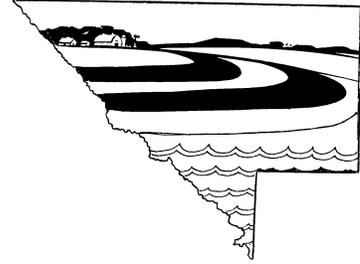


CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11TH STREET
COURTHOUSE
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2139



Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting via Zoom December 7, 2020

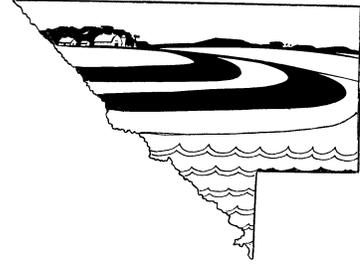
Minutes of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District, Courthouse, NRCS/SWCD office, Montevideo, MN 56265.

1. Meeting was **called to order** by Chairman Calin Eisenlohr at 3 p.m.
 - Members **present**: Michelle Overholser, Steve Jacobson, Calin Eisenlohr, Steve Sunderland
 - Others **present**: SWCD staff: Desirae Jarett, Zach Bothun, Tom Sletta; NRCS staff: Shantel Lozinski
2. M/S/P Jacobson, Sunderland approve the agenda. All in favor.
3. M/S/P Sunderland, Overholser approve the November meeting minutes. All in favor.
4. Paid bills were presented for ratification.
5. Unpaid bills were presented to be paid.
6. Covid Update was given: USDA moved to Phase 0 and closed offices to the public 12/1/2020. FSA has 2 employees in per day on a rotating schedule, Shantel is mainly teleworking and Mike is rotating in-office and telework. District technical staff is rotating with Tom W. in office full time and Zach and Tom S. rotating every 2 weeks. Desirae is working from home. Staff will re-evaluate at the end of December for January. The USDA Service Center will not be able to move to Phase 1 until Chippewa County Covid-19 case numbers are below 10 per 10,000. The service center will not be open to the public until Phase 2 or when case numbers are below 5 per 10,000.
7. **NRCS Report**-Shantel Lozinski:
 - NRCS monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: EQIP sign up ended November 29th-20 applications; all roll over applications will have priority as well as beginning farmers this year; CRP seed tag checks for payment; CRP site checks for expiring 2021; CSP mods/payments for 2020; and AgLearn security training. Shantel also noted that there will be both a CCRP and a general sign up for 2021; government budget continuing resolution ends December 11; LWG questions for team-focus on structures, erosion control & distance to surface water; and that Matt Rose started in Willmar 12/7.
8. **Staff Reports**-
 - **District Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: projects completed as follows: Jacobson WASCOP, Erickson RIM wetland repair, Blume RIM wetland repair, Knott RIM wetland repair (one finished, one finishing soon). Also worked on project folders, bid packets, cost share contracts, amendments, & vouchers; was out on projects with WCTSA, BWSR, and NRCS; went over preliminary design of a grade stabilization project with landowner; out with WCTSA engineer surveying Lee streambank erosion site; completed some tree site visits, drew up plans and ordered more trees; sent out email notice that the WCA TEP is good with the JCD 9 requirements and can proceed with the project under WCA; reviewed Fosso/Buss Ag Bank as-built plans from the consultant, met on site with the consultant to go over the plans and the work that was done to restore the bank site so the TEP can sign off for the initial release of wetland credits; worked on tile drain requests; got info for BWSR on property that a landowner is looking to enroll into an Ag Bank; and completed Ag Learn Security Awareness Training.

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- **Technical Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: seed orders and seeding proposals; GPS measuring services-*Flagged CRP sites*; Seeding (drilling and broadcasting)-*completed our fall dormant seeding schedule*; Hawk Creek – Middle MN 1W1P-*Steering Team meetings, Policy Committee meetings, working on finalizing the draft plan*; tree orders, tree plans and estimates for next spring; BWSR Academy online training sessions; Chippewa River Watershed Association (Project) TAC meeting; SWCD Budgeting Workshops; and completed USDA Aglearn Security Awareness Training
- **District Technician** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: seeding site checks/seeding; buffer verification; CREP training and updates; CREP title work; CREP application scoring (Next batching period will be spring 2021); site visits on current projects with Warner; and Ag Learn Security Awareness Training.

9. New Business

- District Manager requested signing permission for amendments, cost share contracts, cost share vouchers, checks, grant requests, grant closeouts, financial reports and other documents/agreements as long as staff is working distantly and board meeting are held virtually.
 - M/S/P Jacobson, Sunderland approve as discussed. All in favor.
- Tom Warner presented cost share vouchers for payment as follows:
 - J. Christianson, contract 2020-4 for \$5795.78
 - M. Schultz, contract 2020-2 for \$3104.69
 - M/S/P Sunderland, Jacobson approve cost share vouchers for payment as presented. All in favor.
 - S. Jacobson, contract 2020-5 for \$4884.08
 - M/S/P Sunderland, Overholser approve cost share voucher for payment as discussed. Jacobson abstained from voting. All in favor.

10. Important Upcoming Dates:

- Virtual Annual Convention-December 8, 2020 9 a.m.-noon

11. Adjourn

Next Meeting: January 5, 2020 at 10 a.m. via Zoom meeting