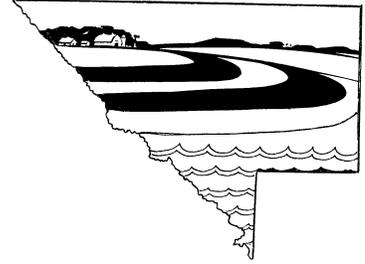


CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

629 NORTH 11TH STREET
COURTHOUSE
MONTEVIDEO, MINNESOTA 56265

Telephone 320-269-2139



Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting via Zoom February 1, 2021

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

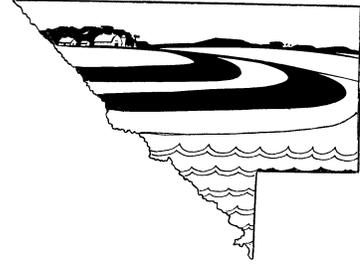
1. Meeting was **called to order** by Chairwoman Michelle Overholser at 3 p.m.
 - Members **present**: Michelle Overholser, Steve Jacobson, Calin Eisenlohr, Steve Sunderland, Jerry Schwitters
 - Others **present**: SWCD staff: Desirae Jarett, Zach Bothun, Tom Sletta, Tom Warner; NRCS staff: Shantel Lozinski; County Commissioners: Matt Gilbertson and Candice Jaenisch
2. M/S/P Sunderland, Schwitters approve the agenda. All in favor.
3. M/S/P Jacobson, Schwitters approve the January meeting minutes. All in favor.
4. Paid bills were presented for ratification.
5. Unpaid bills were presented to be paid.
6. **NRCS Report**-Shantel Lozinski:
 - NRCS monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: working on 1026's (only 25 or so out currently); CSP payments from FY 2020; office clean up; CRP seed tag checks; CRP needs & feasibility; working through some seed tag issues; presenting final designs to EQIP applicants over the phone; annual report articles; wetland info requests for land sales; updated a HEL plan; reviewed BF requirements with 2 new BF on wetland and HEL requirements; request for technical assistance, soil maps and CPI reports; attended team teleconference about LWG process and setting local questions for 5 county team.
7. **Staff Reports**-
 - **District Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: sent in engineering assistance requests to WCTSA for engineering assistance; talked to landowner & WCTSA engineer about projects; looked over several WCA landowner/operator drainage requests; did several slide reviews of drainage projects that will affect WCA wetlands; completed the 2020 WCA annual reporting form; read through DNR permit application for JCD 9 and filled out comment section on DNR website; talked to and met with landowners about trees; drew up tree plans; filled out field windbreak cost-share contracts for KDK and Olson; put together SWCD/NRCS staff and supervisor list of contact information; talked to landowners with CREP questions; sent Covid 19 info out to staff and supervisors; got annual report info put together; entered information on projects into eLink; completed time tracking.
 - **Technical Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: Tree planting site visits, tree plans and estimates, and cost share contracts for spring planting; Hawk Creek – Middle Minnesota One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) --Finalizing important sections of the draft plan for submitting to the Advisory Committee and Policy Committee for preliminary review, working with consultant on the Implementation schedule and a scoring and ranking tool to be used for when we get to the implementation

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phase of 1W1P, attended a Steering Team meeting in Willmar on Jan. 20th, currently working on remaining portions of the Implementation Programs section of the draft plan. The last section to complete is the Plan Administration and Coordination section, policy Committee meeting prep – Starting over with bringing new members up to speed; Chippewa River Watershed Association (CRWA) -- attended the monthly Technical Advisory Committee meeting on Jan. 14th, Pre-WRAPs, 1W1P preparation/discussion, website/Facebook/SharePoint, attended the monthly CRWA board meeting on Jan. 15th, we are still adding people to the seed/seeding schedule for spring seed orders and planting. The schedule is starting to get full.

8. **District Technician** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: LQP LTT Meetings -- Priority areas in Chippewa County, Controlling invasive species; Annual Report Articles; WIA webinar; RIM application map, landowner questionnaire, scoring; tree planting proposal; noted that CREP batching period April 12- April 30; CREP Wehrspann easement down to title agent to be recorded; 126-acre, site accepted for CREP; CREP ELink reporting.

9. **New Business**

- Tom W. and Desirae gave a Covid update on office operations. As of 1/30/21 Chippewa County is at .847 rate. Chippewa USDA is in the gating period (not in a position to open). Discussed masked wearing within office and courthouse.
- Desirae presented the quarterly grant balance sheet.
- Tom Warner discussed cost share contract 2021-2 for Derek Olson 117-40-10 for a field windbreak. Total project cost estimated is \$5336.25. Total amount of cost share requested \$2536.19 or up to 75% of project cost. He then discussed cost share contract 2021-3 for Carrie and Paul Gervais 117-40-20 for a field windbreak. Total project cost estimated is \$1911.50. Total amount of cost share requested is \$ 931.43 or up to 75% of project cost. Also discussed was cost share contract 2021-1 for KDK Partners 118-41-10 for a field windbreak. Total project cost estimated is \$5173.50 and total amount of cost share requested is \$558.75 or up to 75% of project cost.
 - M/S/P Sunderland, Jacobson approve cost share contracts as presented. All in favor.

10. **Important Upcoming Dates:**

11. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: March 1, 2021 at 3 p.m. via Zoom meeting