Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on March 11, 2026. 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	Jay Soltau

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

Others Present: Polly Glynn (Zoom)

Agenda:

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

Secretary Report:

Erichson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2026, board meeting. Soltau seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau
Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Report/Checks Payable:

The December budget and program summary reports and March payables report were reviewed with the board. Discussion was held on the 2025 year-end numbers. Soltau made a motion to approve the December budget report, March payables, March payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Kellogg second the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau
Opposed: None

BWSR Report, Annie Gunness:

Not in attendance.

NRCS Report, Teddy Moreno Santos:

Not in attendance.

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Not available.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

Cedar Wapsi WBIF:

Erichson made a motion to approve the well-sealing cost share contract for John Taylor at 50% of the total cost estimate of $2,525.00 not to exceed $1500.00. Funding for this project will come from the FY24/25 Cedar Wapsi WBIF grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau
Opposed: None

Policy Handbook:

Fox talked about the final handbook. The board held discussion. The board suggested changes and tabled the motion until April. Fox will make the changes and add the final handbook to the April board packet.

Audit Bid:

Erichson made a motion to approve the 2025 audit bid from Peterson Company LTD. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau
Opposed: None

Year End Fund Balance Designation:

The board talked about the year end 2025 fund balance. Erichson made a motion to designate $20,000 of the fund balance for windbreak cost share and add $35,000 to equipment replacement, which will include computer/website updates with security. Kellogg seconded the motion.
Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau
Opposed: None

Discussion Items:

CRP Incentive Update:

Fox updated the board on the new soil rental rates for the CRP program. He explained that CRP incentives will no longer be eligible with new WBIF grants. Current WBIF grants will still be able to utilize these incentives until the grant is exhausted. Staff are working to utilize incentives for CRP while it is still an option.

Staff Report (See Attached)

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

Nothing more to add.

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

APPROVED ____ DATE ______________