

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on August 8, 2024. Held at 1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN.

Meeting was called to order by Randy Smith, Board Chairman.

Supervisors Present: Randy Smith
Jon Erichson
Jim Kellogg
Rod Moe
Jay Soltau

Staff Present: Cody Fox, District Manager
Jeanne Crump, Office Manager

Others Present: Polly Glynn, Mower County Commissioner (Zoom)
Phil Hartman, Tree List Landowner

Agenda:

Moe made a motion to approve the August agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau
Opposed: None

Public Input:
None

Windbreak Cost Share:

Phil Hartman attended the board meeting to talk to them about his tree purchase/windbreak cost share request. The board held discussion. A letter will be sent to Hartman with the decision of the board after funding is checked out with BWSR.

Moe and Kellogg left the board meeting.

Secretary Report:

Erichson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024, board meeting.
Soltau seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Checks Payable:

The August payables report was reviewed with the board. Erichson made a motion to approve the payables report, August payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Soltau second the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau
Opposed: None

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:
Not in attendance.

NRCS Report, Teddy Moreno Santos:
Not in attendance.

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn informed the board that the commissioners had a work session yesterday on their audit, will be meeting with the SWCD on Monday for 2025 budget, Glynn also talked about the 2025 road projects.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

Cedar Wapsi WBIF:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Years	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per year	Total Cost Share/ Incentive Payment	Date	L/O Cost
CW22-24-09	Cedar-Wapsi 1WIP	PAYMENT	Sue Finbraaten	Clayton 31	Waterway	75%		\$6,335.00	\$4,751.25	8/8/2024	\$1,583.75
CW22-24-15	Cedar-Wapsi 1WIP	CONTRACT	Lucas Owen	Windom 6	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500		\$2,450.00	\$1,225.00	8/8/2024	\$1,225.00
CW22-24-16	Cedar-Wapsi 1WIP	CONTRACT	Brad Sheely	Dexter 32	Waterway	75%		\$6,458.00	\$4,843.50	8/8/2024	\$1,614.50

Erichson made a motion to approve the waterway cost share payment for Sue Finbraaten at \$4,751.25, 75% of the total cost of \$6,335.00. Funding for this project will come from the 2022 Cedar Wapsipinicon WBIF grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Erichson made a motion to approve the well sealing cost share contract for Lucas Owen at \$1,225.00, 50% of the total cost of \$2,450.00, not to exceed \$1,500.00. Funding for the well sealing project will come from the 2022 Cedar Wapsipinicon WBIF grant. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Moe made a motion to approve the waterway cost share contract for Brad Sheely at \$4,843.50, 75% of the total cost of \$6,458.00. Funding for the waterway project will come from the 2022 Cedar Wapsipinicon WBIF grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Conservation Contracts:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Years	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per year	Total Cost Share/ Incentive Payment	Date	L/O Cost
CC24-06	Conservation Contacts	PAYMENT	Mitch Meyer	Austin 28	Windbreak	50% not to exceed \$1000		\$2,112.19	\$1,000.00	8/8/2024	\$1,112.19
CC24-11	Conservation Contacts	PAYMENT	Branden Tapp	Red Rock 13	Windbreak	50% not to exceed \$1000		\$1,434.74	\$717.37	8/8/2024	\$717.37
CC24-13	Conservation Contacts	PAYMENT	Ethan Young	Lyle 28	Windbreak	50% not to exceed \$1000		\$284.79	\$142.40	8/8/2024	\$142.40
CC24-15	State Cost Share/ Conservation Contracts	CONTRACT	Lonergan Bros.	Marshall 18	Waterway	75%		\$13,393.00	\$10,044.75	8/8/2024	\$3,348.25

Erichson made a motion to approve the above windbreak cost share payments for contracts CC24-06, 11 and 13 at 50% of the total cost, not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding for these projects will come from the FY24 Conservation Contracts grant. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Erichson made a motion to approve the waterway cost share contract at 75% of the total cost. Funding for this project will come from the FY23 State Cost Share grant and the FY24 Conservation Contracts grant. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Root River WBIF:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Years	Total Estimate/ Cost/ Cost per year	Total Cost Share/ Incentive Payment	Date	L/O Cost
RR24/25-24-02	Root River 1W1P	CONTRACT	Roger Bhend	LeRoy 29	Well Sealing	75%		\$12,000.00	\$9,000.00	8/8/2024	\$3,000.00

Erichson made a motion to table the well sealing contract approval until September and for the landowner to get another estimate. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

SWCD Aid Resolution:

Fox talked about the resolution for the 2024 Guidelines on the Use of SWCD Aid Payments. Erichson made a motion to approve the resolution. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Soltau

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Budget Meeting with Mower County:

The board talked about the budget meeting with the Mower County finance committee that will take place on August 12.

Watershed Tour:

The board talked about the Cedar Wapsi watershed tour that took place August 7.

Soil Health Event:

Fox informed the board on the soil health event scheduled for August 12.

Supervisor Reports:

Chairman Report:

Nothing new.

Staff Report (See Attached):

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be September 12, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____