

# Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District

312 Main Avenue North, Suite 3, Bagley MN 56621 • (218)694-6844 • www.clearwaterswcd.com

## *BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 24<sup>th</sup> 2023*

### *MEETING MINUTES*

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

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

**NRCS Staff:** Nate Brandt

**Guest:** John Nelson

Chair Gunvalson called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. at the Bagley USDA Service Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Agenda:** The agenda was reviewed by the board. Buell added BWSR Academy to the agenda. Rydeen made the motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Minutes:** Minutes of the July meeting were reviewed by the board. Strandlien made the motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### NRCS REPORT:

**NRCS Employment Opportunities:** Brandt reported that a forester was hired in Bemidji.

**EQIP:** Brandt has 16 applications on file with 14 selected for funding with \$390,000 allocated so far and existing projects are moving forward. The deadline for the 2024 application is October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**CSP:** Brandt has 6 rank “high priority” with 1 in Clearwater moving forward.

**CRP:** Brandt noted he was working on re-enrollments and one plan has been completed.

**Other:** Brandt has been working on planning for future projects.

### PROGRAM TECHNICIAN REPORT

**AIS:** Prokosch reported that the CD3 had been purchased and installed at the Clearwater Lake Access on 8/15. Prokosch noted she had attended software training for the CD3.

Prokosch noted the zebra mussel veligers samples results had been returned and all of the 6 lakes had been tested as negative for zebra mussels veligers including Lomond. Prokosch noted that Lomond had now been tested as negative for 4 years.

**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 Clearwater County Fair and created Clearwater SWCD specific soil health program pamphlets for the public.

**Lake Monitoring:** Prokosch went out lake monitoring during 7/31 - 8/1 and 8/21 - 8/22. Prokosch has also been adding the lake data to the MPCA spreadsheet.

Prokosch reported she has been entering rain gauge data for the MN Climatology Dept.

**1W1P:** Prokosch created and mailed over 300 soil health postcards for the Mississippi 1W1P area.

### DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT

**Equipment Delivery:** Buesing brought equipment to Erickson, Sumrall and the Beltrami fair.

**Education Outreach:** Buesing attended the Clearwater County fair.

**Lake Monitoring:** Buesing went out lake monitoring during 7/31 - 8/1 and 8/21 - 8/22.

**Meetings:** Buesing attended meetings with the DNR ecologist Marty on 7/26 and 7/28, a Mississippi 1W1P meeting on 7/26 and a Clearwater 1W1P meeting on 8/16.

**Misc.:** Buesing went to consults with customers for a pollinator planting on 7/26, a native forage planting on 7/27, a Long Lost Lake island replanting on 8/18 and mowed the trails at the Conservation Farm.

Buesing noted the purchasing price of the 2024 platbooks and asked what to do with the 2022 books. Rydeen made the motion to approve the purchase of the 2024 platbooks and sell the 2022 books at the same price until the new ones arrive then donate them. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### WATER PLAN COORDINATOR/TECHNICIAN REPORT

**Water Planning:** Powell attended a Mississippi 1W1P on 6/26 and talked about the workplan budget adjustment. Powell attended a Clearwater 1W1P meeting on 8/16.

**Soil Health:** Powell noted the following producers had rented the no-till drill and asked for cost share out of the Clearwater 1W1P funds and/or local compacity funds: Lofgren for 10 acres and 1 soil test for \$425.00, Nordlund for 120 acres (hitting the cap) and 4 soils tests for \$4,900.00, Dewey for 7 acres and 8 soils tests for \$480.00, Rydeen for 121 acres and 2 soils tests for \$4,850.00, Lost River Livestock for 120 acres (hitting the cap) and 4 soils tests for \$4,900 and Erickson for 11 acres and 2 soils tests for \$490.00. Kaiser made the motion to approve the cost share and soil tests for each respected party. Seconded by Strandlein. **Motion carried 3-0 with Rydeen abstaining.**

**Education Outreach:** Powell attended the Clearwater County fair.

### 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, Line 3 (1W1P) Claimed first half of the years expenses and hours, Line 7 (No-Till Drill Rental) up \$1000, Line 12 (Sprayer Rental) up over \$700, Line 22 (County AIS Plan) Invoiced the county for 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year hours. Line 23 (County Appropriations) Received 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr County Appropriations, Line 24 (County Water Plan) Billed the County for the first half of the County Water Plan. Line 38 (Misc Revenue) up \$81,432.30 temporarily until direction from the Board.

**Expenses:** Buell reported that out of usual expenses, Line 46 (Education and Promotion) up over \$200 Fair Supplies, Line 80 (AIS) up \$200 Porta Johns Line 88 (Wages) AK payroll reflecting in wages will be moved to correct line 76, Line 100-104 ( 1W1P) different account were set up to track each 1W1P for billing (all expenses have been billed to WP reflects on income line 3.

**Monthly Treasurer's Report:** Buell noted that for the month of July, Line 5 (Howard Dickey) Soil Health payment, Line 13(Greimans) Envirothon t-shirts, Line 23 (New Tech Solutions) Computer for KB, Line 26 (BWSR) Deposit into General Funds, Line 28-31 all Cost share payments SH Line 34 (Erickson) SH Cost Share payments. Line 41 (Solid Bottom) AIS Expense . Line 47 (Imle) SH Cost Share payment Line 50-70 transferring CD's and Savings account money to new CD

**Deposit Detail:** Buell noted that in the month of July there were deposits for: Deposit 1: Registration for Area 8 Meeting and Soil Health payments, Deposit 2: SWCD General Fund allocation from BWSR first 50% , Deposit 3: Registration for Area Meeting and Soil Health payments, Deposit 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr County Appropriations, Area 8 Meeting Registration and Soil Health Payments, Deposit 5: Interest earned on Checking, Deposit 6-8: Deposited \$80,735.56 out of Savings and closed both CD's in the amount of \$19,264.44. Opened new CD in the amount of \$100,000, and Deposit 9: Interest Earned on Savings.

**Balance Sheet:** Buell reported that at the end of July the Checking Account balance was \$358,992.30 the Savings Account balance was \$26,047.69 and the 13-month CD was \$100,000. Buell reported the Accounts Receivable was mostly water plan and AIS billing to the county that have since been received and the 2021 Clearwater 1W1P was - \$3,990.29 with a need to claim for the remaining 10%.

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

#### **DISTRICT OPERATION-Board Action Items and Information:**

**Fall Tour:** Buell reported the Fall tour and area meeting would be held on October 12<sup>th</sup> in Hubbard county. The board decided they would decide next month when the prices would be received.

**BWSR Academy:** Buell brought up that BWSR Academy would be October 24<sup>th</sup>- October 26<sup>th</sup>. Strandlien made the motion to allow all employees to attend. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**General Fund Allocation:** Buell went over how the new General Fund Allocation (made possible by the omnibus bill) works and how many/when payments would be received. Buell noted that BWSR would like a resolution signed by all boards stating where/how they planned on using the funds. Strandlien made the motion to approve signing the BWSR resolution. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 3-0 with Rydeen abstaining.** Buell noted she would come back next month with ideas and rates of where to place the general allocated funds for the board.

**Financial Overview:** Buell went over a reminder of how financials worked within the District.

***Budget:*** Buell went over the 2024 budget. Rydeen made the motion to approve the budget. Seconded by Kaiser. **Motion carried 4-0.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 a.m. was made by Kaiser. Seconded by Strandlien. **Motion carried 4-0.**

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Alroy Lewis, District Secretary

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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.*