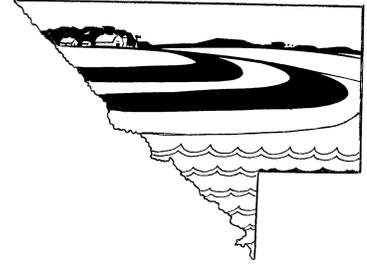


# CHIPPEWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Telephone 320-269-2139



## Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District Regular Board Meeting July 6, 2021

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

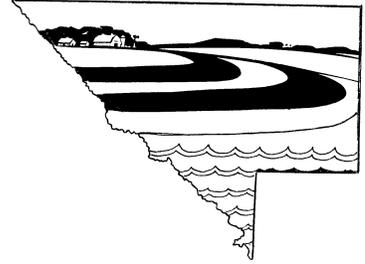
1. Meeting was **called to order** by Chairwoman Michelle Overholser at 3 p.m.
  - Members **present**: Michelle Overholser, Steve Jacobson, Calin Eisenlohr, Steve Sunderland, Jerry Schwitters
  - Others **present**: SWCD staff: Desirae Jarett, Zach Bothun, Tom Warner; NRCS staff: Shantel Lozinski
2. M/S/P Jacobson, Schwitters approve the agenda less cost share amendment and cost share voucher. All in favor.
3. M/S/P Schwitters, Eisenlohr approve the June 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 through the screened CSP classic application with planning, ranking and constructing; site visits for checking CSP practices & certifying; EQIP site visits for payments/checkout; working on getting bids for a CRP wetland restoration; working on RCPP application for cover crop with fall grazing; prepping for LWG meeting. Shantel also noted that 1026s are very up to date, 14-30 day turnaround; one EQIP contract left to obligate; 12 contracts for about \$250,000 for FY2021, mostly structures; 100 CCRP/CRP general sign up plans and she will be screening CSP re-enrolls to high, medium, low. Shantel discussed the Women's Field Day that was held June 24<sup>th</sup>, 33 attended, with Walt Gessler of MN DNR as the guest speaker as well as a CRP presentation by Liz and herself. She also noted, there is no covid update, staff has been using the hall and the field as much as possible.
7. **Staff Reports**-
  - **District Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: looked at Williamson site where tile camera will be used; surveyed potential project sites with WCTSA engineering technician; site visits of a couple areas for possible erosion issues; site visit with Josh Macziewski about ditch cleanout, took survey shots; wrote up Notice of Decision for JCD 9 amendments and emailed out; consultant contacted about Ag Bank site that he is working on—sent him information; had a WCA pre-application TEP meeting on site with landowner for a possible wetland bank; worked on tile drain requests; filled out RIM ownership change form & sent to BWSR; talked to several landowners about haying RIM; sent Granite Falls Township Supervisors information about a couple RIM easements along their roads; received a letter from BWSR pertaining to maintenance on RIM easements and adjacent landowners not in the RIM program—forwarded letter to landowners; talked to landowners about seeding, weed control, food plots and selling RIM land; seeded CRP site; talked to County Commissioner David Nordaune about RIM easement and if a new owner can buy out an area of an easement; made a list of landowners to contact about planting trees in 2022; started sending out tree plan and reminded landowners to order early, start doing site prep this year, and check into any programs available for cost share; and filled out contract amendment and cost share voucher for Gervais tree planting and sent to her for signatures. Tom also noted that BWSR will be

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conducting a Level II Performance Review and Assistance Program review this year; that he attended personnel committee meeting; that Bruce Burdorf came to measure office to see about adjusting current cubicle setup; that he read DNR obwell, that he helped set up for women's field day, that he talked to a landowner about MAWQCP and that he attended insurance meeting with the county.

8. **Technical Manager** monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: seeding; Hawk Creek Middle MN 1W1P meetings; MDA Pesticide Monitoring; Area II meeting; and Managers meeting in Baxter.

9. **New Business**

- Desirae discussed supervisor per diem policy provision allowing the SWCD supervisor per diem cap to be raised to \$125 per day effective August 1, 2021. Supervisors discussed.
  - M/S/P Jacobson, Eisenlohr approve \$100 per meeting under 4 hours and \$125 for anything over 4 hours (including drive time) effective August 1, 2021.
- Desirae discussed Juneteenth. Board tabled until Annual Reorganization meeting.
- Conservationist of the Year was discussed
  - M/S/P Overholser, Schwitters approve to award Richard Handeen and Audrey Arner, Moonstone Farms as 2021 Chippewa SWCD Conservationist of the Year.
- Office operations & logistics were discussed. Tabled until next meeting as more information is wanted.

10. **Important Upcoming Dates:**

- Chippewa County Fair: July 28-August 1, 2021

11. **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** Monday, August 2, 2021 at 3 p.m.