

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING: JANUARY 18th, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present: Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen and John Gunvalson

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Brielle Prokosch and Kaleb Buesing

NRCS Staff: Nate Brandt

Guests: John Nelson

Gunvalson called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. at Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed by the board. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the December meeting were reviewed by the board. Rydeen made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

NRCS REPORT:

NRCS Employment Opportunities: Brandt noted there were positions available for hire.

EQIP: Brandt noted Clearwater has 23 applications on file for 2024 consideration funding with \$390,000 allocated so far and existing projects are moving forward. Brandt noted the ranking deadline was February 2nd.

CSP: Brandt noted Clearwater has 1 new contract in Clearwater County and 1 renewal. Brandt has been working on the screening process for 2024 with 22 applications on file for Clearwater County.

CRP: Brandt noted Clearwater had several new contracts.

Other: Brandt noted Cow/Calf days is on 1/23.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Education Outreach: Prokosch reported that she has been continuously working on the district website and facebook keeping the public updated on multiple programs.

Prokosch noted the winter newsletter had been completed and distributed in the local paper, online and by email.

Rain Gauge: Prokosch reported she has been entering rain gauge data and that paper copies of the data had been sent to the MN Climatology Dept.

Trees: Prokosch noted the tree order forms were ready and posted on the District's website, on the District's Facebook, in the local paper and had been emailed to over 300 recipients.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Education Outreach: Buesing noted he was finding locations for this year's Coffee and Cover Crops events.

1W1P: Buesing reported the last 2023 projects for the Mississippi watershed. Buesing attended a Mississippi meeting on 12/20.

County Geological Atlas: Buesing attended training on 1/17.

Misc.: Buesing mapped 2023 pollinator planting. Buesing calculated material costs for Rydeen's project.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Powell was not present during this meeting.

Water Planning: Powell attended a Mississippi 1W1P on 1/8. The Mississippi FY22/23 budget and workplan updated amendment was given to the board for review. Rydeen made the motion to approve reallocating \$55,000 from water course projects to urban issue projects. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

The Mississippi FY24/25 budget and workplan was given to the board for review. Strandlien made the motion to approve the 24/25 workplan and budget. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Soil Health: The Coffee and Cover Crops events were due to start 2/7 running every Wednesday for 6 weeks or so. The District planned on attending Cow/Calf Days on 1/23.

Forest Stewardship: Syverson completed a forest stewardship on 101.4 acres and qualified in the Wild Rice watershed for a total of \$868.50. Rydeen made the motion to approve cost share for Syverson. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Rogstad completed a forest stewardship on 310.08 acres and qualified in the Clearwater watershed for a total of \$2,299.67. Strandlien made the motion to approve the cost share for Rogstad. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Cost Share: Since Rydeen would have to abstain from voting and not enough board members were present, the board decided to wait until next month to approve Rydeen's project costs.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

Buell noted that since not all finances were completely up to date due to grant tracking and closings, a full December financials would be available at the next meeting.

Financial Reports: Financial statements showing revenue and expenditures for the month of December were presented to the Board for review.

Profit & Loss:

Income: Line 3 (1W1P) up \$3822 for WR 1W1P hours billed, Line 19 (County AIS) up over \$11,000 billed 2nd half of AIS Line 21 (Water Plan) up \$20,887 billed county for 2nd half of Water Plan Line 26 (Conservation Delivery) up \$18,750.00 claimed 2022 Conservation Delivery, Line 35 (Misc Revenue) up \$81,432.30 general funds (will set up separate account).

Expenses: Line 55 (Professional Services) up Over 3000 for audit moving \$2,000 to line 56, Line 63 and 64 up a little high tracked first pay in Jan will adjust Line 77 (AIS) up over \$200 last Solid bottom payment, Line 98 (2021 Local Capacity) up over \$1,337 SH payments approved in Dec, Line 99 (2022-1W1P Miss). Up \$12,585 SH payments approved in Dec, Line 100 (WR 1W1P) up \$1609.26 FS approved in Dec, Line 101 (Cl 1W1P) up \$6221.80 Sh payments and FS plan payment approved in Dec.

Monthly Treasurer's Report

Line 6 (JAG) Logo Sign , Line 12 (MCIT) MCIT payroll audit, Line 19-26 (programs) SH and Forestry payments approved by board Dec, Line 28 (Petersons) Audit, line 29 (BWSR) General Account funds.

Deposit Detail:

Buell noted that in the month of December there were deposits for: Deposit 1: BWSR , Deposit 2: Area 8 Envirothon deposits and SH payments, Deposit 3: Interest earned on Checking , Deposit 4: Interest Earned on Savings

Balance Sheet:

Buell reported that at the end of December the Line 4 (Checking Account): the end December was \$ 313,932.82

Line 10 (Savings Account): the end of December was \$24,597.51

Line 25-41 (Deferred Revenue): Billing the last 2021 1W1P (will close out no longer negative), working on closing our 2021 Local Capacity (claiming full amount \$64,147.76) Closed out 2021 Buffer Law, was \$11,200, Closed out 2022 Conservation Delivery (\$18,750) will be closing our 2022 Cost Share and portions of 2022 Buffer Law and 2022 Local Capacity....opened 2024 Conservation Contract, 2024 Conservation Delivery, 2025 Conservation Contract and 2025 Conservation Delivery.

A motion to accept the mostly complete December financial report was made by Rydeen. Seconded by Strandlien.

Motion carried 3-0.

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:

Meeting Rates and Dates: Buell noted the 2024 meeting rates and dates. Strandlien made the motion to approve the 2024 rates and dates. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Committee Assignments: Buell gave the committee assignments for the board to look over noting they had not changed from last year. Rydeen made the motion to approve the assignments. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Pay Equity: Buell had the board note the pay equity. Strandlien made the motion to approve the pay equity. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

MASWCD Dues: Buell noted the MASWCD dues were up. Standlien made the motion to approve paying the dues. Seconded by Rydeen.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 A.M. was made by Strandlin. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Paul Rydeen, District Secretary

Date

Our mission is simple - to promote the wise use and improvement of our county resources, in order that future generations will inherit an economically viable county that has made wise choices in resource management.