

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING JULY 18th, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

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Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, Paul Rydeen, John Gunvalson and Alroy Lewis

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell and Brielle Prokosch

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests: John Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 8:38 a.m. by Chair Lewis in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Chair Lewis called for additions or corrections to the agenda Powell requested Action item, purchase of a new boat trailer, be added to the Agenda. Rydeen made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions as requested by Powell. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular June meeting were reviewed by the board. Rydeen made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

NRCS: Roepke reported that she has had 3 CSP applications submitted with 1 currently approved. Roepke noted that there is a chance that there may be more funding coming for beginning farmers and is hoping to be able to fund two more applications.

EQIP-Roepke reported that she has had two more EQIP applications approved

Roepke reported that she will be attending a local pollinator training sponsored by BWSR.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN/WATER PLAN REPORT

Soil Health Program: Powell reported that he has three producers eligible for Soil Health Cost Share:

-Ron McCollum used the No-Till-Drill on 23.8 acres in the Secondary Zone and is eligible for a Cost Share payment of \$595.

-John Anderson used the No-Till-Drill on 3.5 acres in the Secondary Zone and is eligible for a Cost Share payment of \$62.50.

-Paul Rydeen submitted 10 Soil samples and is eligible for \$250 flat rate cost share payment.

Gunvalson made a motion to approve the payments as requested by Powell. Strandlien Second. Motion Carried 4-0.

Trees: Powell reported that all the tree planters have been hauled out to the Conservation Farm to be stored away for the winter.

Water Planning: Powell reported that he had a Mississippi Headwaters Advisory Meeting on 7/23, public kick-off meeting on 7/29 and bus tour on 8/2. Powell noted that there is a Public Input meeting on 7/22 for Wild Rice 1W1P.

Lake Testing: Powell reported that the last time staff used the boat trailer they ended up having to have a piece welded back on. Powell feels it has become a liability and noted that there is no a roller on the trailer making it is difficult to get the boat on and off for lake testing. Strandlien made a motion for Powell to spend up to \$4,000 on a new boat and trailer at his discretion. Second by Rydeen. **Motion Carried 4-0.**

Conservation Farm: Powell reported that he is planning on cleaning up the Conservation Farm for the Fall Tour by renting a brusher at the end of August. Powell noted that he will get an estimate for a new garage door.

Powell suggested that maybe planting a Pumpkin Patch for students at the farm next year might be a good outreach event for schools and children.

Education/Outreach: Powell reported that he had the No-Till-Drill and information set up at the Lewis Farm for Breakfast on the Farm.

POGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Lake Monitoring Program: Prokosch reported that round two of samples from volunteers has been completed. Prokosch noted that she and Powell took samples from a total of ten lakes on 7/8, 7/9 and 7/22.

Tree Program: Prokosch reported that the tree planters were taken back to the Conservation Farm for storage.

Soil Health: Prokosch attended a Soil Health training on 6/24 & 6/25.

AIS: Prokosch noted that Always There Staffing is sending monthly reports, so she can monitor data.

Upcoming: Prokosch reported that she will be attending a Wild Rice-Marsh River Public Kickoff meeting on 7/22 and a Pollinator Habitat training on 7/25.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Income: Buell reported that in the month of June the SWCD recognized revenue from aerator rental payments, plat book sales and County Water Plan hours billed to the County. **Expenses:** Buell noted that outside of regular expenses for the month of June additional charges were made Special Projects for Forest Stewardship plans.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of June, outside of normal transactions there were payments made from the Soil Health Program for No-Till-Drill Cost Share.

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of June deposits included plat book deposits, No-Till-Drill Payments, tree sales, Local Capacity Funding, Envirothon donations and Interest earned on accounts.

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of June the Checking Account balance was \$400,325.72. Buell noted that the Accounts Receivable balance in June was \$24,038.36. Buell noted that this amount was mostly Water Plan Billing to the County. Buell reported that the Accounts Payable was \$831.83 Buell noted that this was mostly normal monthly bills.

A motion to accept the June financial reports was made by Rydeen. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 40.**

Other Reports/Meetings:

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items

Fair: Buell reported that she would get each staff member each a SWCD shirt for the fair booth and would come back with clothing options for the Board Members at the August meeting.

Fall Tour/Area VIII Meeting: Buell reported that the Committee met and set a registration amount. Buell noted that the committee approved the budget outline for the fall tour. Lewis noted that he would like to keep registration cost down to get higher attendance and proposed at the committee meeting that the SWCD use Ed/Outreach funds to help cover the cost of the tour.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m. was made by Strandlien. Second by Rydeen. **Motion carried 40.**

Paul Rydeen, District Secretary

Date

"Leadership is the art of giving people a platform for spreading ideas that work." --Seth Godin

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.