



FREEBORN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Thursday, September 8th, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

Call to Order

- A regular meeting of the Freeborn County Soil & Water Conservation District was called to order by Chairman Christopher Dahl at the district office located at 1400 West Main Street, Albert Lea, MN on Thursday, September 8th at 1:30 PM.

Attendees

- **In attendance:** Christopher Dahl (Chairman), Donald Kropp (Vice-Chairman), David Ausen (Treasurer), Paul Heers Jr. (Board Secretary), Brenda Lageson (District Manager), Lindsey Zeitler (Resource Conservationist), Mark Trnka (Conservation Technician), Gary Kurer (NRCS-Team Lead 19)
- **Guests:** Dave Copeland (BWSR Board Conservationist)
- **Absent:** Colin Wittmer (Supervisor) and Chad Billat (Private Lands Biologist)

Approval of Minutes

- A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on August, 18th 2022 was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers Jr. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer Report

- Balance in checking account was \$25,345.30 and savings \$1,440,338.37 as of August 31st 2022. A motion to approve treasurer's report and pay bills was made by Kropp and seconded by Heers Jr. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Grant Program

- Manager Lageson made a request to apply for grant extensions to the grants expiring 12/31/2022 as well as authorization to sign grant amendments as needed. A motion was made by Heers Jr. and seconded by Kropp for the request of a grant extensions and authorization of Lageson to sign grant amendments. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- Manager Lageson asked for authorization to make cost share payments on behalf of the Freeborn SWCD if we are unable to form a quorum at our regular October meeting. A motion was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers Jr. to authorize Lageson to make cost share payments on behalf of the SWCD. **MOTION CARRIED**

NRCS Report

- Kurer updated the board on the addition of a Forester to the Austin, MN NRCS Office. Kurer reported updates on Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) within his territory.

Manager Report

- Lageson has emailed a copy of her report to the board and at the time of the meeting there was no new information to add.

Other Reports

- Kropp reported that he attended the LeSueur River- One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) policy meeting in the last month
- Heers Jr. reported that he attended a TSA Executive Board meeting, including regular business and budgeting.
- Copeland reported on the Soil Health Grant, FY23 Capacity, Buffer Law, Next Gen. eLINK, and BWSR Academy registration

Additional Items

- Joint SouthEast Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees (SEMACDE) and Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Supervisors (MASWCD) Area 7 meeting is on September 27th 2022 in Hokah, MN. Registration is due Wednesday, September 14th. Kropp and all staff are planning to attend.

Adjournment

- There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ausen and seconded by Heers, Jr. at 2:35pm. **MOTION CARRIED**

These are preliminary minutes subject to board approval at the next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors on Thursday, October 13th, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Heers, Jr., Board Secretary

Date