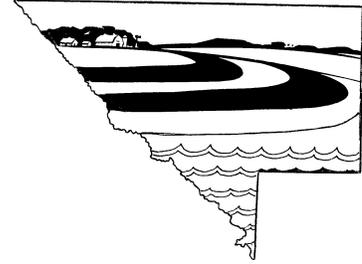


# CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
COURTHOUSE  
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2139



## Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting September 11, 2017

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

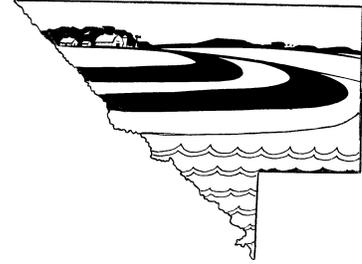
1. Meeting was **called to order** by Chairman Scott Roelofs at 3 p.m.
  - Members **present**: Schuler, Roelofs, Trager, Eisenlohr, Sunderland
  - Others **present**: SWCD staff: Desirae Sharp, Zach Bothun, Tom Sletta, Tom Warner; NRCS: Shantel Lozinski; County Commissioner: Jeff Lopez
2. M/S/P Sunderland, Schuler approve the agenda/with additions.
3. M/S/P Schuler, Trager approve the August minutes.
4. 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.
5. Steve Sunderland discussed the Governor's 25 by 25 meeting he attended, he also discussed alternative practices and the nitrate well testing report.
6. **New Business:**
  - Desirae presented forms from Minnwest Bank to remove Larry Kittelson from all banking items and to add Ray Trager. The bank also suggested a new Account Agreement and a new Corporate Authorization Resolution to update who are signers on the account and what powers each person has. Board chose signers to be all board members, district manager, and district administrative assistant. Board chose to give district manager and district admin permission to exercise all powers listed in the resolution and for supervisors to open accounts as well as to endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or transfer fund on deposit. It was also decided to keep two signatures on banking transactions. The forms were filled out to be submitted to Minnwest Bank.
  - Desirae informed the board that there will be a 9.9% increase in our health insurance premiums for 2018.
  - Desirae noted that the county auditor has verbally told us that the County Commissioners are likely to approve our 2018 appropriation same as the current amount; however, they are likely to approve a \$10,000 one-time allotment for the BWSR county fund match proposal.
  - Desirae discussed BWSR academy with the board. BWSR Academy is November 1-3 at Cragun's near Brainerd this year.
    - M/S/P Schuler, Trager approve expenses for all staff to attend BWSR Academy.
  - Desirae dispensed resolution packets to the board.
  - Tom W. presented an amendment to the amendment on the P. Tostenson DRAP contract. The project cost is higher than quoted and Tom asked to use the \$379 that is left of the grant to put toward the cost. The landowner is willing to cover the overage beyond that. Tom is also requesting that he may be granted permission to

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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sign the amendment and the voucher once other proper signatures are in place so that we may pay the landowner.

- M/S/P Trager, Sunderland approve to use the \$379 remaining of the DRAP grant to cover the overage on this project. They also give Tom permission to sign the amendment and the voucher.

### 7. **Old Business:**

- Zach discussed the Erosion Control & Water Management Program Cost Share Policy and Non-Structural Land Management Policy/Buffer Policy.
  - M/S/P Sunderland, Schuler approve to pass the policies and will amend if needed.

### **Tom W. Reported:**

- Tom discussed his monthly activities and gave updates on:
  - DRAP: contractor finishing P. Tostenson outlet of lined channel, talked with contractor of J. Lee project, set up preconstruction meeting for Lee project, receive Army Corp permit for the Lee project, preconstruction meeting for J. Lee project.
  - RIM: worked on Rim ownership change forms, did some Rim site inspections, violation on RIM easement by Maynard-working with farm manager on getting violation resolved, wrote up a haying agreement for RIM site, looked at water control structure on RIM site to see if it's blocked, RIM easement sport checks are complete and sent to St. Paul.
  - BUFFERS: landowner walk ins, \$2060 left from the \$50,000 buffer cost share, look at sites for buffers with landowners, contacted Tom Giles/Al Kein with buffer question on Hawk Creek.
  - WCA: sent out findings for wild turkey bank sites, worked with Gary Sonstegard on Sonstegard Ag Bank process, wrote up and sent out WCA TEP notice of decision for the revised Stamer solargarden site, worked on WCA tile drain requests.
  - TREES: working on a couple tree plans, see several landowners about trees.
  - OTHER: met with Jon Clauson about budget, attended county commissioners budget meeting, interviewed Carl VanRavenswaay & wife for Conservationist of the Year, received email saying 2018-2019 SWCD programs & operations grant agreement for \$190,320.

### **Zach's Report:**

- Zach reported his monthly activities and updates that include but are not limited to: buffer contacts, cost share policy, mowing, broadcast seeding, seed/seeding proposals, tree plans/estimates, CREP proposals. Also discussed Area II TSA mtg, shared services, signing off on extensions for buffers with the board. No motions.

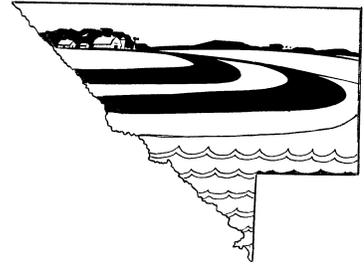
### **Tom S.'s Report:**

- Tom reported his monthly activities and updates that include but are not limited to: cost share letters, RIM site reviews/paperwork, map buffers for getting acres for cost share, and CREP meeting.

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### **Shantel's Report:**

- Shantel reported her monthly activities and updates that include but are not limited to: fair, EQIP applications, CRP wetland restoration survey, 1026s, emergency haying/grazing plans, CRP plans, and CSP contracting. Shantel also noted that Gary Watson (her supervisor) is now covering 50 counties; NRCS is staffed at approximately 60%.

### **OTHER:**

**Next Meeting: October 2, 2017 3:00 p.m., Chippewa Room, Courthouse basement  
\*\*\*if you are unable to attend this meeting please call the office staff as soon as possible\*\*\***