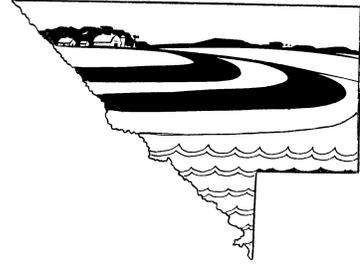


CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11TH STREET
COURTHOUSE
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2139



Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting August 1, 2016

Minutes of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District, Courthouse, NRCS/SWCD office, Montevideo, MN 56265.

- Meeting was **called to order** by Chairman Calin Eisenlohr at 3 p.m.
- Members **present**: Schuler, Eisenlohr, Sunderland, Kittelson, Roelofs
- Others **present**: SWCD staff: Tom Warner, Desirae Sharp, Zach Bothun; NRCS: Shantel Lozinski; County Commissioner: Matt Gilbertson; BWSR BC: Jill Sackett-Eberhart

- M/S/P Kittelson, Sunderland approve the agenda/with additions.
- M/S/P Sunderland, Kittelson approve the July minutes.

- The Treasurer gave the **Treasurer's report** and the supervisors placed it on file subject to audit and authorized payment of the bills as presented.

- Jill Sackett-Eberhart introduced herself to the board. Jill is the new BWSR Board Conservationist for Chippewa SWCD. She is out of the New Ulm office. Jill is in charge of Chippewa, Renville, McLeod, Brown and Redwood counties. Jill gave the board some background on herself and what she hopes to accomplish as a board conservationist.

Old Business:

- Desirae presented packets including all job applications received by 1:00 p.m. August 1. Desirae explained to the board how the veteran's preference points worked. Board was to score each applicant by August 8.
- Board discussed possible interview dates for the top three applicants based on the point system. August 19 was tentatively set for the Personnel Committee and Tom to interview.
- Desirae presented office furniture quotes.
 - M/S/P Schuler, Kittelson approve purchase of office furniture from Northern Business Products, Inc.

New Business:

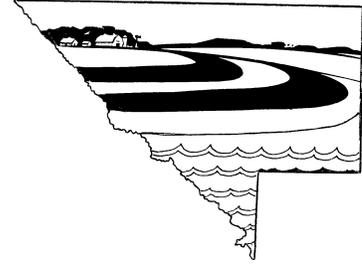
- Desirae discussed the need for a computer system for the new hire.
 - Schuler, Sunderland approve purchase of new computer.
- Desirae discussed possible need of internet services/backup server for the office. Currently we can't get another computer seat through NRCS.
- Desirae presented a spreadsheet showing the tree and seed profit and expenses.
- Desirae handed out 2016 Candidate Prospects from MASWCD to the board.
- Desirae noted that the Chippewa County fair went well.

Tom reported:

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- Tom discussed the R. Huber cost share amendment. Due to heavy rains there was higher contractor bills.
 - M/S/P Sunderland, Kittelson approve to amend the cost share contract to \$6350.22.
- Tom discussed the R. Huber cost share payments.
 - M/S/P Kittelson, Roelofs approve to pay the amended amount of \$6350.22
- Tom discussed his monthly activities that included but were not limited to: cost share amendments, cost share voucher, preliminary plan/design/estimate for 2 possible cost share practices, entered cost share into elink, received 8 applications for Farm Bill Tech position, talked to individuals inquiring about the job, worked on tree plans, wrote up & emailed WCA Notice of Decision for community solar gardens, worked on tile drain requests, PIRF request approved by BWSR to re-seed a portion of easement area, haying agreement approved by BWSR to hay a portion of RIM easement, interview Mike Andresen for conservationist of the year, surveyed storm damage in Chippewa County from July 16th storm, read DNR ob wells, fielded questions on buffers, got plants for the fair, helped with set up and tear down.

Zach Reported:

- Zach discussed his monthly activities that included but were not limited to: CRP field windbreak and wild life tree planting proposals and site visits for spring 2017, wetland mitigation bank seed/seeding proposal in Lac qui Parle County, meeting in Marshall with Jaschke, buffer ads, local maps created, and discussions with landowners on current map status, RIM Easement work, DRAP & Wellhead easement, equipment maintenance, mowing and rototilling jobs, county fair display, CREP/RIM spot checks, mid-contract mowing jobs and pasture interseeding jobs.

Shantel's Report:

- Shantel has been busy following up with EQIP leads. 2017 EQIP deadline is August 19th.
- Shantel has processed EQIP payments and CRP seed checks for payment.
- Shantel help set up and work at the fair booth.
- Shantel had training in Morris on 7/20.
- Shantel has been working on status reviews, practice certifications & CRP plans. 200+ this year.
- Shantel attended Don Struxness' grazing tour Tuesday 7/26.
- Shantel prepared the USDA loss report for storm damages.

OTHER:

Desirae noted important meeting dates as follows:

- WCMASWCD Area II meeting: September 21 at 9 a.m. at Elmerz in Sauk Centre
- BWSR Academy: October 24-26, Cragun's
- Annual Convention: December 5-6, DoubleTree Bloomington

**Next Meeting: September 12, 2016 3:00 p.m. Chippewa Room,
Courthouse**