

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

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 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:**

Nate Carr, Hadley Mensing, Chad Viland | Nicki Miranowski – FSA | Nick Segar & Brandon Berndt – NRCS

**I. APPROVALS**

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

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

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried,

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (Action Item)

Motion by Anderson to approve the May 11, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT** (Action Item)

Motion by Mensing to approve the May 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented and to file it subject to audit. Seconded by Mathews.

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 Mathews.

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 \$35,000.00 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.**

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**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. FSA, NRCS, and Drainage Update**

- FSA – Nicki gave an FSA update and reminded the SWCD Board of acreage reporting.
- NRCS – Brandon & Nick gave an NRCS update.
- Drainage – No Update this month.

**2. COST SHARE CONTRACT / VOUCHER SPREADSHEET**

- A. Encumbering** (Action Item) – 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 \$3,000.00. Seconded by Mensing. 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** (Discussion Item) – None

**B. Current Grants** (Discussion Item) – **CREP Grant**

Nate mentioned the SWCD has the chance to reapply for the CREP Grant. However, he said we do not devote much time to CREP, so it may not be worth reapplying for. A discussion was held about not reapplying for the grant, but no final decision was reached.

**C. 2022-2023 Observation Well Contract** (Action Item)

Chad informed the Board that the SWCD has not yet received the 2022-2023 Observation Well Contract, but that it typically arrives in the next week or two. He mentioned the site is visited ten (10) times a year, which we receive \$35/visit (may be slightly different this time).

Motion by Anderson to approve the 2022-2023 Observation Well Contract as presented once it arrives. Seconded by Mathews.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

**4. BOARD SUPERVISOR UPDATES**

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

Board member Mensing gave a GBERBA, Policy meeting update.

Board member Feist gave a 1W1P meeting update.

Board member Mensing gave a Soil Health Team meeting update and mentioned the upcoming field days.

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

Motion by Bell to approve attendance to the following:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| June 8 <sup>th</sup>        | Local Working Group (All Supervisors)             |
| <b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>SCTSA Board Meeting (Bill)</b>                 |
| June 24 <sup>th</sup>       | 1W1P (Randy)                                      |
| June 28 <sup>th</sup>       | Area VI Meeting, Mankato Armory (All Supervisors) |
| July 13 <sup>th</sup>       | County Joint Board Meeting (All Supervisors)      |

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, Nate, Hadley)**

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

**2. Personnel Mid-Year Update (Action Item)**

Nate mentioned at the beginning of the year the Board discussed having a mid-year personnel update. This meeting is between SWCD staff and the SWCD Personnel Committee and will review the goals each staff member had for themselves.

Motion by Bell to schedule the Personnel Mid-Year Update meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, starting at 9:00 a.m. Seconded by Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

**3. HSA Account Transition (Action Item)**

Nate mentioned that the SWCD's HSA company is transitioning to WEX Health, Inc. and an agreement form needs to be signed. It was decided that either the Board Treasurer or the Co. Program Administrator (Nate) should sign the form.

Motion by Bell to accept the HSA account transition to WEX Health, Inc and to have the Co. Program Administrator, Nate Carr, sign the agreement form. Seconded by Anderson.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

**4. Audit Update (Discussion Item)**

Nate informed the Board that the SWCD's audit began last week and that Amy L and he were working through it.

**5. County Joint Board Meeting (Discussion Item)**

Reminder – The County Joint Board Meeting will be held in the Ag Center Conference room following the SWCD Board Meeting on July 13, 2022.

**6. Blue Earth FFA Project (Discussion Item)**

Nate and Hadley updated the Board on the Blue Earth FFA project. The BEA School District owns farmland on the south side of Blue Earth and will be farming it starting in 2023. The FFA program and

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Ag classes at the school will be managing the farm and selling the grain with guidance from the SWCD. Soil health practices will also be implemented on part of the farm.

**7. Tree Order / Pickup (Discussion Item)**

Hadley informed the Board of the issues she had with the large pickup tress from this year's tree sales, which are too large to be on the delivery truck and must be picked up. SWCD staff discussed options on what could be done in the future and presented the following options to the Board:

- 1.) No change – the buyer is responsible for picking up the trees on their own time.
- 2.) The SWCD could rent a trailer, and a staff member could pick up the trees prior to that year's delivery date. This would allow people to pick up their entire order, if purchasing small and large trees. \*An additional pickup charge would be applied.
- 3.) Pickup trees will no longer be available.

No decision was made, but Hadley and Nate wanted to bring it to the Board's attention before the next meeting.

**8. July Board Meeting – Wednesday, July 13, 2022 – 8:30 a.m. Ag. Ctr Conference Room**

**V. MEETINGS | EVENTS | TRAININGS FOR STAFF**

Motion by Bell to approve attendance to the following:

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| June 10 <sup>th</sup>       | MACFO – New Ulm – Chad                                 |
| June 14 <sup>th</sup>       | 1W1P, Steering Team – Nate                             |
| June 16 <sup>th</sup>       | Area 6 Training Team – Staff                           |
| June 22 <sup>nd</sup>       | Intro to Pollinator Habitat; Dodge Center, MN – Hadley |
| <b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>SCTSA Board Meeting – Staff</b>                     |
| June 28 <sup>th</sup>       | Area VI Meeting, Mankato Armory – Staff                |
| June 29/30 <sup>th</sup>    | Administrative Session; Brainerd, MN – Nate            |
| July 13 <sup>th</sup>       | County Joint Board Meeting – Staff                     |

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 Mensing.

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

Voting against – None. Motion Carried.

**Chairman Feist adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 11:01 a.m.**