

MINUTES FOR August 8th, 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
Richard Menholt, Secretary

Others present:

Kevin Kassenborg, District Manager
Amanda Lewis, District Coordinator
Tony Nelson, Natural Resources Management Technician
Gabriel Foltz, District Technician/CFO
Alyssa Schill, District Technician/CAI
Kyle Little, District Technician
Paul Krabbenhoft, County Commissioner
Travis Doeden, NRCS District Conservationist
Brett Arne, BWSR, Board Conservationist
Leslie Shirek, Camp attendee parent
Claire Shirek, Camp attendee

Absent:

Jenny Mongeau, County Commissioner

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA:

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

Meeting and mileage forms completed by Supervisors.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A draft copy of the July meeting minutes was emailed to the Supervisors prior to the August 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 2024 USE OF SWCD AID PAYMENTS:

Kevin discussed the Annual Resolution Requirement

M/S/P, Schoff/Schellack, to approve the 2024 Use of SWCD Aid Payments Annual Resolution. Motion Carried.

APPROVE COST-SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

K. Uzzle CSW24-02 for a well decommissioning in the amount of \$1,000.00

K. Uzzle CSW24-03 for a well decommissioning in the amount of \$1,000.00

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

APPROVE BRR 1W1P COST-SHARE CONTRACT REQUESTING AMENDMENT:

D. Halverson BRR1W1P24-05 for a Streambank & Shoreline Protection in the amount of \$8,397.00
M/S/P, Schoff/Butenhoff, to approve the above-mentioned contract for assistance. Motion carried.

APPROVE BRR1W1P COST-SHARE CONTRACTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE:

Swenson Grain & Cattle BRR1W1P24-06 for a Water & Sediment Control Basin in the amount of \$12,813.50
C. Berg BRR1W1P 24-07 for a Water & Sediment Control Basin in the amount of \$23,333.25
M/S/P, Schoff/Menholt, to approve the above-mentioned contracts for assistance. Motion carried.

APPROVE VOUCHERS PAID:

The list of vouchers from 2496 - 2505 and QuickBooks # 22108 – 22137 was reviewed and credit given to have been paid by due date.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

DEEP PORTAGE LEARNING CENTER FISHING CAMP ATTENDEE REPORT:

Claire Shirek gave a short presentation on her time at the Deep Portage Learning Center Fishing Camp. Leslie Shirek and Claire both thanked the board for allowing Claire the opportunity to attend the camp.

BWSR UPDATE:

Brett, BWSR, Board Conservationist, gave a brief update on the legislative session outcome as well as discussed, the RCPP grant and the funding for those.

BWSR RCPP GRANTS: SOIL HEALTH DELIVERY:

Kevin stated that our application for the grant was accepted. There was a discussion on the grant as well as the requirements for the grant.

RCPP Wes Min PROGRAM:

Kevin discussed the ongoing training for the program as well as the potential for future training through BWSR. Kevin stated that the first sign-up deadline was July 15th and that there were 15 applications in Clay County. There was a discussion held.

2025 SOIL HEALTH TOUR:

Kevin discussed the bus tour being proposed by Becker SWCD. He stated that Becker is looking for dollars to help fund the event and are requesting each SWCD in Area 1 contribute up to \$2,000.00 for the event. There was a discussion held...More to Come.

RCPP IRRIGATION FUNDING PROPOSAL:

Kevin stated that we are still waiting to hear if funding was approved for the program. Kyle attended a training session on the program at Central Lakes College in Staples MN on July 22-23.

WALSH CO. ND WORKING LANDS COVER CROP INITIATIVE:

Kevin stated that Josh Anderson, Walsh SCD Manager met with him and Tony to discuss the program details. Kevin gave a brief update on their program.

2024 SUPERVISOR ELECTIONS:

Kevin stated that we requested a photo and a brief biography of each candidate. He will mail out a questionnaire for each candidate to answer a few questions relating to their interest in participating in the SWCD. The information will be posted on our website.

2025 COUNTY BUDGET PRESENTATION:

Kevin stated that Randy, Jerry, and he met with the County Board on July 16th to present the 2025 proposal.

SNAKEY CREEK PROJECT:

Kevin stated that the construction has begun with the tree removal being completed the channel excavation should start sometime this week.

