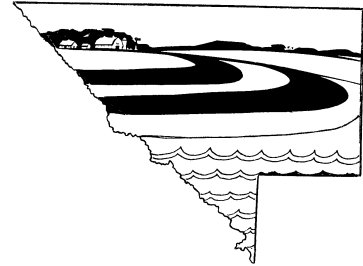


# CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
COURTHOUSE  
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2139



## Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting December 19, 2019

Minutes of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District, Courthouse, NRCS/SWCD office, Montevideo, MN 56265.

1. Meeting was **called to order** by Board Chairman Steve Sunderland at 9 a.m.
  - Members **present**: Michelle Overholser, Calin Eisenlohr, Steve Sunderland, Steve Jacobson
  - Others **present**: SWCD staff: Zach Bothun, Desirae Jarett, Tom Sletta Tom Warner; NRCS staff: Shantel Lozinski, Nathan Steward; Conservationist of the Year, Virginia Homme; State Representative Tim Miller
2. M/S/P Eisenlohr, Jacobson approve the agenda/with additions. All in favor.
3. M/S/P Overholser, Jacobson approve the November minutes. All in favor.
4. The Treasurer gave the **Treasurer's report** and the supervisors placed it on file subject to audit and authorized payment of the bills as presented.
5. **NRCS Report**-Shantel Lozinski:
  - NRCS monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: site visits, photos and documenting for EQIP projects; review CSP recertifications for payments; CRP meeting; CSP mods; wetland issues; CSP payments; 1026s; SWCD annual convention; EWPP-FPE (Emergency Watershed Protection Program-Flood Plain Easement; Annual civil rights and equal opportunity discussion.
6. **Old Business**:
  - Board/staff workshop was discussed. Facilitator/moderator will be Jim Mulder, private consultant. Meeting will be held January 14 at 9 a.m. to approximately 4 p.m.
  - Desirae discussed the need for a website update. Board discussed the quote to be rebuilt by Vivid Image as well as building our own website.
    - M/S/P Overholser, Jacobson approve to have staff rebuild website for a reasonable cost utilizing a website builder. Staff is instructed to work with Michelle Overholser on any questions related to website.
7. **New Business**
  - Desirae discussed the final audit report from Peterson & Company. Audit reports were distributed to board members.
  - Staff discussed environmental fair proposal to participate as well as 5<sup>th</sup> grade field days. Matter was tabled for later discussion.
  - Tom Warner discussed cost share vouchers for contracts 17-5 LCG and 18-1 State CS. Voucher for Goody's Farms contract 17-5 LCG was \$21,307.30 with a total project cost of \$58,759. Voucher for Vernon Kibble contract 18-1 State CS was \$4,549.04 with a total project cost of \$10,840.70. Projects will be paid with 2017 Local Capacity funds as that grant expires 12/31/2019.
    - M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr approve cost share projects to be paid out of 2017 Local Capacity grant as discussed. Grant will then be closed out and unspent funds will be sent to BWSR.
  - Tom Sletta presented buffer cost share vouchers as follows:

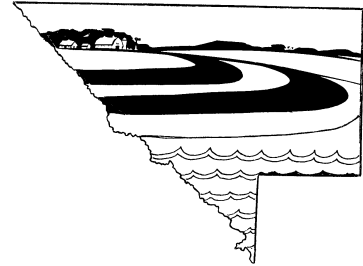
Don Grussing	18-53 BL voucher payment	\$1140
Steve Grussing	18-54 BL voucher payment	\$540

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Ruth Grussing	18-55 BL voucher payment	\$600
Louis Branca	18-38 BL voucher payment	\$720
Walter Mumm	18-103 BL voucher payment	\$720

- M/S/P Overholser, Eisenlohr approve the buffer cost share vouchers as discussed. Buffer cost share grant will then be closed out upon expiring 12/31/2019 and unspent funds will be returned to BWSR.
- Staff discussed interest in MACDE memberships. Memberships cost \$25 per employee.
  - M/S/P Jacobson, Overholser approve to pay for SWCD employee MACDE Memberships.
- Desirae discussed a letter from the Minnesota Campaign Finance Board concerning public official's statement of economic interest. Annual recertification must be filed after 1/1/20 but no later than 1/27/20.
- Zach presented the JPA for Chippewa River Watershed Association. Board discussed and decided to table the matter upon review of the JPA by the other counties involved.

### **Tom W.'s Report**

- Monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: Sonstegard, Kibble, and Handeen/Arner projects complete; conducted survey/site investigation with Ross Reiffenberger; received letter from Sparta Township okaying tile outlet in road ditch for Schultz project; went over bid packet with Virginia Homme for her project; went over RIM fix projects with BWSR Engineer; filled out easement ownership change form & sent to BWSR; went over RIM easement with new landowner; tree plans; fabric & tree order; worked with landowner on joint project form to draw down water in existing wetland with no outlet-high water is affecting building site, working with USDA and Army Corps on this site as well; wrote up and sent out WCA Notice of Decision; worked on landowner tile drain requests; attended on site TEP review of wild turkey bank site with landowner and consultant; seeding; attended annual convention and leadership summit.

### **Zach's Report:**

- Monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: fall dormant seeding-8 sites moved to spring; CRWA local work group meetings in Glenwood; Hawk Creek MM1W1P meetings for steering team, policy committee, advisory committee as well as working with EOR staff, BWSR, and partners; and seeding invoices, buffer contracts, and tree plan discussions with landowners.

### **Tom S.'s Report:**

- Monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: worked on a new CREP proposal; seeded CRP & mobilized drill; read observation wells; attended annual convention, and had a buffer meeting with Josh Macziewski (Chippewa County drainage inspector) and Paul Erdman (BWSR) to discuss where we are at with buffer compliance and noncompliance.

**Next Meeting: January 6, 2019 at 3 p.m., Chippewa Room, Courthouse Basement**