

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING October 20th, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present: Harlan Strandlien, Alroy Lewis, Paul Rydeen, John Gunvalson and Jackie Ulrich.

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell, and Brielle Prokosch.

NRCS Staff: Nate Brant and Jody Peak

Guest: John Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chair Ulrich at the Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Ulrich called for additions or corrections to the agenda. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda as is. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the September meeting were reviewed by the board. Lewis made a motion to approve the September minutes. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Powell reported that there would be a Clearwater River 1W1P meeting on 10/31 and had attended the BWSR Northern Region meeting on 10/5 to present the plan to the northern board. Powell noted after the plan is accepted by the Northern board it will be sent to the state BWSR board and then to the LGU boards for MOA approval. Powell noted that the Mississippi 1W1P/Beltrami no-till had one last rental and has been stored for the winter.

Soil Health: Powell reported that Wilde had asked to use the aerator on a logged popular plantation. The board decided that would not be a good use for the aerator.

Powell noted the Bjerke's pollinator plot was prepped.

Powell reported that Christensen had qualified for soil health cost share and soil test(s) in the amount of \$3,175.00, Lost River Livestock in the amount of , Erickson in the amount of \$2,100, Gebhardt in the amount of \$604.05, Hoie in the amount of \$702.52 and Nelson in the amount of \$1,400. Rydeen made the motion to approve all soil health cost share to the qualified candidates. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Cost Share: Powell reported that Rydeens's BSWR approved livestock fence project of 5 paddocks and 4 water tanks in which the 75% cost share would cover roughly \$26,000. Lewis made the motion to approve the cost share project. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 4-0 with Rydeen abstaining.**

Powell also reported that the Henrich well sealing which the 50% cost share would cover \$363.50. Rydeen made the motion to approve the sealing cost share. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Forest Stewardship: Powell reported that Janssen had completed a forest stewardship plan on 139 acres with 75% cost share totaling \$971.23 and that Larson had 125.7 acres at 76% cost share for \$1,039.75. Lewis made the motion to approve cost share for both plans. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Equipment: Powell noted that a storage unit had been found to store equipment for \$125 on lease per month. Rydeen made the motion to rent the storage unit until June 1st and revisit afterwards. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

TSA 8: Powell noted that because there is an influx of 1W1P funds the TSA Area 8 gave options on how to continue forth in the coming years. Consensus was to go with the option that allowed SWCD's to hire private engineers from the Area 8 funding pool and increase JAA with SWCD technical staff.

Trees: Powell noted that since the District would not have access to the DNR's cold storage shed this year other options would have to be found. The board suggested either the local hockey building or renting a refrigerated van.

NRCS REPORT

EQIP: Brant noted the 2023 application deadline is November 18th. Peak gave a yearly update report on 2022's EQIP applications and contracts.

CSP: Brant noted there were 5 CSP renewals on file with the deadline being October 21st. Peak gave a yearly update report on 2022's CSP applications and contracts.

CRP: Brant noted continued CRP is an option available for some contracts. Peak gave a yearly update report on 2022's CRP applications and contracts.

Other: Brant noted he attended a UTV training and a buckthorn training.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS Program: Prokosch is in communication with CLAA, the Clearwater County Commissioners and the DNR to work together to purchase and install a CD3 at the Clearwater. Prokosch reported that the AIS inspector watercraft inspector data was being compiled and sent to the state.

Lake Monitoring: Prokosch noted the lake monitoring data had been sent to the MPCA.

Education/Outreach: Prokosch reported that she has been continuously working on the district website and facebook keeping the public updated on multiple programs. Prokosch updated the hunting permits for the conservation farm for this year's hunting season.

Training: Prokosch noted the office would be attending the 2022 BSWR Academy training from 10/25-10/27.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Buesing was not present during this meeting.

Conservation Farm: Buesing had done a vegetation survey and mowed the trails at the farm.

1W1P: Buesing had attended Clearwater meeting on 9/21.

Cost Share: Buesing worked on a WASCOD survey for Lewis and attended a field visit for Rydeen's project.

Other: Buesing had sprayed for a pollinator plot. Buesing had the Beltrami no-till and boat stored for the winter. Buesing attempted to bud cap trees for a spring tree planting and found it unproductive.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss:

Income: Buell reported that in the month of September the no-till rentals was up over \$1,000 (line 6), the AIS was billed for the first half of the year (line 21) and interest earned on account (line 48).

Expenses: Buell reported that out of usual expenses, the spring for the brush mower and jack for the aerator (line 73), gas was up over \$800 (line 74), and expense for BSWR Academy (line 117 & 119).

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of September, outside normal transactions, the Solid Bottom AIS expense (line 7), parts for the brush cutter (line 9), the 1W1P Pennington billing funds (line 10), the 1w1p East Polk billing funds (line 17), The Thief River Times 1W1P expense (line 18) and the hours for Houston Engineering (line 24).

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of September there were deposits for: 1. Water plan payment, soil health payments and tree tubes 2. Soil health payment, trees, platbook and no-till rental 3. Interest earned on checking accounts 4. Interest earned on saving accounts

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of September the Checking Account balance was \$450,484.41 and the Savings Account balance was \$104,286.66. Buell reported that Accounts Receivable was at \$20,087.56 which is mostly AIS billing and soil health payments.

Rydeen departed at 11:24 p.m.

A motion to accept the September financial report was made by Lewis. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 4-0.**

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:

Audit: Buell reported that the audit had went well and had packets for the board to review.

BWSR Academy: Buell reported that BWSR academy would be on October 25th - 27th.

Annual Convention: Buell reported that the annual convention would be on December 12th - 14th.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m. was made by Gunvalson. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Alroy Lewis, District Secretary

Date

“The environment is everything that isn’t me.”
— **Albert Einstein**

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.