

**FARIBAULT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FARIBAULT COUNTY AG. CENTER
415 SOUTH GROVE ST., SUITE 8
BLUE EARTH, MN 56013
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 11, 2018**

1. MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN NEAL MENSING AT 8:30 AM.

2. SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN – NEAL MENSING
VICE-CHAIRMAN – BILL ANDERSON
SECRETARY – JEFF BELL
TREASURER – DAVE MATHEWS
P/R – RANDY FEIST

3. STAFF PRESENT:

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR – MICHELE STINDTMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – LINDA BERNDT
OTHER STAFF as NECESSARY

I. APPROVALS

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mathews to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by Bell.
ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes
MOTION CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bell to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018 SWCD Board Meeting. Second by Mathews.
ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes
MOTION CARRIED

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Bell to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and to file it subject to audit.
Second by Feist.
ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes
MOTION CARRIED

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Anderson to pay all outstanding bills. Second by Mathews.
ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes
MOTION CARRIED

5. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Motion by Bell to approve the transfer of \$120,000.00 from the district savings account to the district checking account. Second by Mathews.
ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes
MOTION CARRIED

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. GRIEVANCES – The Ditching Dilemma meeting held at the Police Station/Fire Hall.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. NRCS – Josiah –

Updates/Reports: Energy Audit; PAT; SAMS; State Conservationist; Staffing and Work Load. Energy Audit information was distributed.

FSA – No Report

2. COST-SHARE CONTRACT and VOUCHER SPREADSHEET ENCUMBERING –

Motion by Mathews to approve Encumbering the list attached to April 2018 SWCD Minutes. Second by Feist.

ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes

MOTION CARRIED

VOUCHER PAYMENTS – None

3. GRANTS UPDATE GRANTS –

Michele S. – An update on Cost-Share funding was presented.

319 Grant Application titled GREATER BLUE EARTH SOIL HEALTH ENDEAVOR did not make it past the first round of funding. Will need to see what other options we have for being able to offer the Civic Engagement activities that were outlined in the grant application.

Alternative Practices amendment for buffers. Michele and Nate presented a possible amendment to the “Alternative Practices Policy” for Public Waters Only. This amendment would be to strike out some existing language and replace with “Other Practices Approved by BWSR”. Copy is attached

Motion by Feist to approve the Amendment to the Alternative Practices Policy for Public Waters Only to add “BWSR Approved Public Waters Alternatives” as presented. Second by Mathews.

ANDERSON – Yes, BELL – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes

MOTION CARRIED

4. PROGRAM UPDATES – Brandee -

A written Report was given on: Meetings; Past/Ongoing projects; Upcoming Meetings; and Upcoming Projects. Staff report is attached.

Michele S. -

- **Monitoring Work Shop**

A river monitoring workshop will be held from 10 – 12 at Minn-Iowa Golf Course, Elmore. Workshop will include presentations by Pat Baskfield, MPCA and Jon Lore, DNR, along with local staff. Invited were landowners within one mile of the current testing sites.

- **Buffer Law Non-Compliant Parcel Official List**

The SWCD approved Buffer Law Non-Compliant Parcels List was presented to the County Commissioners for enforcement at the April 3, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting.

- **Side-by-Side**

The SWCD will lease a side-by-side from Yeager’s for buffer inspections and flagging.

Supervisor Jeff Bell left the meeting.

- **Flagging of Buffers**

Discussion was held on staff time and equipment needed to stake buffers. Further discussion is needed.

- **Soil Loss Law**

This topic will continue to be discussed at future meetings. More information will be coming out in the next few months. Michele sits on a committee that is preparing some initial information.

SUPERVISOR/OTHER UPDATE –

SCTSA – Bill

Updates/Reports were given on: New Staff; 2017 NPEA Financial Reconciliation; ELink Report; GIS Grant Funds; Civil 3D License; and upcoming needs.

BWSR Update – Jill Sackett Eberhart was present at the meeting and gave an update on current and ongoing BWSR programs and projects.

Area VI – Michele S.

Michele and Brandee attended the recent Area VI meeting in St. James. Updates/Reports were given on: MN River Basin Alliance; SCTSA; IDP; Non-Structural Management Training; Employees Meeting; and Manager's Meeting.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

1. May Board Meeting - The May Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 8:30 AM in the SWCD office. As with all spring board meetings, if a supervisor knows he will not make it to the meeting, they will call the office at 7 a.m. Meeting will be scheduled as weather allows.

2. Email Policy – Michele S led a discussion on staff accessing or having access to work emails when staff is out of the office on vacation. Decision was made that an automatic “Out of Office” reply should be sufficient as long as it states the time away, and a contact number is staffs absence.

3. Upcoming Events –

April 24 – Monitoring Workshop, Minn-Iowa Golf Course, Elmore – Board Members & Staff

IV. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Motion by Anderson to approve attendance to the following meetings:

April 13	GBERBA Exec., Mankato – Neal
April 16	MACPZA, Owatonna – Chad
April 19	Buffer Mtg., Ag. Center – Michele S., Nate, Brandee
	Grain Millers, Ext. Mtg. Room – Michele W.
April 24	Monitoring W/S, Minn-Iowa Golf Course, Elmore–Michele S., Brandee, Michele W.
April 25	GBERBA Tech., Mankato – Michele S., Shane, Nate
	CREP, Mankato – Michele S., Shane, Nate
May 7	Pheasants Forever, Easton – Nate
May 8	Women in Ag., Wells - Michele S., Brandee, Michele W.
	PC/BOA, Ag. Center - Linda

Second by Feist.

ANDERSON – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment –

Motion by Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mathews.

ANDERSON – Yes, FEIST – Yes, MATHEWS – Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Mensing adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.

SWCD BOARD MEETING COST SHARE ENCUMBERING AND/OR PAYMENT REQUEST

Board Meeting Date	4/11/18
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Board Chair Signature _____

[illegible]

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[illegible]

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Board Chair Signature _____

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