

# Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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## *BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

### *MEETING MINUTES*

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**Board Members Present:** Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen, Alroy Lewis and Aaron Kaiser

**SWCD Staff:** Lori Buell, Chester Powell, Brielle Prokosch, Kaleb Buesing

**NRCS Staff:** Nate Brandt

**Guests:** Chad Severts

Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. at Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed by the board. Powell added Rydeen cost share and Johnson soil health to the agenda. Buell added newsletter quote to the agenda. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda with corrections. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Minutes:** Minutes of the October meeting were reviewed by the board. Rydeen made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### 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.

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

**CRP:** Brandt noted Clearwater had several new contracts.

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

### PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

**AIS:** Prokosch reported that the AIS budget was approved by the county and was sent to the state, along with other off-season documents.

**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.

**Rain Gauge:** Prokosch reported she has been entering rain gauge data for the MN Climatology Dept.

**Trees:** Prokosch noted she was working on new brochures for the brochure rack and that both the tree and flower order forms had been finalized.

**Training:** Prokosch attended BSWR Academy on 10/24-10/26

## DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

**Pollinator Seedings:** Buesing noted Juberian, Scmitz, Alto, Sundquist and the Kummer Landfill had used the drill for pollinator seedings.

**Training:** Buesing attended BSWR Academy on 10/24-10/26, the Soil Management Summit on 12/17-12/18 and Annual Convention on 12/11-12/13.

**1W1P:** Buesing attended Wild ARice 1W1P meeting on 11/13, a Clearwater 1W1P on 11/29 and a Mississippi 1W1P meeting on 11/29.

**Misc.:** Buesing noted he met with Imle about a WCA project and wrote an article for the newsletter.

**County Geological Atlas:** Buesing noted the approval to start well locating was sent in.

## WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

**Water Planning:** Powell attended a Clearwater 1W1P on 11/29. Powell had attended a Wild Rice 1W1P meeting on 11/136 and 11/27.

**Soil Health:** Powell noted the following producers had rented the no-till drill and asked for cost share out of the Clearwater 1W1P funds and/or local compacity funds: Hayes for 1 soil test for \$25, Abel for 64.4 acres for \$2,676 and McColum for 33 scres for \$1,320. Rydeen made the motion to approve the cost share and soil tests for each respected party. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Powell noted that following producers had rented the no-till drill and asked for cost share out of the Mississippi 1W1P funds and/or local compacity funds: S. Johnson for 186.3 acres for \$7,450.20, Rohde for 2 soil tests 91 acres for \$3,706 and C. Johnson for 4 soil tests on 33.1 acres for \$1,424. Kaiser made the motion to approve the cost share and soil tests for each respected party. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Forest Stewardship:** Powell noted Watne completed a forest stewardship on 212 acres and qualified for 75% for a total of \$2,200.80 and Reese completed a forest stewardship on 210 acres and qualified for cost share at 75% for a total of \$1,609.26. Strandlien made the motion to approve the cost share for each respected party. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Cost Share:** Powell noted that when the Rydeen cattle exclusion was approved in 2022 the budget given by the board was not enough to cover the cost share due to rising costs in parts/equipment, etc. Powell asked the board for a contract amendment to extend the budget to \$39,000. Kaiser made the motion to amend the contract. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 3-0 with Rydeen abstaining.**

**Meetings:** Powell attended BSWR Academy on 10/24-10/26, the Soil Management Summit on 12/17-12/18 and Annual Convention on 12/11-12/13.

## DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

**Financial Reports:** Financial statements showing revenue and expenditures for the month of October and November were presented to the Board for review. Buell noted that since the board was not able to meet in November that she would be giving financials for both the months of October and November.

