



**Becker
Soil & Water
Conservation District**

Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting
SWCD/NRCS Conference Room
USDA Service Center

Wednesday, November 20, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Supervisors Present:

Michelle Andresen, Chair
Travis Schauer, Secretary
Tony Beck, Treasurer
Gene Pavelko, Public Relations

Absent:

Curt Ballard, Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Bryan Malone, District Administrator
Jamie Bischoff, Office Manager
Christy Johnson, Outreach Coordinator
Ed Musielewicz, NRCS
Logan Riedel, Resource Technician
Owen Reding, Shoreland Technician
Ed Clem, Soil & Water Resource Technician

Call to Order

Chair Andresen called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Agenda

Approval of Agenda

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to approve the November agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes

Approval of October 16, 2024, meeting minutes

Motion (Beck, Pavelko) to approve the October 2024 meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial

Treasurers Report and Bills for Approval

Bischoff presented the Treasurers Report and Bills.

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to approve the October 2024 Treasurer's Report and October bills to pay. All in favor, motion carried.

2023 Audit

Malone presented the draft of the 2023 audit and asked for board approval to send to BWSR.

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the 2023 audit and send to BWSR. All in favor, motion carried.

2025 Tree Prices

Malone presented his recommended price changes for 2025 tree sales.

Motion (Schauer, Beck) to approve the recommended tree prices for 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Late Payment Fee Policy

Motion (Schauer, Beck) to send invoices at creation, 30 days, 60 days, and to charge the late fee at 90 days along with a phone call to the customer. All in favor, motion carried.

Cost Share

Clean Water Fund Cancellation

CWF-05-LP StJa, Conservation Cover

The contract was paid \$1,564 in 2016. It is in its 8th year of its 10 year contract. The new landowner has requested to cancel the contract in order to modify the conservation practice. The board recommended that a cancellation request, in good faith, on change of ownership contracts that the payback amount be prorated based on years remaining of the contract and amount paid.

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the CWF-05-LP cancellation with a payment of 20% of the contract payment amount or \$312.80. All in favor, motion carried.

CRP Incentive Program

Malone explained that extra funding was received from the state for a CRP incentive payment to landowners in both the Buffalo-Red River and the Wild Rice Marsh CWMPs. This payment is an incentive to landowners to enroll in CRP and is in addition to the FSA contract.

Motion (Schauer, Beck) to adopt a payment rate of \$100 per acre for the incentive payments. All in favor, motion carried.

Malone presented applications for the Buffalo-Red to pay the \$100 per acre incentives.

Motion (Schauer, Pavelko) to approve the Buffalo-Red River CWMP CRP incentive contracts. All in favor, motion carried.

Malone presented the applications for the Wild Rice Marsh to pay the \$100/acre incentives.

Motion (Beck, Pavelko) to approve the Wild Rice Marsh CWMP CRP incentive contracts. All in favor, motion carried.

Watershed Based Implementation Fund Amendments

1W1P-08-BR LaLa, Wetland Restoration - Amend the completion date to 12/1/2025.

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to amend the completion date for contract 1W1P-08-BR. All in favor, motion carried.

1W1P-03-WR JeJi, WASCBS – Amend the funding for a greater amount from FY21 and a reduced amount from FY23.

Motion (Pavelko, Beck) to amend the funding sources for contract 1W1P-03-WR. All in favor, motion carried.

Local Water Management

Resolution to adopt the Crow Wing River CWMP once approved by BWSR.

Motion (Schauer, Beck) to adopt the Crow Wing River CWMP. All in favor, motion carried.

MASWCD

Area Meeting Recap November 19th

The tree shearer that was seen at the meeting has a some staff and board members talking about purchasing one. How would we charge for the service? Do we need to hire someone for this service?

Convention Schedule and Arrangements

Jamie reviewed the agenda, travel and lodging details of the conference with the board.

Open Forum

Ed Musielewicz reported on the Farm Bill and EQIP ranking deadlines.

Staff Reports

Logan Reidel, Resource Technician, gave his report to the board.

Owen Reding, Shoreland Technician, introduced himself and gave a brief description of his background.

Bryan Malone – Administrator

1W1P – The Crow Wing Planning Team continues to meet and discuss the workplan for implementation of the plan. The Wild Rice Planning Team met as the Policy committee meeting is scheduled for Monday November 25th. The FY21 WBIF grant expires the end of the year and developed a game plan to ensure those funds are expended by that time. The same for the Redeye, as that group also met to finish things up. The Buffalo Red initial grant also expires the end of the year and we have one invoice left to receive in order to spend down that grant. The Otter Tail planning committee also met but its first grant doesn't expire until next year. Worked on CRP incentive contracts for the Wild Rice and Buffalo Red.

Projects – Jerred Jirava project is complete, and invoices received. Will make payment after the board meeting as we have an amendment for allocation of funds. Matt Bjerke projects are also complete. Need to clean up a little spoil and turn in invoices but should have payment made before the end of the year. Kevin Olson travel way feedlot project is complete also. Terry Kohler is the only project left to finish up. The Toad River post card was sent again along with the Floyd Lakes.


Personnel – Owen Reding started for us on November 12th as the Shoreland Technician. Conducted one inter for the engineering technician but have also received a couple other applications. Our intern Sophie put up our HOB0 rain gauge and tested that out for us. We also have a trail camera installed at this WASCB location to see how the water pools with the recorded rainfall. There are few applications for the internship position already. Completed almost all of the Performance Evaluations of the staff. Will have personnel committee meeting on December 12th.

Meetings and Other – BWSR Academy presentation about our shared staffing arrangements went well and the 3 day training event had a lot of good sessions. I attended many on Human Resources. We received our Audit reports for Becker SWCD and RRVCSA. I read those and will bring to the Board meeting. MPCA will be conducting the second phase of WRAPs in the Wild Rice. The first round was in 2013-14. Attended a meeting investigating a Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG) opportunity.

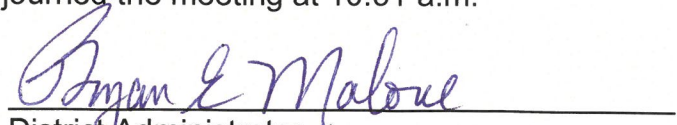
TSA – Received the quarterly reports on how the TSA funds have been spent.

Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Chair Andresen adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.



Board Secretary



District Administrator

18 Dec 2024

Date

12/18/2024

Date