

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING APRIL 20th 2023

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present: John Gunvalson, Payl Rydeen and Alroy Lewis

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell and Brielle Prokosch

NRCS Staff: Nate Brant

Guest: John Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 9:58 a.m. at the Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: The April agenda was reviewed by the board. A forest stewardship action item was removed. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda with corrections. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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

NRCS REPORT

NRCS Employment Opportunities: Brandt reported that the Forester in the Bemidji office has decided to take a job with the Forestry Service. Brandt noted that a soil conservation job was advertised.

EQIP: Brandt has 16 applications on file and updated the board on application deadline with 13 selected for funding.

CSP: Brandt has 6 rank “high priority” in Clearwater with 3 cancellations so far.

CRP: Brandt noted there was a general signup had closed and will be working on re-enrollments.

Other: Brandt attended the rain barrel class with the SWCD and plans to help out with Envirothon.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS: 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 had been getting ready pre-season documents and essentials as well as working on getting watercraft inspector equipment ready.

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

Prokosch attended the SWCD rain barrel class on 4/6.

Prokosch created soil health mailers.

Trees: Prokosch noted 77% of trees had been sold and 4 flower orders had been received.

Rain Gauge: Prokosch had the new year's info packets sent out to volunteers.

1W1P: Prokosch attended and took notes for the Clearwater 1W1P on 3/29.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Flowers: Buesing noted he had put in the order for flowers and would be picking them up May 8th.

1W1P: Buesing attended the Wild Rice 1W1P meeting on 3/27 and the Clearwater 1W1p on 3/29.

Training: Buesing attended the North Central Interagency Summit on 3/22 and the BSWR Spring Training on 3/30.

Education Outreach: Buesing attended the SWCD rain barrel class on 4/6.

Soil Health: Buesing completed maintenance on the no-till drill.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Powell attended a Mississippi 1W1P meeting on 2/28 and 3/28.

Powell attended a Clearwater 1W1P meeting on 3/29.

Powell attended a Clearwater River Wilton Trail meeting on 4/13 where a discussion about what to do with the trestle bridge was held.

Soil Health: Powell noted maintenance was performed on the no-till drill and that the tires for the Great Plains drill should be received within the week.

Powell noted that the Esch drill should be delivered next week as well.

Trees: Powell noted the trees would get delivered the week of 4/24.

Forestry: Powell attended the Hubbard was holding a forestry outreach meeting for the public on 3/30.

Education Outreach: Powell attended the SWCD rain barrel class and would attend Envirothon on 5/3.

Cost Share: Powell noted that Ask had applied for a well sealing cost share for 50% in the amount of \$462.20. Rydeen made the motion to approve the cost share. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Ag BMP Loan: Powell noted that the Ag Department had given funds to the TSA8 for a 3% flat loan rate for best management practices. The loans would have to be approved under a lender. Though these loans would not be going through the District office the TSA8 wanted the District to be aware of what is happening in the county. Powell noted customers had been asking about these loans for new solar systems.

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, Line 10 (Plat Book) up over \$200, Line 15 (Tree Sales) up over \$2,000 from last month Line 57 (Misc Revenue) Interest earned on accounts.

Expenses: Buell reported that out of usual expenses, Line 57 (Office Supplies) up over \$50 colored paper and stapler, Line 62 (Professional Services) up \$260 for O&N for 1099 and W2's Line 84 (AIS), Charges to GV will be reimbursed Line 104 (2020 Local Capacity) Zimmerman Farm for No-Till Drill.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of March, Line 4 (MCIT) Insurance renewal, Line 6 (Pennington) 1W1P-Clearwater hours Line 14 (Larson Lost River) Soil Health Payment, Line 25 (East Polk) 1W1P Payment, Line 26 (Houston Engineering) 1W1P expense, Line 32 (Pennington SWCD) 1W1P expense.

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of March there were deposits for: Deposit 1: Tree sales, Tree Tubes, 2: Tree sales, Tree Tubes, 3: 2023 Buffer Law and 2023 Local Capacity, 4: 2023 Soil Health, 5: Tree Sales, 6: Interest Earned on Checking Account, 7: Tree Sales and Envirothon Donations, 8: Tree Sales, 9: Interest Earned on Savings Account

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of March the Checking Account balance was \$343,875.81 and the Savings Account balance was \$104,667.49. Buell reported that the 2020 Buffer Law, 2020 Local Capacity and 2020 Cost Share was closed out.

A motion to accept the March financial report was made by Rydeen. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Lewis left the meeting due to farm emergency. All following motions/seconds made by Lewis were by phone.

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:

Envirothon: Buell noted that Envirothon was on May 3rd at Lake Bemidji State Park.

Fair Booth Rental: Buell noted that the District would like 2 booths at the fair again this year costing \$300. Rydeen made the motion to approve the fair booth. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

TSA8 Meeting: Buell noted the TSA8 meeting would be on 3/29.

Envirothon: Buell noted Envirothon was May 3rd.

Computers: Buell noted that since Buesing now had access to the files he needed a new computer since he was using a very aged laptop. Buell noted a new laptop with mapping capabilities would go for a cap of \$7,000. Rydeen made the motion to approve the expense. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

TSA Update: Buell noted since the TSA 8 no longer had engineers on hand that each district would receive a dividend of \$31,000 in 2023 and that if the grant was not used by the end of the year for engineers it would go back into the pot for other districts.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m. was made by Rydeen. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Alroy Lewis, 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.