

- **Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
January 15th, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
Pipestone County Government Center Southwest
1016 8th Ave SW Pipestone, Minnesota**

Board Members Present:

Bill Folger, Chairman
Brad Kruisselbrink, Vice-Chair
Cal Spronk, Secretary/Treasurer
Ken Christensen, Programs
Mike Fruechte, PR&I

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present:

Nathan Blankers, Luke Johnson, Kyle Krier, Nicole Schwebach, Kyle Kuphal, Ayden Bonnett,
Melissa Rosendahl

Chairman Folger called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

A. Approve Agenda

Spronk made a motion to approve the January agenda as presented. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Christensen, seconded by Spronk to approve the minutes of the December board meeting. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

C. Financial Report and Approval of Bills

Spronk made a motion to file the financial reports and approve the payment of bills. Fruechte seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

New Business:

D. Committee Assignments/Election of Officers

- a. Spronk made a motion to approve the board positions and committee assignments as shown on the attached sheet to the minutes, Christensen seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Chairman Kruisselbrink took over the meeting.

E. RCPP Policy Update/Contract Approval

- a. Krier presented the Soil Health Practices Grant Program agreement for \$120,000.00. Christensen made a motion to sign and approve the grant agreement and authorize Krier to approve any future Soil Health Practices Grant Program/ RCPP Grant agreements. Folger seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

- b. Schwebach gave an RCPP policy update. Spronk made a motion to approve the policy change regarding removing the tillage verbiage from cover crops and allowing cover crop acres to be rotated between fields. A final addition was made to add that a land occupier may establish a combination of multi-species and single species cover crops not to exceed 320 acres and a \$57,600.00 total contract payment. Fruechte seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
- c. Fruechte made a motion to approve the change in the ranking and batching process, giving more points to first-time applicants. Folger seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
- d. Schwebach presented contract #59-2-13 for 2 years, 154.65 acres of no-till in the amount of \$9,279.00. Contract #59-2-14 for 3 years, 71.79-250.84 acres of single or multi species cover crops in the amount of \$42,928.80. Contract #59-3-15 for 3 years, 320 acres of multi species cover crops in the amount of \$57,620.00. Contract #59-3-16 for 3 years, 320 acres of multi-species cover crop in the amount of \$57,600.00. Contract # 59-3-17 for 3 years, 320 acres of no-till in the amount of \$28,800.00. Christensen made a motion to approve these 5 contracts. Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

F. Policy Review

- a. Krier presented a COL adjustment of 3% and the federal mileage rate of \$.0725/mile. Spronk made a motion to approve these policy changes. Fruechte seconded the motion. Affirmative: all Oppose: none. Motion carried.

G. Audit

- a. Taubert from MTCO presented the 2024 audit as favorable. Folger made a motion to approve the 2024 audit. Christensen seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

H. Employee Review

- a. Schwebach agreed to keep the meeting open during her review. Krier presented her review to the board stating that her review was favorable with a work anniversary date of 1-13-26. Spronk made a motion to approve the review. Christensen seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

I. Buffer Law Implementation Grant Approval

- a. Krier presented the 2026 Buffer Implementation Program Grant agreement for \$20,0000.00. Folger made a motion to approve the agreement. Fruechte seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

J. Chad Borman Contract Amendment

- a. Krier presented an amendment for Borman to implement cover crops for the next 3 years to meet the contract requirements on contract # CWF22-SH-09, Fountain Prairie sections 23 & 26, 274 acres. Fruechte made a motion to approve the amendment. Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

K. SWCD Election Options

- a. Krier presented two election options. Option 1 supervisors elected at large, and Option 2 supervisors elected by districts. Spronk made a motion to keep the election process the same electing by district. Folger seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Reports:

County Commissioner Report:

Johnson – Levy set at 4.2%, Feb 3rd at 7 pm there will be a public input meeting on the county approving rifles for deer hunting.

Supervisor Reports:

Fruechte – Nothing.

Spronk – TSA had a favorable report from the auditor.

Christensen – Nothing.

Kruisselbrink - Nothing.

Folger – Nothing.

NRCS Report: Still working on 5-year pilot program details. Catching up on EQIP and CSP payments.

Manager's Report: Projects are caught up, looking for new ones to fund. Still possibly pursuing irrigation grant funding for precision irrigation management practices.

Adjournment:

There being no further business Chairman Kruisselbrink declared the meeting adjourned at 10:36

Ken Christensen, Secretary

2026 SWCD Board Positions & Committee's

Officers

Chairman	Brad Kruisselbrink
Vice Chair	Cal Spronk
Secretary / Treasurer	Ken Christensen
Programs	Mike Fruechte
PR & I	Bill Folger

SWCD Committees

Personnel	Brad Kruisselbrink Cal Spronk
Conservation & Zoning Liaison	Luke Johnson, County Commissioner Doug Nagel, County Commissioner Brad Kruisselbrink Cal Spronk
RCRCA	Primary: Brad Kruisselbrink Alternate: Ken Christensen
Missouri River 1W1P	Primary: Ken Christensen Alternate: Brad Kruisselbrink
S.W. Prairie T.S.A.	Primary: Cal Spronk Alternate: Bill Folger
Redwood 1W1P	Primary: Mike Fruechte Alternative: Brad Kruisselbrink