BRRWD TOUR:

Kevin stated he will be attending from the office. Carol, Jerry, and Joel will attend as well.

BRR 1W1P UPDATE:

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

WR-M UPDATE:

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

CREP UPDATE:

Tony discussed current projects.

RIVER KEEPERS – LIL' FISHING DERBY:

Kyle stated that he and Tony taught at the AIS station during the derby that was held on July 23rd.

AGBMP LOAN PROGRAM:

Kevin stated that we requested additional funding from the MDA in June. On August 5th we received notice that an additional \$100,000 will be awarded to the program soon. There are 2 landowners who are interested in the program and will apply once the funds are available.

CLAY COUNTY FAIR:

Staff worked at our booth throughout the fair. There was a discussion on the booth and attendance.

BWSR BC/WD ADMINISTRATOR/SWCD MANAGER MEETING:

Kevin stated that he attended the meeting that was held on August 6th at the Sand Hill River Watershed District Office in Fertile MN. There were 2 BWSR Staff, 3 Watershed Administrators, and 6 SWCD Managers in attendance. They discussed; potential changes coming to WBIF, BWSR Policy changes and modifications, the Attorney that BWSR hired, Clean Water Fund competitive grants, Drinking Water Subgrants, and Soil Health Funding.

BWSR INTRODUCTION TO WETLAND DELINEATION & REGULATIONS TRAINING:

Kevin stated that the training will be held in Brainerd on September 9th – 13th. Alyssa will attend the training.

2020 PICKUP TRADE:

Kevin stated that he and Randy will go to Marthalers sometime next week to look at new trucks.

VEHICLE REPAIRS:

Kevin gave an update on repairs that have been completed on the vehicles.

NRCS ITEMS: See Travis's report.

Travis Discussed the EQIP, CRP, and CSP program. He gave a brief update on other things happening in the NRCS office.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

Paul stated that the DMV is on schedule to open in October and that the County purchased a DOT building in Hawley. Discussion held.

MASWCD:

Randy stated that there was no July meeting and that the August meeting will be held next Wednesday.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Joel gave an update on the Planning Commission meeting.

TSA MEETING:

Carol stated that they discussed the 2025 budget and that there were project reports given. There was a discussion held.

URBAN CONSERVATION:

Mandy gave a brief update on the program She stated that she will be working with River Keepers on a couple of upcoming events. She has a scheduled date in October to clean the barrels for next year's workshops.

CFO/TREE/NO-TILL DRILL PROGRAMS:

Gabe stated that he put in the initial tree order for next spring and that there are several landowners interested in tree plantings for next year. Gabe gave an update on the CFO program. He will be completing his mid-year review early next week and plans to start doing some inspections this month.

CAI UPDATE:

Alyssa stated that she attended the CAI annual short course that was held in Grand Rapids. She discussed the events that were held at the short course. She has visited some of the county buyouts to look for weed issues and has addressed a weed complaint that was on TNC lands. She met with Jill Patrie, Extension Educator, at a landowner's property to look at some trees that the landowner felt were damaged from herbicides. It was concluded that the damage was a fungus that was causing damage to the needles. She sprayed the Crestwood site for thistle pressure.

TECHNICIAN UPDATES:

Kyle stated that he helped move the drill while Gabe was on vacation. He assisted with two different native plantings. He has been completing the RIM inspections and hopes to have them done in the next couple of weeks. He gave an update on the Buffer Program. He discussed different trainings he has attended throughout the month.

WCA/LWM/AIS UPDATE:

Tony discussed the changes to the WCA statute. He gave a brief update on current projects as well as potential future projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- August 15 – BRRWD Tour
- August 20 – Soil Health Training
- August 26 – 30 – Clay County Empty Pesticide Container Collection – Clay County Landfill
- September 2 – Labor Day Office Closed
- September 3 – MN State Retirement System (MSRS) meeting
- September 9 – 13 – BWSR Wetland Delineation/Regulations Training - Brainerd

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2024 @ 3:00 pm.

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

M/S/P, Schellack/Schoff to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM.

BY: Amanda Lewis
District Coordinator

Richard Menholt Signature after approved
Secretary

Date