



Central Minnesota River Watershed Project Joint Powers Board Meeting Minutes

March 31, 2026

Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building

Joint Powers Board Members Present:

Commissioner Kurt Stranberg, Chippewa County, Chair
Commissioner Corky Berg, Kandiyohi County
Commissioner David Hamre, Renville County
Supervisor Brandon Smith, Kandiyohi SWCD
Supervisor Phil Smith, Renville SWCD

Staff Members Present:

Kyle Richter, Renville SWCD
Zach Bothun, Chippewa SWCD
Desirae Jarett, Chippewa SWCD
JoAnn Blomme, Chippewa County
Margaret Johnson, Kandiyohi SWCD
Kelly O'Neill, Kandiyohi County

Others Present: Mark Hiles, BWSR; Luke Olson, BWSR

1. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Board Chair Commissioner Stranberg called the meeting to order and began introductions. It was decided that Zach Bothun and Desirae Jarett would be notetakers.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Supervisor B. Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Supervisor P. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Supervisor B. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of Renville SWCD Supervisor Kevin Kokesch present in place of Supervisor Phil Smith. Commissioner Berg seconded. Motion passed.

4. Program Budget Update

- a. Zach Bothun and Desirae Jarett presented bank account and grant work plan balance updates based off known financial information.

5. Cost Share Contracts

- a. Kyle Richter presented the following contract for approval.

Contract #	Practice #	Location:	Total Project Cost:	Cost Share Amount:
CMRWP-065	410	116-36-16	\$167,232.83	\$125,424.62

- i. Supervisor P. Smith made a motion to accept contract CMRWP-065 as presented. Supervisor B. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

6. CMRWP Administration & Coordination Proposal:

- a. Discussion was held regarding the Proposal of Shared Duties between Chippewa SWCD and Renville SWCD. County and SWCD staff discussed the idea of Renville and Chippewa SWCD splitting the administration and coordination duties of the CMRWP at a Technical Committee meeting on March 9, 2026. All partner staff agreed to and supported the idea of Renville and Chippewa submitting a proposal for administration and coordination. Board members had questions for staff regarding the change from a three-year contract to a two-year proposal and clarity was provided with explanation of the delegation of duties following the FY26/27 grant

biennium and an approved work plan budget for administrative duties. Discussion was had about SWCDs about banking and paying themselves upon submitting invoices for staff time. It was discussed that all partner reimbursement requests would be approved at the quarterly Board meetings. The group discussed the mid-point review of the CWMP as well as the grant available to help with the review and any plan revisions. Staff foresee saving the one-time grant for a Plan update vs. using the funds assisting in the mid-point review. Discussion was also held about information that will be needed from the previous Coordinator to complete future reporting tasks. A list of items needed will be submitted to the Hawk Creek Watershed Project Board for retrieval.

- i. Supervisor P. Smith made a motion to accept the proposal as written, presented, and discussed, retroactive to March 2, 2026. Commissioner Berg seconded. Motion passed by roll call vote with four present board members voting yes and Commissioner David Hamre voting no.

7. Banking & CDS Signatory Updates:

- a. Discussion was held about a past due invoice from Renville SWCD that Commissioner Stranberg is working with CDS on. Discussion was held about moving banking services to Minnwest Bank in Montevideo. Discussion was held about current signers at CDS as well as at HomeTown bank. Discussion was held about who would be signers at Minnwest Bank.
 - i. Motion was made by Supervisor B. Smith to open a checking and ICS account at Minnwest Bank in Montevideo with Zach Bothun, Desirae Jarett, Holly Hatlewick, Jerry Schwitters, and Kurt Stranberg as authorized signers. The bank account at HomeTown Bank will be closed as well as the account at Conway, Deuth, and Schmeising after all necessary files are retrieved and paperwork is completed. Supervisor P. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
 - ii. Motion was made by Supervisor B. Smith to allow all CMRWP partner staff to request and obtain any and all needed information and files from Conway, Deuth, and Schmeising. Supervisor P. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

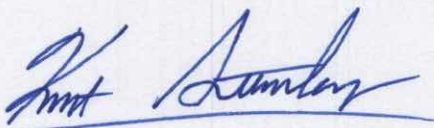
8. Future Meetings & Location:

- a. Next meeting will be held on May 13, 2026 at 1:30 pm at the Kandiyohi SWCD Office

9. Other Business:

- a. Mark Hiles requested to clarify whether the grant will still be held by the CMRWP JPB. Yes, the grant will still be held by the JPB.
- b. Discussion was held about the feedback survey—it was decided to hold off on this for now

10. Meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.


Kurt Stranberg
Chippewa Co Commissioner
CMRWP Board Chair

4/4/26