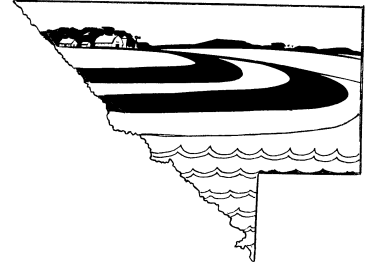


CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11TH STREET
COURTHOUSE
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2696



Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting September 11, 2023

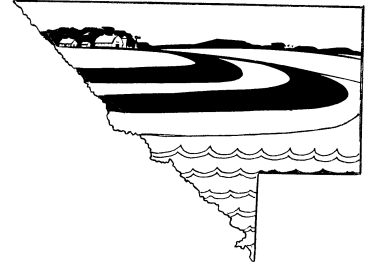
Minutes of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District, Courthouse, NRCS/SWCD office, Montevideo, MN 56265.

1. Meeting was **called to order** by Board Chair Jerry Schwitters at 3:00 p.m.
 - Members **present**: Steve Jacobson, Aaron Ahrenholz, Calin Eisenlohr, Jerry Schwitters, Michelle Overholser
2. Others **present**: SWCD staff: Tom Sletta, Zach Bothun, Desirae Jarett; NRCS staff: Shantel Lozinski; County Commissioner: Candice Jaenisch
3. M/S/P Jacobson, Ahrenholz approve the agenda with additions and changes as presented. All in favor.
4. M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr approve the August meeting minutes. All in favor.
5. Supervisor expense reports were discussed.
6. Bills were presented for ratification & payment.
7. **NRCS Report**:
 - NRCS monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: site visits for ag waste project being installed; checking for loss of land in CRP for annual payments in Chippewa & Big Stone; CRP plans—finishing about 70 in both Chippewa & Big Stone; working on CRP status reviews in Chippewa, Big Stone is complete; and completed check out for cover crops and critical area planting for EQIP. Shantel also noted that she attended Women in Ag, Susan Hult left end of August, currently taking applications for CSP/EQIP, EQIP cut off is Friday, October 6; and 11 non-supervisor DC positions were posted.
8. **New Business**
 - Desirae presented audit management representation letter. 2022 Board Chair signed.
 - Desirae presented Minnwest Bank account paperwork for updated signers and discussed Old National CD, and noted that Co-op Credit Union had almost all of the information they needed. Minnwest paperwork was reviewed and signed and information for Co-op Credit Union was obtained.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr approve Old National CD will be renewed at 5% for 15 months with Desirae Jarett and Steven Jacobson as the signers. All in favor.
 - SWCD discussed tree pricing and policy changes.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr approve pricing and policy changes as discussed. All in favor.
 - Contract 2023-3 amendment was discussed.
 - M/S/P Ahrenholz, Overholser approve amendment of Contract Install date to 12/31/24 and amended total amount authorized to \$16070.63 due to drought and the need to add water to the project. All in favor.
 - Contract 2023-1 cost share voucher was presented.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Jacobson approve cost share voucher and payment of \$15,532.50. All in favor.
 - Contract 2023-4 cost share voucher was presented.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Jacobson approved cost share voucher and payment of \$5607. All in favor.
9. **Old Business**
 - Fall project amendments and permissions were discussed.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr move to permit District Manager to approve, authorize, and sign amendments and vouchers as the administrative signer after consultation/discussion

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with the board chair when a board meeting cannot meet within a reasonable timeframe of contract and project completion deadlines. All in favor.

- Tractor repair was discussed.
 - M/S/P Eisenlohr, Ahrenholz move to have Kim Norman diagnose and repair tractor breaks. All in favor.

10. Staff Reports-

- **District Manager:** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: WCA drainage requests; wetland bank site visits with TEP for Fosso/Buss and Hawk Creek wetland bank sties; Sonstegard wetland bank credit withdrawal review; CSAH 4 road project site review; TEP corresponded, Notice of Decisions, and Notice of Applications; review Warner's folders, get caught up to speed on certain processes; training in Fergus Falls to keep up continuing ed credits for wetland certification; attended first session of Leadership Institute August 29-30; CMRWP TC meetings and correspondence; CRWA TAC meetings and correspondence; outstanding conservationist interview with KDK Partners; seed/seeding proposals; tree program updating; cost share contracts and landowner walk in traffic; WBIF/CMRWP CRP incentive & agreement with Kandiyohi SWCD.
- **District Technician:** monthly activities and updated reported include but are not limited to: made calls on tractor repair; RIM spot checks and letters; mowed CREP sites; read observation wells; tree site visits; tree plans; tree policy and pricing changes; seeding conversation with landowners for next spring; add tree numbers for fall 2023, order for 2024; Ellingson RIM easement tasks; buffer checks, met with new buffer person, Laura DeBeer; and Moon CREP restoration work.

11. Adjourn

- M/S/P Overholser, Jacobson Meeting adjourned. All in favor.

Next Meeting: October 2, 2023 –Commissioner's Room, Courthouse 3:00 P.M.

*****PLEASE LET OFFICE STAFF KNOW A.S.A.P. IF YOU WILL NOT MAKE IT TO THE MEETING*****