 12th with board approval.

MASWCD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:

Kevin stated that we signed Randy up to attend the program. There was a discussion held on scholarships available for the program.

Randy gave an update on the first session of the program that was held at the Marriott in Moorhead on August 27-28 where Paul Krabbenhoft was the guest speaker. He stated it was mostly a getting to know the others in the group with some team building activities.

SNAKEY CREEK PROJECT:

Kevin gave an update on the project.

BRRWD TOUR:

Kevin, Joel, Jerry, and Carol gave an update on the tour. Kevin stated that the 4 sites that were visited were all projects that we played a part in.

BRR 1W1P UPDATE:

Gabe discussed on-going projects as well as potential future projects. There was a discussion held.

WR-M 1W1P UPDATE:

Gabe discussed on-going projects as well as future projects. There was a discussion held. Kevin discussed the transferring some of Clay SWCD's available funds to Norman SWCD for non-structural practices.

RIM UPDATE:

Tony discussed current projects.

RIVER KEEPERS – WATER FESTIVAL:

Kevin stated that the Water Festival will be held September 16th – 20th and 23rd. Staff will assist throughout the festival at different stations.

BWSR ACADEMY:

Kevin stated that the 2024 Academy will be held October 29th -31st at Cragun's Resort.

NRCS ITEMS: See Travis's report.

Travis gave an update on EQIP and CRP. He stated that Kate and Bryan will attend a booth at Big Iron 9/10-9/12.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

No Report

MASWCD:

Randy gave an update on the August meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Joel gave an update on the Planning Commission Meeting.

URBAN CONSERVATION:

Mandy stated that she and Alyssa attended the Lil Fisherman's Derby that was held at the Dike on August 8th from 5-8. She taught the Stream Sense station. She has scheduled a day with Kim Radebaugh, River Keepers to clean barrels on October 9th from 1 until they are done.

CFO/TREE/NO-TILL DRILL PROGRAMS:

Gabe discussed a complaint that he received on cattle in Lake 11. He has done 3 of his 6 inspections. He is working with Taylor on a future feedlot expansion for a farmer in Humboldt/Tansem Township. He stated that he and Kyle have been meeting with landowners to make tree plans for next Spring. There are 12 plans in the works so far. Kristie Rorah from East Ottertail has set up a shopify account for our online tree ordering for next spring. She will be coming over next week to show us how to use it so we can modify it for our needs. We plan to have all ordering done online for next spring. He stated that both drills are still out and there has been 10 producers that have used them recently for alfalfa and cover crop seedings.

CAI UPDATE:

Alyssa reported earlier that she has had Leo Splonskowski spray a few of the County buyout properties for thistles. She reported that she found purple loosestrife in the area.

TECHNICIAN UPDATES:

Alyssa reported earlier that she has been running a lot of Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) reports for the new soil health sign ups. She has been working with Taylor Wilkin SWCD and BJ Werk to help them get acquainted with WEPS and to later run more scenarios with the program so she could answer any questions they may have had. She assisted at the Little Fisherman's Derby and gave a presentation on Aquatic Invasive Species to a group of about 10-15 kids. She said she met with Jill from the Extension office to discuss a joint seed picking event at Crestwood that is scheduled for September 28th. She will assist by putting together a handout explaining the process for the planting. She has been out to check on Chris Anderson's project a few times.

Kyle states that he has completed all the RIM Easement Inspections, and he has mailed out the majority of the inspection sheets. He is still working on completing the inspections for the Buffer program but hopes to have them completed soon. He has been continuing to learn more about the Cover Crop program. He attended a training session here at the office with Dusty Jasken, NRCS, and Bob Guetter, NRCS on how to report for the RCPP soil health practices. He has been working with Gabe to assist landowners with tree plans for next spring. He worked with Becker SWCD to figure out the issues they are having with their matting machine. He will be completing Well Inspections again for this month sometime in the next week or so.

WCA/LWM/AIS UPDATE:

Tony gave a brief update on current projects as well as potential future projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 9 – 13 – BWSR Wetland Delineation/Regulations Training – Brainerd
- September 16 – 20, 23 & 24 – River Keepers Water Festival
- September 19 – Soil Health Assessment Training
- September 19 – Rural Cities & County Meeting – Glyndon Community Center

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2024 @ 3:00 pm.

ADJOURN: Supervisor Hildebrandt called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

M/S/P, Butenhoff/Schoff to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 PM.

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Richard Menholt Signature after approved
Secretary

Date