

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

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2022**

Chairman Feist called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 8:32 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, and Chad Viland | Ciara Ahrens, Nick Segar, and Connor Ehlert – NRCS | Dustin Anderson – Drainage

I. APPROVALS

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

Motion Bell to approve the Agenda with the correction. Seconded by Anderson.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

2. APPROVAL OF JULY 13, 2022, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES (Action Item)

Motion by Bell to approve the July 13, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mathews.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT (Action Item)

Motion by Bell to approve the July 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented and to file it subject to audit.

Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

4. 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.

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

Motion by Bell to approve the Transfer of Funds in the amount of \$56,000.00 from Savings to Checking to pay the bills. Seconded by Mathews.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

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II. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Grievances / Other** – None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. FSA, NRCS, and Drainage Update

- FSA – No update this month.
- NRCS – Ciara, Nick, and Connor gave an NRCS update
- Drainage – Dustin gave a Drainage update.

2. COST SHARE CONTRACT / VOUCHER SPREADSHEET

- A. Encumbering** (Action Item) – Shane, Hadley & Nate briefed the Board on the Cost Share Requests.

Motion by Bell to approve the Cost Share Encumbering Requests as presented for a total of \$40,755.00. Seconded by Mathews.

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

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 – Cover Crop Grant** (Discussion Item)

Nate mentioned the SWCD received an email about open cover crop grants, and said we have the opportunity to apply. He also mentioned the application is due soon, so it would be difficult to apply for it on time. His thought was to apply next year instead, since we already have a couple different grants going on. After some discussion, it was decided not to apply this year, but to wait until next year.

- B. Current Grants –**

1. Rice Creek Non-Structural Policies (Action Item)

Nate went over the updated non-structural policies for the Rice Creek Grant and compared the rates to current EQUIP rates and current ISU custom rates.

Motion by Bell to approve the Rice Creek Non-Structural Policies. Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

2. Brush Creek 319 Grant (Action Item)

- A. Grant Cost-Share Funds**

- B. Grant Education Funds**

Nate explained to the Board how there's been lot of interest in the Brush Creek Grant, especially cover crop cost share. He mentioned funds can be moved from *education* to *encumbering* in the grant since it would fall within the grant's objective.

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Nate also mentioned if this is not enough funding, money from County Allocation could be used.

Motion by Bell to approve moving money from *Education* to *Encumbering* within the Brush Creek 319 Grant, and to use up to \$5,000.00 of County Allocation funds if needed for Cost Share encumbering. Seconded by Mathews.

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

Voting against – Anderson. Motion Carried.

3. Cover Crop Demonstration Grant – Grant Extension (Action Item)

Nate informed the Board that a 1- or 2-year grant extension was available for the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant. Hadley mentioned most people participating in the grant were interested in extending their contract for an additional year.

Motion by Bell to extend the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant for 1 additional year (2023).

Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

4. BOARD SUPERVISOR UPDATES

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

Board members Bell, Feist, and Mensing gave a County Board Meeting update that was held on July 13, 2022.

Board member Feist gave a 1W1P meeting update

Board member Bell gave a Soil Health Team meeting update.

B. Upcoming Meetings | Trainings | Events for Supervisors (Action Item)

Motion by Bell to approve attendance to the following:

August 18 th	Cargill RegenConnect; Waseca, MN
August 26 th	1W1P (Randy)
September 7 th	Soil Health/Organic Field Day; Joe Mutschler (All Supervisors)
September 7 th	Cover Crop Field Day; Eric Volsen (All Supervisors)

Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

Board member Bell departed the meeting at 10:47a.m.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

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

SWCD staff members gave job and project updates to the Board.

2. Tree Pre-Order (Discussion Item)

Hadley asked the Board if they were comfortable with her pre-ordering trees from Schumachers, even though we will not receive the 2023 price book until October.

After some discussion, the Board gave the go-ahead for Hadley to start ordering trees.

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3. CD62 (Discussion Item)

Chad and Nate mentioned Gary Feyereisen from USDA and Todd Schumacher from University of MN plan on hosting a field day at CD62 for SWCD Board members and watershed operators. This will be an opportunity for members of the Board and operators to ask questions about how the bioreactor works, tests being done, and to see the reactors in action. A final date is still TBD.

4. 1W1P (Discussion Item)

Nate and Board member Feist mentioned the 1W1P is looking at options for fiscal administration of the 1W1P Implementation Grants. The SWCD Board discussed different choices including Joint Powers Entity, Collaboration, or GBERBA being the fiscal administration.

5. September Board Meeting – Wednesday, September 14, 2022 – 8:30 a.m., Ag Ctr Conference Room

V. MEETINGS | EVENTS | TRAININGS FOR STAFF (Action Item)

Motion by Anderson to approve attendance to the following:

August 11 th	Open House planning Meeting (CD30/62 & Saturated Buffer) – Chad
August 18 th	Cargill RegenConnect; Waseca, MN – Hadley
August 18 th	MPCA TAP Meeting – Chad – CANCELLED
August 30 th	WASCOB Training; Mower County – Hadley
September 7 th	Soil Health/Organic Field Day; Joe Mutschler – Hadley, Nate
September 7 th	Cover Crop Field Day; Eric Volsen – Hadley, Nate
September 8 th	SSTS Advisory Committee Meeting – Chad
September 13 th	1W1P, Steering Team – Nate
September 13 th	Huntly Sewer District – Chad

Seconded by Mathews.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

Chairman Feist adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 11:15 a.m.