

**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  
MARCH 13, 2019**

**Chairman Bell calls 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:**

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR – MICHELE STINDTMAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – AMY HUBER  
CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN – NATE CARR  
ASSISTANT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR – BRANDEE DOUGLAS  
PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – SHANE JOHNSON  
WATER RESOURCE TECHNICIAN – CHAD VILAND  
NRCS – JOSIAH OLSON  
FSA – NICKI MIRANOWSKI

**I. APPROVALS**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS**

Motion by Feist to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Mensing.  
Motion carried.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Anderson to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2019 SWCD Board Meeting.  
Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

**4. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion by Feist to pay all outstanding bills. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

**5. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PAY BILLS**

Motion by Mensing to approve the transfer of \$17,000.00 from the district savings account to the district checking account to pay current expenses. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. GRIEVANCES – None**

### **III. NEW BUSINESS –**

#### **1. NRCS/Josiah –**

**Updates/Reports:** Discussed the Soil Health Summit he recently attended; the interest from landowners to grow Hemp; CSP sign up status; Anna from their office is no longer there; and the RCPP deadline.

#### **FSA/Nicki –**

**Updates/Reports:** Handed out documents on the 2018 Farm Bill Changes and Listening Sessions, and What's New – Risk Management Agency (RMA), and the 2018 Farm Bill. She mentioned the CRP program is still unclear and that the Farm program sign-up is September 1<sup>st</sup>. Nicki discussed some local interest in landowners looking to grow Hemp and stated they are assisting NRCS with 1026 paperwork. She also brought up that they have not been approved yet to implement the 2018 Farm Bill and that Norma's last day is March 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **2. COST-SHARE CONTRACT and VOUCHER SPREADSHEET**

Shane Johnson and Nate Carr briefed the Board on the Cost-Share Requests.

#### **ENCUMBERING –**

Motion by Anderson to approve the Cost Share Encumbering Request as presented. Seconded by Mensing. Motion carried.

#### **VOUCHER PAYMENTS -**

Motion by Mensing to approve the Cost Share Payment Request as presented. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

Motion by Feist to approve the Program Administrator to authorize MAWQCP Certification Incentives up to \$300.00. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

#### **3. GRANTS UPDATE/OTHER –**

Shane Johnson went through the State Joint Powers Agreement for the Walk-In Access Program and the Conservation Legacy Grant Program Encumbrance Worksheet for Faribault County SWCD and Swenson Water Quality Project.

Motion by Mensing to approve the Joint Powers Agreement for the Walk-in-Access Program. Seconded by Feist. Motion carried.

Motion by Feist to approve the Conservation Legacy Grant Program Encumbrance Worksheet for Faribault County SWCD/Maple River Swenson Water Quality Project. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

The final Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Project proposed Grant Budget was shared with the Board.

Michele shared a spread-sheet with the Board that entails the available Funding for Landowners for 2019.

#### **4. STAFF PROGRAM UPDATES –**

**Water Sampling:** Water Resource Technician, Chad Viland, discussed the water sampling process and showed the Board some of the equipment used in water sampling. Michele mentioned a field trip later may be useful to observe the process. Chad briefly discussed their recent monitoring of the Bioreactor.

Chairman Bell inquired about the Bioreactor Project and mentioned they would like to see results on how the project is going.

**Buffer Compliance - Brandee/Nate:** Brandee and Nate provided the Board with a final draft copy of the letter to go out to Landowners that are not yet in compliance with the Buffer Law, which will come from the SWCD Board Members. Nate mentioned he will have reminders on the Radio in regard to Buffer Compliance.

Motion by Feist to approve the final draft copy of the Buffer Compliance letter as presented. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

**Soil Health Plan – Nate:** Nate gave the Board a copy of the 2019 Soil Health Plan.

Motion by Mensing to approve the 2019 Soil Health Plan. Seconded by Feist. Motion carried.

**Seneca Update – Nate:** Mentioned he recently met with Seneca in regard to Cover Crops. He has set up a Cover Crop Workshop to be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Ag Center Conference room that will be geared more to canning crop producers in Southern MN.

**Legislative Update – Michele:** Stated she and Nate recently attended the Legislative Session and had the opportunity to meet with several legislators and see committee meetings in action. Senator Rosen is the head of the Finance Committee and they met with her. Future funding and Levy authority were some of the many topics discussed at the legislative session. Michele felt it would be valuable to have a couple Board Supervisors attend the legislative session next year. She will continue to follow the legislative process this spring.

#### **5. SUPERVISOR UPDATE -**

Board Chairman Bell gave a brief update on the Area VI MASWCD Meeting he attended in New Ulm. He mentioned we are scheduled to host the Area VI meeting in March of 2020. The next Area VI meeting is to be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A list of upcoming meetings for Board Supervisors to Consider Attending was reviewed.

#### **IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

##### **1. NATE'S HOURS**

Motion by Feist to approve changing Nate Carr's hours back to 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. beginning March 14, 2019. Seconded by Mathews. Motion carried.

Motion by Mensing to approve the Faribault County SWCD 2019 Budget. Seconded by Feist. Motion carried.

The next SWCD Board meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2019 at 8:30 in the SWCD Conference room.

#### **V. UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS/TRAININGS FOR STAFF -**

Motion by Mensing to approve attendance to the following:

March 19	County Commissioner Meeting, Courthouse
March 19	Joint SWCD Supervisors & County Commissioner Meeting, Ag Ctr.
March 20	SSTS Regulators Meeting, Owatonna - Chad

March 22	BECE/MPCA, Mankato - Michele
March 28	Elected Officials Meeting, Fairmont – Michele, Chad
March 30	Lura Lake Association Meeting, Delavan - Nate
April 2	County Commissioner Meeting, Courthouse
April 2	Seneca Cover Crop Workshop, Ag Center - Nate
April 2	Wieser Precast Spring Contractors/Regulators, Stewartville - Chad
April 8	Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, Ag Center – Amy

Seconded by Feist. Motion carried.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT –**

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

Chairman Bell adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

## SWCD BOARD MEETING COST SHARE ENCUMBERING REQUEST

<b>Board Meeting Date</b>	March 13, 2019
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**Board Chair Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

## SWCD BOARD MEETING COST SHARE PAYMENT REQUEST

<b>Board Meeting Date</b>	March 13, 2019
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Board Chair Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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