

**FARIBAULT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
FARIBAULT COUNTY AG CENTER
415 SOUTH GROVE ST., SUITE 8
BLUE EARTH, MN 56013
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2019**

Chairman Bell called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

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

SUPERVISORS ABSENT: None

STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT:

ASSISTANT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR – BRANDEE DOUGLAS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – AMY HUBER
PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – SHANE JOHNSON
FSA – NICKI MIRANOWSKI

I. APPROVALS

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS

Motion by Mathews to approve the Agenda with the following additions: I.6, transition from manual checks to electronic checks; III.4b, approval to sign off on final website design; and IV.2, notification of Federal Jury Duty for Amy. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Anderson to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2019 SWCD Board Meeting. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Feist to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and to file it subject to audit. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion by Anderson to pay all outstanding bills. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

5. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAY BILLS

Motion by Mensing to approve the Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$10,100.00 from Savings to Checking to pay the bills. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

6. MANUAL CHECKS TO ELECTRONIC CHECKS

Motion by Feist to transition from manual checks to electronic checks with the same two manual signature requirement as before. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. GRIEVANCES – None

III. NEW BUSINESS –

1. FSA/Nicki -

Updates/Reports: Mentioned they were wrapping up acreage reporting; she discussed the difference between the MFP program from 2018 to 2019; the CRP sign up deadline is next week; mentioned the national office chooses the spot checks and Faribault County did not have any spot checks this time; Nicki discussed the prevent plant acres registered through FSA and the PLC proven yield available in 2020; lastly she said her newly hired staff person, Ashley Allevan, starts September 5th.

2. COST-SHARE CONTRACT and VOUCHER SPREADSHEET

Shane Johnson briefed the Board on the Cost-Share Requests.

ENCUMBERING –

Motion by Mathews to approve the Cost Share Encumbering Requests as presented for a total amount of \$13,266.48. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

VOUCHER PAYMENTS –

Motion by Mensing to approve the Cost Share Payment Requests as presented for a total payment amount of \$73,384.50. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

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

Shane discussed the CREP program. The Board inquired if there was a way to get more information about the CREP program out to the public. Board member Anderson suggested it would be nice to see before and after pictures of projects and maybe review them this winter at a meeting.

3. GRANTS UPDATE/OTHER –

Brandee passed out a document with information on the 2020 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant RFP but explained it must be a partnership with the County Drainage Department. This grant would be to match the Brush Creek 319 Grant. She discussed the different amounts that could be applied for as well as Cost-share options for the Board and mentioned the board would need to decide the amount of the grant and cost-share percentage for this grant. Shane described the state cost-share recommendations.

Motion by Anderson to approve 75% cost-share for the CWF/Brush Creek 319 match grant. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion by Mathews to approve 25% up to 75% cost-share. Second by Feist. Before the chair stated the motion, member Mathews asked to modify his motion. Feist's second was withdrawn.

Motion by Mathews to approve submission of the Clean Water Fund grant application in partnership with the Faribault County Drainage Department to match the Brush Creek 319 grant upland implementation BMP's at 25% cost share rate, so as not to exceed 75% total. Seconded by Feist. Those voting in favor: Mensing, Feist, Mathews. Those against: Anderson. Motion carried.

Brandee provided an update on the LeSueur 319 Grant.

4. STAFF PROGRAM UPDATES –

Buffer Law Update – In Dusty’s absence, Brandee provided copies of and reviewed the non-compliant Buffer Parcels. She had a 2018 list as well as a 2019 list.

Website Final Design – Brandee showed the board the final web-site design.

Motion by Feist to approve the final Website Design and sign-off. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

Soil Health Field Day – In Nate’s absence, Brandee handed out a document regarding the next Field Day that Nate is coordinating on behalf of the Soil Health Team. It is planned for September 5th at Andy Linder’s Farm by Easton from 10:30 – noon. The focus will be on low disturbance manure application and how manure application machinery and cover crops can work together.

Review Strip Till Policy – Shane had a hand out of the Strip Tillage Policy and reviewed it with the board as a first reading. He mentioned they can review it and at the next Board meeting it would be brought back for final approval.

5. SUPERVISOR UPDATE -

There were no Supervisor updates from meetings or trainings this month.

A list of upcoming meetings Board members could consider attending was reviewed.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Consideration of the Outstanding Conservationist (applications are due by 9/16/19 to MASWCD). Brandee mentioned it would be good to decide this well before the deadline so we can submit the Outstanding Conservationist early enough to elicit consideration for the State Conservationist award. After discussion of who should be the local outstanding conservationist, staff and the Board thought Andy Linder should be a consideration.

Motion by Mensing to submit Andy Linder’s name as the Outstanding Conservationist. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

2. Federal Jury Duty - Amy

Amy mentioned that she received notification that she is on the Federal Jury Duty list for the next year. Notification is random and may be called to serve.

3. September Board Meeting

The September Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in the SWCD Conference room.

V. MEETINGS/EVENTS/TRAININGS FOR STAFF -

Motion by Mensing to approve attendance to the following:

August 15	MN River Congress, Henderson - Michele
August 22	Area VI Construction Training, Redwood Falls – Nate/Shane
August 28	GBERBA Executive/Technical Mtg., Mankato - Michele
September 5	Soil Health Field Day – Nate/Staff
Sept. 10	Huntley Sewer Dist. Mtg., Winnebago - Chad
Sept. 10	Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, Ag Ctr. - Amy
Sept. 12-13	MASWCD Governance Training, Bloomington - Amy

Seconded by Feist. Motion carried.

Michele, Program Administrator, was at another manager training, but provided a program report to the Board for review.

VI. ADJOURNMENT –

Motion by Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.
Chairman Bell adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

SWCD BOARD MEETING COST SHARE ENCUMBERING REQUEST

Board Meeting Date

August 14, 2019

Board Chair Signature _____

[illegible]

SWCD BOARD MEETING COST SHARE PAYMENT REQUEST

Board Meeting Date	August 14, 2019
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Board Chair Signature _____

[illegible]