



Board Of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes

December 19th, 2024

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

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

NRCS Staff: Nate Brandt

Guests: John Nelson, Ken Christenson

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. at the Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed by the board. Strandlien made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the November meeting were reviewed by the board. Gunvalson made the motion to approve the minute. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

NRCS REPORT:

Activity Implementations: Brandt noted the installations of a grazing system, winter bale grazing and forestry projects.

EQIP: Brandt noted the 2025 application deadline was 9/6 and had 25 applicants with a deadline of 1/3 or rankings. Brandt noted 10 applicants had been obligated into contracts for 2024.

CSP: Brandt noted he had 16 contracts on file for Clearwater County and the 2025 application deadline would be 11/15 with the 2024 payments being completed.

Other: Brandt noted a Soil Conservation Tech position and a Forester position had been offered for Bagley.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

AIS: Prokosch noted the completion of the end of season paperwork for the state.

Education Outreach: Prokosch reported that she has been continuously working on the district website and facebook keeping the public updated on multiple programs/events. Prokosch noted that the January newsletter was completed and would be in the newspaper around the first week of January.

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

Trees: Prokosch noted both the tree and flower order forms had been completed and would be featured in the newsletter.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

Outreach Education: Buesing noted that the rain barrel education class was set for 4/10. Buesing wrote an article for the newsletter informing the public about the rain barrel class.

Trees: Buesing had discussed a tree planting with Lee and finished bud capping at Imle's.

Training: Buesing had attended MASWCD Annual Convention on 12/2-12/4

Equipment: Buesing had helped remove seed cups on drills for storage.

Mapping: Buesing mapped 2024 pollinator plantings and new wells.

WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

Water Planning: Powell attended a Clearwater 1W1P policy meeting on 12/18 for end of year invoices and grant reporting.

Powell attended a Wild Rice 1W1P meeting on 11/25 to talk about financial updates.

Soil Health: Powell noted that the soil health season was done for the year besides the following contracts:

Powell noted that Oraskovich had completed 3 soil test for \$75.00 and Holm had completed 82 acres and 3 soil tests for \$3,355.00 of cost share to be taken out of Clearwater 1W1P funds, increase compacity or soil health funds. Kaiser made the motion to approve cost share for each individual in the proper amount. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Powell noted that Fuller had completed 30 acres and 10 soil tests for \$1,450.00 of cost share to be taken out of Mississippi 1W1P funds. Weigman completed 400 acres and 17 soil tests for \$16,425.00 of cost share to be split between Mississippi and Beltrami 1W1P funds. Powell noted Weigman had a high visibility land and that his fields would be acquiring signage to promote no-till soil health and therefore was able to go above the 120 cap for compensation for the advertising to get more traction for the program. Kaiser made the motion to approve cost share for each individual in the proper amount. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Rydeen arrived at 10:17

Forest Stewardship: Powell noted that Wings & Whitetails had completed a forest stewardship plan for 75% of cost share on 119 acres for \$1,019.00 to be taken out of the Clearwater 1W1P funds. Strandlien made the motion to approve the cost share. Seconded by Rydeen. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Trees: Powell noted that trees have been ordered and forms were ready.

Equipment: Powell noted the warranty for the faulty axel on the Esch was good and would receive a new axel with shipping details still being worked out.

Training: Powell attended MASWCD Annual Convention on 12/2-12/4.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss:

Income:

7 (No Till Drill Rental) up almost \$2,000 No Till Drill rental payments, Line 9 (Plat Books), up almost \$200, will be billing out grants for the end of the year this next few weeks

Expenses:

Line 50 (Employee Training Account) up over \$200 rooms for BP and LB for BWSR Academy, Line 47 Audit up over \$3,000 for Audit. Line 56 (Office Supplies) up over \$100 folders and office supplies, Line 90 (2,000). RMB Labs and Audit Line 109 (CI-1W1P Waterplan) up \$10,000 for SH payments.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Line 4-8 (Johnson, Bardwell, Nordlund and Aakre,) SH Cost Share, Line 10 (Treasure Bay) Envirothon expense, Line 20 (Petersons) Audit Expense, Line 23 (Rohde) Soil Test payment, Line 27 (Rohde) SH Cost Share

Deposit Detail: Deposit 1: MCIT Dividend, Deposit 2: Interest earned on Checking , Deposit 3: Interest Earned on Savings

Balance Sheet:

Buell reported Line 4 (Checking Account): the end November was \$205436.73

Line 10 (Savings Account): the end of November was \$24,801.53

Line 13 (Unearned Revenue): Line 41 2021-1W1P the 10% was received but was over allocated and portion will have to be sent back.

Closing grants and claiming funds will appear on Dec financials next month

A motion to accept the mostly complete November financial report was made by Kaiser. Seconded by Strandlien.

Motion carried 5-0.

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:

Kaiser Resignation : Buell noted Kaiser was resigning from the board midterm and that this would be his last meeting. Rydeen made the motion to accept Kaiser’s resignation. Seconded by Lewis. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Powell Award: Buell noted that Powell had received an award of recognition at MASWCD Annual Convention.

Christenson Introduction: Buell introduced Ken Christenson as the new member succeeding Strandlien.

Strandlien Farwell: Buell noted Strandlien would be retiring and that this would be his last meeting after 36 years of dedication. The farwell party commenced.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 A.M. was made by Lewis. 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.