

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING April 21st, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present: Harlan Strandlien, Alroy Lewis and John Gunvalson with Jackie Ulrich via ZOOM.

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

NRCS Staff: Nate Brant

Guests: John Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 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. No additions to the agenda were made. Gunvalson made the motion to approve the agenda as is. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the March meeting were reviewed by the board. Lewis made a motion to approve the February minutes. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

NRCS REPORT

EQIP: Brant noted that there are 4 applications in Clearwater County selected for funding. A request had been made for more funds. A second EQIP signup for socially disadvantaged persons will be open soon.

CSP General: Brant reported that there are 22 applications on file with 4 moving forward with a high priority ranking that will need to be completed by 4/22. There are also 5 renewals on file.

Other: Brant noted there would be a local work group meeting on June 9th.

Brant also noted that NRCS staff will be attending a prescribed burning training when NRCS had not been involved in burnings in the past.

Brant attended the North Central Interagency Summit Meeting on 4/18.

Brant noted there was an annual civil rights talk to which will be planning to complete in May.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS Program: Prokosch reported that Clearwater Lake Area Association had requested to purchase a CD3 out of the District's AIS funds. Prokosch noted that she was in communication with CLAA, the Clearwater County Commissioners and the DNR to work together to purchase and install a CD3 at the Clearwater Lake landing this year. Prokosch noted

that she was attending a meeting with the DNR later that day to discuss the process on how to install an CD3 at a DNR access.

Prokosch reported that the AIS inspector season would start May 13th and that all inspectors were completing both in-person and online trainings that week. Prokosch noted there was another advanced training hosted by Beltrami that the inspectors would attend a bit after their start date. Prokosch noted that she was readying the equipment for the inspectors to pick up before their start date.

1W1P: Prokosch had attended and took notes for the Clearwater River 1W1P on 3/23 and 4/20.

Training: Prokosch had attended a BWSR spring training on 3/29 and the North Central Interagency Summit meeting on 4/18.

Education/Outreach: Prokosch reported that she has been continuously working on the district website and facebook keeping the public updated on multiple programs. Mainly tree sale items. Prokosch noted she had helped at the Rain Barrel education class on 4/7. Prokosch noted she had created more pollinator seed packets and flower brochures for the public.

Trees: Prokosch has been entering in sale order forms and noted the 150 six-packs or potted flower and grasses have been sold and 90% of trees have been sold. Tree pick-up dates will also have to be pushed back to May 19th, 20th and 21st due to one of nurseries being behind in their tree lifting schedule and the weather.

DISTRISCT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Buesing had attended the Clearwater River 1W1P meetings on 3/23 and 4/20 and had attended the Mississippi meetings on 3/30 and 4/5.

Spring Plant Order: Busing noted he had ordered the flowers and grasses for the tree sale and will pick them up on 5/16 or 5/17 since the sale got moved back.

Education Outreach: Buesing reported the Rain Barrel education class he created was on 4/7 and went well with 5 in attendance.

Training: Buesing attended the BWSR spring training on 3/29 and the North Central Interagency Summit on 4/18.

Other: Buesing noted he had replaced the coulters on the no-till drill and made a tree planting plan for O'Bryan.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Powell reported that he attended Clearwater River 1W1P meetings on 3/23 and 4/20 and noted that the plan was approved to be sent out for a 30-day review.

Powell reported that the district would be receiving implementation funds soon from the Mississippi Headwaters 1W1P. Powell also reported that he had been requested to attend a Hubbard SWCD board meeting to discuss implantation of soil health programs in the Mississippi 1W1P and what that would entail. Powell noted no decision was made at the meeting.

Powell reported that he had attended a Wild Rice 1W1P steering team meeting on 4/5 to discuss redistribution of unspent funds.

Powell reported that though the district had decided to not participate in the Red Lake 1W1P the board would still have to sign a resolution of support agreeing that they still supported the 1W1P. Lewis made the motion to sign the resolution of support. Seconded by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Training: Powell noted he attended the North Central Interagency Summit on 4/18.

Soil Health: Powell noted the openers and coulters had been replaced on the no-till drill and was trying to find a replacement for a hydraulic cylinder. The board told Powell to “roll with the cheapest quote” to fix the hydraulic cylinder. Powell also noted that it would be best to purchase new tires this season. Lewis made the motion to purchase 2 new tires for the no-till. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Shipping Container: The board discussed the fact that the shipping container process had been halted due to expenses and quantity available. The board discussed ways to rent different spaces for equipment instead.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss:

Income: Buell reported that in the month of March the plat book sales (line 6) were up \$400, tree accessories were up over \$1,000 for tree tubes and flags (line 8), and tree sales (line 12) were up over \$6,000 with flower and grasses (line 13) being a new item.

Expenses: Buell reported that out of usual expenses, education and promotion had expenses for the rain barrel training (line 56), a DVS renewal in vehicle and gas maintenance (line 70), AIS up over \$500 for supplies that will be reimbursed (line 90), 2020 local capacity up over \$1,000 for forest steward ships plan payments (line 110), and education outreach for newsletter and business card expenses (line 111).

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of March, outside normal transactions, there was the Area 8 meeting for Wadena SWCD (line 5), the annual newsletter with tree order form (line 8), Houston Engineering 1W1P billing (line 14), Pennington 1W1P billing (line 15), Allegra for Buesing business cards (line 27), and Friborg for the forestry plan (line 27).

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of March there were deposits for: 1. Tree sales 2. 2022 conservation delivery and 2022 cost share 3. Tree sales 4. Tree sales 5. Interest earned on checking accounts 6. Interest earned on saving accounts

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of March the Checking Account balance was \$290,239.41 and the Savings Account balance was \$104,142.33. Buell reported that Accounts Receivable was at \$6,646.11 which is mostly tree and platbook invoices. Buell reported that the the 2022 and 2023 conservation delivery and the cost share were received with 1W1P negative balance pending 40%.

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

DISTRICT OPERATION Board Action Items and Information:

Board Member Update: The board discussed the leaving of member Ulrich.

Manager's Meeting: Buell noted there would be a meeting sometime in June.

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

John Gunvalson, District Secretary

Date

“A forest of these trees is a spectacle too much for one man to see.”

- David Douglas.

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.