

Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Avenue North, Suite 3, Bagley MN 56621 • (218)694-6845 • www.clearwaterswcd.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 22nd, 2019

MEETING MINUTES

.....

Board Members Present:

Harlan Strandlien, John Gunvalson and Jacki Ulrich

SWCD Staff: Lori Buell, Chester Powell and Brielle Prokosch

NRCS Staff: Cari Roepke

Guests: John Nelson-County Commissioner, Jody Peek-NRCS

The meeting was called to order at 8:39 a.m. by Vice Chair Strandlien in the USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Vice Chair Strandlien called for additions or corrections to the agenda Buell requested action item, BWSR Academy be added to the Agenda under District Manager Report. Powell requested action item, O'Bryan Cost Share be added under Water Plan Coordinator/Technician Report. Ulrich made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions as requested by Buell and Powell. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Minutes: Minutes of the regular July meeting were reviewed by the board. Ulrich made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

NRCS: Roepke reported that she had 2 CSP applications approved in the previous month. Roepke noted that she is currently working on processing payments.

MISC-Roepke reported that there was a chance that she would not be attending the Fall Tour. Roepke noted that NRCS declined her request to cover registration. Ulrich made a motion to wave the registration fee for Roepke to attend the Fall Tour. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Roepke reported that the 4-H group will present their pollinator planting at the Fall Tour.

Team Lead: Roepke introduced the NRCS Team Lead Jody Peak.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN/WATER PLAN REPORT

Soil Health Program: Powell reported that producer James O' Bryan is eligible for Soil Health Cost Share. Powell noted that O'Bryan used the No-Till-Drill on 65.5 acres in the Secondary Zone and is eligible for a Cost Share payment of \$777.00. Ulrich made a motion to pay O'Bryan a Soil Health Cost Share payment in the amount of \$777.00. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Forestry Cost Share: Powell reported that he has Five Cost Share Forestry plans up for approval.

-Juan Johnson did a Forest Stewardship Plan on 40 actual acres and is eligible for 75% Cost Share in the total of \$450

-John and Anissa Tranby did a Forest Stewardship Plan on 146.62 actual acres and is eligible for a 50% incentive payment in the amount of \$598.13.

-Craig Bakken did a Forest Stewardship plan on 75 actual acres and is eligible for 50% Cost Share in the amount of \$399.25.

-Robert Dewey did a Forest Stewardship plan on 117 actual acres and is eligible for 50% Cost Share in the amount of \$490.20.

-Mervin Wallingford did a Forest Stewardship plan on 283 actual acres and is eligible for 75% Cost Share in the amount of \$953.58.

Gunvalson made a motion to approve paying the Forest Stewardship Cost Share payments as presented by Powell out of 2017 Local Capacity Special Project/Forest Stewardship. Second by Ulrich. **Motion Carried 3-0.**

Water Planning: Powell reported that he had a Mississippi Headwaters Advisory Meeting on 7/23 a public kick-off meeting on 7/29 and bus tour on 8/2. Powell noted that there was a Public Input meeting on 7/22 for Wild Rice 1W1P and a Steering Team Meeting on 8/13.

Lake Testing: Powell reported that he and Prokosch conducted lake testing on 8/25.

Education/Outreach: Powell reported that he helped set up the booth at the Clearwater County Fair. Powell noted that he did run the rain simulator on Friday but was unable to make it on Saturday due to his wife going into labor. Powell reported that staff has been working on set up the fall tour scheduled for September 12th.

Trainings: Powell reported that he will be attending a Pollinator Training on 8/25. Powell noted that BWSR Academy is scheduled for 10/29-10/31 this year.

Equipment:

-Powell reported that he purchased a boat trailer from Grand Rapids Marines in the amount of \$1199.00.

-Powell reported that there has been issues with the district truck and he brought it in for a quote. Powell noted that total cost to repair the truck will be \$623.07. Ulrich made a motion to pay for the repairs of the District truck not to exceed \$623.00. Second by Gunvalson. Motion carried 3-0.

Conservation Farm:

-Powell reported that he and Prokosch will be renting the brusher from JAG and will be prepping the Conservation Farm for the Area VIII Fall Tour.

-Powell noted that he was looking into garage doors and based on his findings estimates a new door will cost around \$600.

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

Lake Monitoring Program: Prokosch reported that round 3 & 4 of samples from volunteers has been completed. Prokosch noted that she and Powell took samples from a total of ten lakes on 7/29 for round 3 and on 8/20-8/21 on round 4.

Trainings/other:

1W1P: Prokosch attended the Wild Rice 1W1P public kickoff meeting on 7/22
Prokosch attended a pollinator training on 7/25.
Prokosch worked at the Clearwater County fair booth from 7/31-8/4.
Prokosch presented the AIS budget to the County Board on 8/13.

Upcoming: Prokosch reported that the last day of AIS inspection will be on 9/8/2019. Prokosch noted that the Fall Tour and Area VIII meeting will be held on 9/12-9/13 and BWSR Academy will be on 10/29-10/31 this year.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT

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

Profit & Loss: Income: Buell reported that in the month of July the SWCD recognized revenue from No-Till-Drill payments, plat book sales and County Appropriations **Expenses:** Buell noted that outside of regular expenses for the month of July additional charges were made in "Equipment" for Office Chairs and Supplies and "BWSR Cost Share" for a Windbreak and a Well Sealing.

Monthly Treasurer's Report: Buell noted that for the month of July, outside of normal transactions there were payments made to Solid Bottom. Buell noted that is an AIS expense and will be reimbursed. A payment was made to Itasca Tours as a down payment for the boat tour, Native Landscape for the 4-H project and to Brian Ramsrud from the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program.

Deposit Detail: Buell noted that in the month of July deposits included plat book deposits, 3rd QTR Appropriations, PERA rate increase, No-Till Drill Payments and Interest earned on accounts.

Balance Sheet: Buell reported that at the end of July the Checking Account balance was \$403,514.32. Buell noted that the Accounts Receivable balance in July was \$30,457.74. Buell noted that this amount was mostly Water Plan Billing to the County. Buell reported that the Accounts Payable was \$295.51 Buell noted that this was mostly normal monthly bills.

A motion to accept the July financial reports was made by Ulrich. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Other Reports/Meetings:

DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items

BWSR Academy: Buell reported that BWSR Academy will be held October 28-31st this year. Buell noted that cost of registration is \$50 per day plus cost of rooms and meals. Ulrich made a motion that the District will cover the cost of Registration, meals and rooms for all three staff to attend BWSR Academy. Second by Gunvalson. Motion Carried 3-0.

Fall Tour: Buell reported that the Staff have been working hard to line up vendors and producers for the Area VIII Fall Tour. Buell noted that the tour map has been nailed down and all registration information has been e-mailed out.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 a.m. was made by Ulrich. Second by Gunvalson. **Motion carried 3-0.**

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.