



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE

Todd County

• MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

215 1st Avenue South, Suite 104

Long Prairie, MN 56347

Phone: 320-732-2644 Fax: 320-732-4803

MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 14, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Chairperson Whitney called the Thursday, April 14, 2022 meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

The meeting was held in person at the Historic Courthouse at 215 1st Ave, S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call for Introductions.

Board members present in person were: Dan Whitney, Tom Williamson, Leland Buchholz, Wayne Wendel and Dale Katterhagen.

Others present in person were: Deja Anton, District Manager, Adam Ossefoort, Division Director, Sarah Katterhagen, Program Coordinator, Dylan Pratt, Conservation Technician, Josh Votruba, Conservation Technician, Kasen Christiansen, Conservation Technician, Russell Kleinschmidt, NRCS, Luke Thoma, NRCS, Rod Erickson, Commissioner, and Randy Neumann, Commissioner.

Others present over ZOOM: Chris Pence, BWSR, Doug Host, CLA, and Shawna Jenson, CLA. Host and Jenson both joined in at 9:00 a.m. and left after the Audit presentation.

Whitney asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Williamson made a motion, seconded by Buchholz to approve the agenda with the following additions: 3.2 Approve date for Local Work Group Meeting and 3.3 Review Jasmer's request for funding for pit closure. Affirmative: Whitney, Williamson, Buchholz, Wendel and Katterhagen. Motion Carried.

Whitney asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the March 10, 2022 regular board meeting. Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve the minutes as disbursed from the March 11, 2022 regular board meeting. Affirmative: Whitney, Williamson, Buchholz, Wendel and Katterhagen. Motion Carried.

Whitney asked the board to review March 2022 Treasurer's Report. Buchholz made a motion, seconded by Williamson to accept March 2022 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$26,246.39 and disbursements totaling \$22,418.58 Affirmative: Whitney, Williamson, Buchholz, Wendel and Katterhagen. Motion Carried.

Whitney called for conflict of interest. No conflict of interest reported.

Celebrations - Anton reported the Feedlot meeting went well and Ebnet and his wife recently had a baby girl.

REPORTS:

Commissioner: Commissioner Erickson reported the County will start having budget meetings for 2023, current hot topic is property evaluations, working on facility projects, County received a grant to fix the rock wall and ARPA committees are still meeting to discuss how to spend the ARPA funds.



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Commissioner Neumann asked if BWSR knew anything about HF4274 drainage bill. Pence said he does not know all the details – but will forward Ossefoort and Anton the information.

Director Update: Ossefoort provided Planning and Zoning staffing updates, he attended the Amish meeting, he attending a meeting at Sourcewell, and he will be attending an upcoming Township meeting.

Manager Update: Anton's report was handed to the Supervisors to review, she provided updates on what the staff is working on, and provided handout on the Avian Flu.

Staff Report: Ossefoort recapped the Amish meeting that was held on April 7, 2022.

NRCS Update: Kleinschmidt provided NRCS update.

1W1P – SRWD Update: Williamson had no report update.

1W1P – Red Eye Update: Wendel had no report update.

1W1P- Long Prairie Update: Whitney reported 1W1P for Long Prairie is in review.

1W1P- Crow Wing Update: Wendel had no report update.

1W1P- Miss-Brainerd Update: Buchholz reported he attended a pre-planning meeting for the Watershed.

BWSR Report: Pence reported BWSR is still working remote, but they can attend meetings and events in person. Pence reminded staff to make sure website reporting is completed and recommended that Anton and Ossefoort to be signed up for the training newsletter from BWSR.

Audit exit interview – Doug Host and Shawna Jenson from Clifton Larson joined in over zoom. Host reviewed the 2021 Audit with the SWCD Board.

Host and Jenson left the meeting

Neumann left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

DECISIONS:

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to accept feedlot donations in the amount of \$210.00. Affirmative: Whitney, Williamson, Buchholz, Wendel and Katterhagen. Motion Carried.

Buchholz made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve June 8th, 2022 for Local Work Group Meeting and the June 9th as the backup date. Affirmative: Whitney, Williamson, Buchholz, Wendel and Katterhagen. Motion Carried.



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The board had a lengthy discussion regarding Jasmer's request for funding for a pit closure project. The board reviewed the three bids that were submitted. The three bids were at: \$59,000, \$48,750 and \$41,910.48. The board felt the bids were not following in line with other bids that were submitted for past pit closure projects.

The board discussed creating a pit closure policy in the future.

Board consensus to cap Jasmer request at \$21,000, and not to exceed 75% in the total cost of closing the manure pit; unless there was an extraordinary unforeseen circumstance that made the project cost increase.

No motion was made as the cost share contract had 75% cost share rate for the amount to encumber. The board asked staff to reach out to Jasmer to discuss the cap and also to suggest Jasmer to get two additional bids on top of the three that were already submitted. After discussion with the landowner, a new cost share contract can be created.

DISCUSSION:

See handout out in the packet on 2022 Feedlot meeting recap and feedback.

Board consensus to go back to Enviro Fest being one day if possible. No feedback provided on Station ideas.

The following topics, not limited to, will be reviewed at May's Meeting: Cover crop policy, update to the Buffer policy, SWCD cost to the County and meeting format. Anton also would like to invite Commissioner Becker to the SWCD Board Meeting.

More tax bill updates in the future regarding local capacity funding for Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

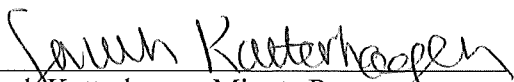
INFORMATIONAL:

Election filing period will be May 17-31, 2022.

Award letters will be going out to Conservation Farmer of the Year and the Land Stewardship recipients.

The next regular Todd Soil and Water board supervisor meeting will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2022.

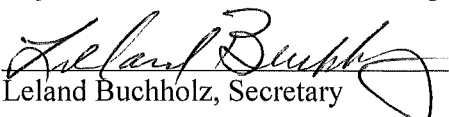
Chairperson Whitney adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.


Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Prepare

5/12/2022
Date


Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager

5-12-2022
Date


Leland Buchholz, Secretary

5/12/2022
Date