

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING: SEPTEMBER 19th, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

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

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell and Brielle Prokosch

NRCS Staff: Nate Brandt

Guests: John Nelson

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. at Rydeen Farms. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed by the board. Powell added East Polk Soil Contribution to the agenda. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda with corrections. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the August meeting were reviewed by the board. Strandlien made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 5-0.**

NRCS REPORT:

Activity Implementations: Brandt noted the installations of grazing projects and plantings. Brandt noted he had been busy with construction meetings and site visits and a stream crossing replacement.

EQIP: Brandt noted the 2025 application deadline was 9/6 and had 25 applicants.

Brandt noted he had 10 contracts for the 2024 applications.

CSP: Brandt noted 4 had been selected for funding for the first round.

Other: Brandt noted that multiple offices were in the process of hiring and the end of the fiscal year would be 9/30.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS: Prokosch noted that the watercraft inspector season had ended on 9/2 and that the season went very well overall. Prokosch noted she was currently working on end of season paperwork for the state. Prokosch also noted all of the inspector equipment had been returned.

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

Water Plan: Prokosch reported she has been entering rain gauge data.

Prokosch noted the fourth and fifth round of lake monitoring had been completed on 8/19 - 8/21 and 9/8 - 9/11 and the data had been inputted in excel for the MPCA.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Powell noted Clearwater 1W1P has a policy meeting on 10/23 to talk about project and budget updates.

Powell that the Wild Rice 1W1P has a policy meeting on 9/23 to talk about financial and project updates.

Soil Health: Powell noted that Hanson completed 14 acres for \$6,060.00 of cost share, Lost River Livestock had completed 200 acres and 6 soil tests for \$4,950.00, and Eck, completed 23 acres for \$575.00 to be taken out of Clearwater 1W1P funds, increased compacity or soil health funds. Gunvalson made the motion to approve cost share for each individual in the proper amount. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Powell noted that Schultz had completed 20 acres for \$900.00 of cost share to be taken out of the Wild Rice 1W1P funds. Rydeen made the motion to approve cost share each induvial in the proper amount. Seconded by Gunvalson.

Motion carried 5-0.

Powell noted that Rhode had completed 89 acres for \$3,560.00 of cost share, Shuwaltz completed 11.5 acres for \$460.00, Johnson for 118 acres for \$4,720.00, Cronemiller for 30 acres and 2 soil tests for \$1,250.00 and Platt for 75 acres for \$3,050.00 to be taken out of Mississippi 1W1P funds. Kaiser made the motion to approve cost share for each individual. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Powell brought up the East Polk SWCD's contributions agreement to have the district help with East Polk's new soil health program. Powell noted most of this would be things like phone calls and assist in applications but would not require sign offs. Assistance would only be required in the Clearwater watershed of Polk county and Clearwater County producers would take priority over Polk County and was estimated to require 80 hours of staff time annually. The board asked Powell to talk to East Polk more before signing.

Forest Stewardship: Powell noted that Vigen had completed a forest stewardship plan for 75% of cost share for \$1,573.08. Strandlien made the motion to approve the cost share. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Equipment: Powell noted the white truck needed new tires as well. Kaiser made the motion to approve purchase for new all-terrain tires quoted at \$780.00. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Powell noted that the hydraulic cylinder needed replacing. Rydeen made the motion to purchase a cylinder with the same specs for \$293.00. Seconded by Strandlein. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Powell noted the aerator wasn't being used much these days and suggested selling it. The board agreed to have Powell look into it.

Area 8 Meeting: Powell noted he attended the area 8 meeting on 9/6.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss:

Income:

Line 5 (No-Till Rental) up over \$2,000, Line 8 (Plat book) up over \$200, Line 10 (Tree Accessories) up over \$1,000,

Expenses:

Line 49 (Education/Promotion) up over \$200 for Fair supplies, Line 56 (Office Supplies) up over \$100 Equipment, Line 64 (Vehicle Gas). Up over \$300, Line 115 (2023 Local Capacity) up over \$2,000 up over for Jesness SH Cost Share.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Line 4 (Riverwood) Credit Card payment, Line 20 (BWSR) 50% Soil Health Payment otherwise all normal monthly bills-payroll, payroll tax, Garden Valley Telephone, Rent and Life Insurance.

Deposit Detail:

Deposit 1: SH payments, Plat book payments, Deposit 2: SH payments, AIS payments and Water Plan Billing, Deposit 3: 2025 Soil Health Delivery Grant, Deposit 4: Interest earned on Checking, Deposit 5: Interest Earned on Savings

Balance Sheet:

Buell reported Line 4 (Checking Account): the end August was \$262,348.02

Line 10 (Savings Account): the end of August was \$24,745.94

Line 13 (Unearned Revenue): Line 52 Soil Health Delivery Grant first 50%.

A motion to accept the mostly complete July financial report was made by Kaiser. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 5-0.**

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:

US Forestry Service Resolution: Buell noted the US Forestry Service was offering compensation for technical help with their upcoming program. Buell noted any of the technical help was something staff was already doing and this resolution would only help fund those hours instead of other grants. Gunvalson made the motion to approve signing the resolution. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-1.**

BWSR Academy: Buell noted BWSR Academy would be held Oct. 29th - 31st and staff had signed up to attend.

Audit: Buell noted the audit was on 9/18 and went very well. The only comment was having the district recognize which bank they will be working with in the new year's meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 A.M. was made by Kaiser. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 5-0.**

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.