### ***Profit & Loss:***

#### **October:**

Income: Line 7 (No-Till Drill) up around \$4,000 soil health payment Line 11 (Plat Books) up almost \$100, Line 25 (WCA) \$5,000 billed to the County,

Expenses: Line 47 (Employee Training Account) up over \$700 for BWSR Academy, Line 49 (Fees and dues) Line 47 and 49 will be moved to Local Capacity when I bill grants, Line 53 (Office Supplies) Intuit checks/envelopes over \$300, Line 61 (Vehicle Gas) over \$300, Line 80 (AIS) over \$300 for Solid Bottom will be billed to the County, Line 102-104 (1W1P) up over \$12,000 for SH payments.

#### **November:**

Income: Line 3 (1W1P) up \$3850 for payment WR 1W1P reimbursement, Line 7 (No-Till Drill Rental) up almost \$700, Line 11 (Plat Book) Up \$30, Line 38 (Misc Rev) up over \$1,200 MCIT Dividend and JPB Engineering fund (will set up separate account)

### ***Monthly Treasurer's Report***

#### **October:**

Line 1-10 (Gebhardt, Bellefy and Dickey) SH payments, Line 18 (Hubbard) Area 8 Meeting, Line 23 (BWSR) Deposit of Conservation Delivery and Conservation Contracts, Line 26(BWSR) BWSR Academy registration for LB, CP, BP and KB line 38-39 (Nelson and Eickhoff) SH payments, Line 46 (Bardwell) SH payment.

#### **November:**

Line 4-6 (T-Johnson, B-Johnson, Berg, Vold, Stenseng, Petterson and Leclair) Miss SH payments, Line 13 (Savig) Cl-SH payment, Line 22 (Larson) Cl-SH payment, Line 23 (Pemberton) Cl-SH payment, line 36 (MN Dept of Ag) nursery stock renewal.

### ***Deposit Detail:***

#### **October:**

Buell noted that in the month of October there were deposits for: Deposit 1: 2024 Conservation Contracts (Cost Share), 2025 Conservation Contracts (Cost Share), 2024 Conservation Delivery and 2025 Conservation Delivery, Deposit 2: SH payments and Plat Book, Deposit 3: Interest earned on Checking, Deposit 4: Interest Earned on Savings

**November:**

Buell noted that in the month of November there were deposits for: Deposit 1: 4th Qtr County Appropriations, Soil Health payments and Plat Books, Deposit 2: MCIT dividend, Deposit 3: Reimbursement for Dental, WR 1W1P payment, WCA payment and Plat Book, Deposit 4: Interest earned on Checking, Deposit 5: Interest Earned on Savings

**Balance Sheet:**

**October:**

Buell reported that at the end of October the Line 4 (Checking Account): Line 4 (Checking Account): the end October was \$ 291,186.58

Line 10 (Savings Account): the end of October was \$24,561.52

Line 36-39 (Conservation Contracts and Conservation Delivery): 2024 Conservation Contract, 2024 Conservation Delivery, 2025 Conservation Contract and 2025 Conservation Delivery.

**November:**

Buell reported that at the end of November the Line 4 (Checking Account): the end November was \$ 291,256.75

Line 10 (Savings Account): the end of October was \$24,578.72

Line 36-39 (Conservation Contracts and Conservation Delivery): 2024 Conservation Contract, 2024 Conservation Delivery, 2025 Conservation Contract and 2025 Conservation Delivery.

A motion to accept the October and November financial report was made by Rydeen. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:**

**Christmas Break:** Buell reported that the office would be closed December 23<sup>rd</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Committee Assignments/Meeting Rates & Dates:** Buell noted these items would be discussed in the January meeting.

**Newsletter:** Buell noted Prokosch had finished the winter newsletter and would like it to be put in the local paper as had been done in the past years. Buell suggested a 2-page spread in the paper \$1,920.00 and a shopper trifold insert for \$397.58. Rydeen made the motion to put the newsletter in both the paper and shopper. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**GUEST SPEAKER- Severts**

Severts explained to the board the Conservation Contract program and other BSWR news. Severts explained the Conservation Contract program would offer increased flexibility and reduced administration.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m. was made by Rydeen. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

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Alroy Lewis, District Secretary

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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.*