

**BIG STONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING – February 6, 2024
USDA Service Center, Ortonville MN**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morrill at 1:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Supervisors present: Morrill, Moen, Reisdorph, Holker

Others present: Brett Baldwin, Tammy Neubauer, Dustin Hieserich – SWCD staff; Wade Athey, BSC Commissioner

Approval of Agenda: motion Reisdorph, second Holker, to approve the agenda, as presented. Passed unanimously.

Secretary's Minutes – motion Moen, second Holker, to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay all bills presented. Passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Buffer Compliance Update – Dustin Hieserich discussed progress of buffer law compliance. BWSR has added a new layer to BuffCAT, which is yellow, which requires further review/site checks. Most of these are landowner changes. Dustin sent 20 letters to landowners that still need buffers; of those, he had 8 no responses. These landowners/parcels will be sent to Darren Wilke at the Environmental Office for Notices of Non-Compliance. Dustin is working closely with Darren regarding landowner compliance and plans to install buffers, or those parcels that remain non-compliant with no plan in place. Most landowners who responded to the letters have plans to implement no-till to gain compliance.
- UMRWD 1W1P – not much activity in January. The UMRW Joint Powers Collaboration contract is on the agenda for review and approval.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

- Peterson Company 2023 Audit Proposal – motion Moen, second Holker to approve 2023 audit proposal from Peterson Company for \$4500. Agreement is signed by Chairman Morrill and District Manager Neubauer. Passed unanimously.
- Area II Meeting – Tammy Neubauer informed the board of the Area II meeting in Royalton on March 6th. If any supervisors are interested in attending, let the office know before February 27th.
- UMRW Joint Powers Collaboration – after discussion, motion Reisdorph, second Holker to approve and sign the UMRW Joint Powers Collaboration for the 1W1P. Passed unanimously.

Big Stone County Commissioners' Report – Wade Athey, BSC Commissioner, was present to report information from the Commissioners' meetings. The commissioners have started 2025 budget discussions. Prime West is having a difficult time getting behavioral health staff here. Family Services system has been hacked. IT currently doing things to correct situation. The DNR received a recreational grant for Toqua Park to install playground, bathrooms, fencing and ballpark. The County has a contract with Erickson Engineering to replace the box culvert bridge in Akron Township. The commissioners received the resignation of a deputy sheriff and the Environmental Office administrative assistant. The County has entered a contract with LELS for a drug canine. Family Services have hired a new case aide and a new child support officer. The Graceville Golf Club was issued a gambling license.

NRCS Report – Tammy Neubauer read a report provided by Shantel Lozinski, acting DC for Big Stone.

SWCD Technician's Report – Dustin Hieserich presented the District Technician's Report.

Programs Technician's Report – Brett Baldwin presented the District Programs Technician's Report.

District Manager's Report – Tammy Neubauer presented the District Manager's Report.

Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Sincerely,

Tammy Neubauer

District Manager