

Carlton County Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
March 11, 2024 – Carlton SWCD Office, Carlton MN

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Board Chair Bob Fox. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll call was taken:

Board Members present: Barb Dahl
Bob Fox
Bruce Heikes
Tim Michaelson
Kim Samuelson

Staff present: Brad Matlack, District Manager
Cameron Gustafson, Community Conservationist

Guests present: Susan Zymslony, Carlton County
Allison Praet, NRCS
Todd Whitesel, NRCS
Melanie Bomier, BWSR

Meeting Agenda: A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda. M/S Heikes/Michaelson. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 regular SWCD Board meeting. M/S Michaelson/Heikes. Motion carried. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024 reorganizational meeting. M/S Michaelson/Dahl. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: The Treasurer’s Report for February 2024 was presented by Dahl and was received for filing.

Financial Report: No report.

SWCD Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: Matlack reported that Gustafson was promoted to the Water Resources Specialist position. The Community Conservationist position was declared vacant and there are three candidates being considered.

Legislative Committee: Heikes, Michaelson, and staff Alyssa Bloss will be attending Legislative Days. They will have a planning meeting with Matlack after the board meeting to prepare for Legislative Days.

One Watershed One Plan Reports:

❖ **Nemadji River:** report from Gustafson.

- ❖ **St Louis River:** The Amended Stormwater Project Fund Agreement with Carlton County to fund two street sweepers was discussed. A motion was made to approve the amended fund agreement. M/S Michaelson/Dahl. Motion carried.
- ❖ **Kettle River:** report from Samuelson regarding the public comments and upcoming policy meeting.
- ❖ **Upper Mississippi – Grand Rapids:** report from Gustafson on upcoming meetings and events.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- ❖ Matlack presented the 2023 Carlton SWCD Annual Report. Copies of the report were distributed to board members and will be given to legislators during Legislative Days.

Correspondence:

- ❖ A thank you note for being a partner was received from MASWCD.

Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) Cost-Share Projects:

- ❖ **Nemadji River:**

Duane Laveau Ag Waste Storage Facility Application

Contract: Enbridge & Nemadji Ag BMP-4
 Practice: Ag Waste Storage Facility
 Funding Source: Nemadji Watershed Implementation – Ag BMPs and Enbridge
 Amount: Nemadji Watershed Implementation – Ag BMPs: \$39,160.77
 Enbridge: \$78,395.23

Motion to approve funding. M/S Heikes/Michaelson. Motion carried.

Rick Hughes Woodland Stewardship Plan Cost Share Application

Contract: C21-8755-WSP-002
 Practice: WSP
 Funding Source: Nemadji Watershed Implementation
 Amount: \$654.42

Motion to approve funding. M/S Heikes/Samuelson. Motion carried.

- ❖ **St. Louis River:** No report
- ❖ **Kettle River:** N/A
- ❖ **Upper Mississippi-Grand Rapids:** N/A

SWCD Cost Share Projects:

Catherine Conover Pollinator Meadow Application

Contract: TBD
 Practice: Pollinator Meadow
 Funding Source: BWSR 2024 Cost Share
 Amount: \$500.00

Motion to approve funding. M/S Dahl/Michaelson. Motion carried.

Nixon Buckthorn Removal Application

Contract: 2022 BWSR CWMA-8
Practice: Brush Management (314)
Funding Source: 2022 BWSR CWMA
Amount: \$1,310.34
Motion to approve funding. M/S Dahl/Samuelsen. Motion carried.

Staff Reports: As presented in packet.

BWSR Report: Comments from Bomier

NRCS Staff Report: Report from Whitesel and Praet.

County Board Report: Comments from Zymslony

Ten Minute Topic Presentation: An informative presentation was presented by Bloss on the benefits of pollinator plantings and the new Carlton County Justice Center project.

Outside Organizations:

- ❖ BSALWMP – update by Dahl
- ❖ Laurentian RC&D – update by Samuelson
- ❖ MN SWCD Forestry Assoc – no report.
- ❖ Technical Services Area 3 – update by Fox
- ❖ NE Area 3 Association of SWCDs – no report

Other Business: Michaelson will conduct the meeting in April due to Fox’s absence.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 10:11 am. M/S Michaelson/Heikes. Motion approved.

Next meeting – Monday, April 8, 2024 at 9:00 am in the Carlton SWCD meeting room (808 3rd Street, Carlton MN).

Date _____

SWCD Board Secretary

SWCD Board Chair