

**FARIBAULT COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FARIBAULT COUNTY AG CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
BLUE EARTH, MN 56013**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2022**

Chairman Feist called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Randy Feist
Dave Mathews
Neal Mensing
Bill Anderson
Jeff Bell

SUPERVISORS ABSENT:

None

STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT:

Shane Johnson, Nate Carr, Hadley Mensing | Brandon Berndt, Henry Berghoff, and Ciara Ahrens (via phone) – NRCS | Merissa Lore – Drainage Department

I. APPROVALS

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA / ADDITIONS (noted in red) (Action Item)

Motion by Mensing to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2022 (Action Item)

Motion by Bell to approve the March 9, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the addition.

Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 21, 2022 (Action Item)

Motion by Anderson to approve the March 21, 2022, Special Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT (Action Item)

Motion by Mathews to approve the March 2022 Treasurer’s Report as presented and to file it subject to audit. Seconded by Bell.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

5. PAYMENT OF BILLS (Action Item)

Motion by Bell to pay all outstanding bills. Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

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6. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAY BILLS (Action Item)

Motion by Mathews to approve the Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 from Savings to Checking to pay the bills. Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Grievances / Other – None

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. FSA (8:45), NRCS (9:00), and Drainage (9:15) Update

-FSA – No Update this month.

-NRCS – Brandon & Henry gave an NRCS update in person. Ciara gave an update via phone.

-Drainage – Merissa gave a Drainage Department update.

2. COST SHARE CONTRACT / VOUCHER SPREADSHEET

A. Encumbering (Action Item) – Hadley and Shane briefed the Board on the Cost Share Requests.

Motion by Bell to approve the Cost Share Encumbering Requests as presented for a total of \$61,979.00. Seconded by Anderson.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, and Feist. Board members Mathews and Mensing abstained.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

B. Voucher Payments – None this month.

The complete and detailed list of Encumbering and Payment requests are attached to the Official Minutes and are available in the SWCD office.

3. STAFF PROGRAM & GRANT UPDATES – Including Policy Updates, Contract Approvals, etc.

A. Future Grants – Rice Creek 319

Nate gave a Rice Creek 319 grant update to the Board.

B. Current Grants –

1. Capacity Cost Share Policy (Action Item) – Nate presented the updated Capacity Cost Share Policy to the Board.

Motion by Bell to approve the Capacity Cost Share Policy. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

2. Cover Crop Demonstration Grant (Action Item) – Nate talked about the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant and mentioned the District has excess education funds (\$1,000) due to the pandemic. He mentioned we should use the \$1,000.00 to fund field/plot days and to implement conservation practices at the USC School District.

Motion by Bell to approve spending the \$1,000.00 from the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant for field days and conservation practices at the USC School. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

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4. BOARD SUPERVISOR UPDATES

A. Supervisor Updates from Meetings | Trainings | Events (Discussion Item)

Board member Mensing gave a GBERBA meeting update. He mentioned the next meeting may be held in person.

Board member Anderson gave a 1W1P meeting update.

Board member Feist gave a 1W1P meeting update.

All Board members discussed the Area VI MASWCD Meeting they attended, which was held in New Ulm on April 6, 2022.

B. Upcoming Meetings | Trainings | Events for Supervisors

Motion by Bell to approve attendance to the following:

April 22nd 1W1P (Randy)

Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Staff Reports (Chad, Shane, Nate, Hadley)

SWCD staff members gave job and project updates to the Board. Staff member Chad Viland was unable to attend.

2. Cell Phones for Staff (Action Item)

Nate mentioned that Shane, Chad, and himself need updated work cell phones, and Hadley needs to get a work phone.

Motion by Bell to approve the purchase of new work cell phones for staff, which is not to exceed \$250.00/person (\$1,000.00 total). Seconded by Anderson.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

3. MN PEIP Update (Action Item)

Shane updated the Board on the MN PEIP price increase.

Motion by Bell to approve the updated MN PEIP. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None.

4. SWCD Hats & Shirts (Action Item)

Hadley mentioned the SWCD was running low on soil health t-shirts and SWCD hats, which are used for giveaways at field days and events.

Motion by Mathews to approve ordering more soil health t-shirts, and a total of 48 SWCD hats.

Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

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5. Go-Pro (Action Item)

Hadley and Nate mentioned that the Soil Health Team suggested purchasing a Go-Pro. This could be mounted to different pieces of equipment to show how each operation implements soil health on their land, and how different each one can be. Hadley presented the Hero10 Go-Pro and mentioned it could be purchased with or without the accessories.

Motion by Bell to approve the purchase of the Hero10 (Black) Go-Pro + Accessories Bundle. Seconded by Mathews.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

6. 2022 Faribault County Fair Sponsorship / Prairie Ecology Bus (Action Item)

Nate mentioned members of the Fair Board approached the SWCD regarding a sponsorship. He also mentioned hiring the Prairie Ecology Bus to set up for a day during the fair this year.

Motion by Anderson to approve the “Blue” Sponsorship (\$500.00) and to contact the Prairie Ecology Bus for the 2022 Faribault County Fair. Seconded by Bell.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

7. Equipment Purchase Saturated Buffer (Action Item)

Nate went over the saturated buffer equipment purchases and mentioned the prices were lower than budgeted.

Motion by Bell to approve the equipment purchases for the saturated buffer. Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

8. Joint Board Meeting – July 13th, 2022 (Discussion Item)

The Joint Board Meeting between the county and the SWCD will be on July 13th, 2022 following the SWCD Board Meeting (1 pm start time).

9. Supervisor Elections – Reminder (Discussion Item)

Shane reminded the three (3) Board members (Bill, Randy, Dave) that their seats are up for election this November (2022).

10. May Board Meeting – Wednesday, May 11th, 2022 – 8:30 a.m., Ag Ctr, Conference Room

V. APPROVE MEETINGS | EVENTS | TRAININGS FOR STAFF

Motion by Bell to approve attendance to the following:

April 19 th	AMC, Septic Policy – Chad
April 19/20 th	Tree Delivery & Pickup – Hadley, Shane, Nate
April 21 st	MPCA, TAP – Chad
May 9 th	BEA School Field Day – Hadley, Nate
May 10 th	1W1P, Steering Team – Nate
May 25 th	WCA Training, Mankato – Shane

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Seconded by Mensing.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bell.

Voting unanimously in favor by were: Anderson, Bell, Mathews, and Mensing.

Voting against – None. Motion Carried