

## Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on January 12, 2022. Held remotely via Zoom.

Meeting was called to order by Micah Peterson, Board Vice Chairman.

Supervisors Present: Jon Erichson  
Jim Kellogg  
Micah Peterson  
Rod Moe

Staff Present: Justin Hanson, District Manager  
Jeanne Crump, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: Dave Copeland, BWSR  
Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner  
Gary Kurer, NRCS  
Mark Gutierrez, MN Soil Health Coalition

### Election of Offices:

Hanson led the election of offices, offices included: Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer/Secretary.

Kellogg nominated Smith for Chairman of the Board. Kellogg made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Smith as Chairman. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Kellogg nominated Peterson for Vice Chairman. Kellogg made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Peterson as Vice Chairman. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Moe

Opposed: None

Abstained: Peterson

Kellogg nominated Erichson for Secretary/Treasurer. Kellogg made a motion that nominations cease and called for a unanimous vote to elect Erichson as Treasurer/Secretary. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Abstained: Erichson

The 2022 office holders are:

Chairman: Randy Smith

Vice Chairman: Micah Peterson

Treasurer/Secretary: Jon Erichson

Agenda:

Moe made a motion to approve the January agenda. Erichson seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2021 board meeting.  
Kellogg seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:

The payables report was reviewed with the board. Kellogg made a motion to approve the payables report, January payroll and to transfer money as needed.  
Moe second the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

MN Soil Health Coalition, Mark Guttierrez:

Guttierrez joined the meeting to introduce himself as the executive director of the MN Soil Health Coalition and to explain to the board what the Coalition does.

NRCS Report, Gary Kurer:

Kurer gave an update on NRCS programs to include: Staffing, EQIP, CSP and CRP.

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn informed the board that she will continue to be on the SWCD committee in 2022. The board talked about the County waving fees on storm damage fixes and thanked Glynn for helping with that.

Action Items:

Legal Paper:

Peterson made a motion to keep the designation of the Austin Daily Herald as the official legal paper of the District in 2022. Moe second the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

Bank of Depository:

Peterson made a motion to continue with the current banks, US bank as the bank of depository for checking, First State Bank MN in LeRoy for the District savings, and United Farmers State Bank in Adams for CD's. Moe second the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

SWCD Board Meeting Time/Place:

Peterson made a motion to keep the SWCD monthly board meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 8:00am. The location for the meetings is to be determined. Moe seconded the motion.  
Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe  
Opposed: None

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Copeland talked with the board about open meeting law and suggested to talk with MCIT for specific protocol. He talked with the board on E-link annual reporting and workplans for new grants.

2022 Fees:

Hanson talked about the proposed 2022 Fees, with no changes from last year. The board held discussion. Kellogg made a motion to approve the 2022 Fee schedule as presented. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Cost Share:

The following are requesting payments for their cost share projects.

Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Rate	Total Cost	Total Cost Share Payment	Federal CRP Payment
Drinking Water Protection	PAYMENT	Mike Souhrada	Bennington 36	Well Sealing		\$1,660.00	\$830.00	
Drinking Water Protection	PAYMENT	Delvin Drinkall	Bennington 36	Well Sealing		\$5,100.00	\$1,000.00	
Fishers and Farmers	PAYMENT	John Stockdale	Bennington 28	Prairie Strip Est.	74%	\$865.08	\$636.57	\$142.00
Fishers and Farmers	PAYMENT	Ken Stockdale	Bennington 29	Prairie Strip Est.	48%	\$1,559.88	\$742.89	\$661.00
Fishers and Farmers	PAYMENT	Wayne DeWall	Bennington 19	Prairie Strip Est.	58%	\$692.64	\$402.37	\$221.00

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing payment for Mike Souhrada at \$830.00, 50% of the total cost of \$1,660.00. Funding for this project will come from the Drinking Water Protection grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the well sealing payment for Delvin Drinkall at \$1,000.00, 50% of the total cost of \$5,100.00 not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for this project will come from the Drinking Water Protection grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment payment for John Stockdale at \$636.57. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Peterson made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment payment for Ken Stockdale at \$742.89. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Kellogg made a motion to approve the prairie strip establishment payment for Wayne DeWall at \$402.37. Funding for this project will come from the Fishers and Farmers Grant. Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Erichson, Kellogg, Peterson, Moe

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Committee Appointments:

The board discussed the SWCD committees. Smith will make the committee appointments at the February meeting.

The 2021 Committee Appointments were:

Personnel:	Randy Smith & Micah Peterson
Finance:	Jon Erichson & Randy Smith
Water Planning:	Jon Erichson
Joint Powers:	Rod Moe, Randy Smith alternate
Legislative Committee:	Jon Erichson, Rod Moe alternate
Feedlot Committee:	Randy Smith, Jim Kellogg alternate
Watershed District Liaison:	Jon Erichson
Root River Policy Committee:	Jim Kellogg, Micah Peterson alternate
Cedar River Wtrshd. Policy Com:	Randy Smith, Rod Moe alternate

Cover Crop Events:

Discussion was held on the upcoming Cover Crop events.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

Discussion was held on different ways to inform landowners of events in the county.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Hanson talked about the 2 prairie strip billboards that will be displayed in the county. Funding for one of the billboards will come from the Fishers and Farmers grant.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be February 9, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_