

## Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on February 18, 2026. Held at the JC Hormel Nature Center.

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

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

Staff Present: Cody Fox, District Manager Jeanne Crump  
Tim Ruzek Paul Hunter

Others Present: Teddy Moreno-Santos, NRCS Polly Glynn, Mower Commissioner  
Annie Gunness, BWSR (Zoom) Mike Merten, CRWD  
Shelby Oldenkamp, PF

### Agenda:

Erichson made a motion to approve the February agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

### Secretary Report:

Erichson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2026, board meeting. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

### Treasurer Report:

#### Checks Payable:

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

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

### Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Glynn updated the board on County items, to include; the transmission line project and an upcoming meeting regarding rifle/shotgun hunting in the county.

### BWSR Report, Annie Gunness:

Gunness updated the board on the RCPP Water Storage grant, Soil Health Delivery, the Clean Water grant application and the BWSR spring training.

### NRCS Report, Teddy Moreno-Santos:

Moreno-Santos updated the board on EQIP, CSP and CRP. The board held discussion.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

RCPP:

Fox and Hunter talked about the RCPP contracts. Discussion was held on the RCPP program/contracts.

| Program | Contract # | Ranking Score | Contract Total \$ | Contract Length | Acres | Practice                 |
|---------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| RCPP    | 099-06-06  | 40            | \$61,600          | 2 year          | 616   | Cover Crops              |
| RCPP    | 099-06-12  | 40            | \$71,480          | 2 year          | 1,787 | Strip Till               |
| RCPP    | 099-00-21  | 40            | \$80,000          | 2 year          | 2000  | Strip Till               |
| RCPP    | 099-00-29  | 40            | \$11,520          | 2 year          | 144   | Cover Crops              |
| RCPP    | 099-00-30  | 40            | \$14,520          | 2 year          | 276   | Cover Crops & Strip Till |
| RCPP    | 099-00-15  | 30            | \$7,680           | 2 year          | 192   | Strip Till               |
| RCPP    | 099-00-16  | 30            | \$20,360          | 2 year          | 509   | Strip Till               |
| RCPP    | 099-00-18  | 30            | \$11,880          | 2 year          | 297   | Strip Till               |
| RCPP    | 099-00-17  | 20            | \$2,960           | 2 year          | 37    | Cover Crops              |

Kellogg made a motion to approve RCPP contracts 099-06-06 and 099-06-12. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

Cedar Wapsi WBIF:

Kellogg made a motion to approve the well-sealing cost share contract for Dan Tapp at 50% of the total cost estimate of \$2525.00 not to exceed \$1500.00.

Funding for this project will come from the FY24/25 Cedar Wapsi WBIF grant.

Moe seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

Hunter explained overpayment on 1<sup>st</sup> year payment for Ron Frank. A letter was sent to Frank to clarify the mistake on acres paid and the correction to the contract and payment for the 2025 & 2026 plantings. The letter was agreed to and signed by Frank. Kellogg made a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> year cover crop payment for Ron Frank at \$3,760.00. Funding for the cover crops will come from the FY24/25 Cedar Wapsipinicon WBIF grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

Tap-In Sub-Agreement:

Ruzek explained the sub-agreement with Olmsted for the Tap-In program through the MN Department of Health. Erichson made a motion to approve the sub agreement for the Tap-In program. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

Authorize Posting of Intern Position:

Erichson made a motion to approve Fox to move ahead with posting for a summer intern for summer of 2026. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Moe, Soltau

Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

Capital Improvement Project Update:

Fox updated on the funding received for the capital improvement projects planned in the Dobbins Creek Watershed through the CRWD.

Staff Report (See Attached)

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Smith talked about the NACD annual meeting that he will be attending.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

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