

**BIG STONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**SUPERVISORS' MEETING – June 4, 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, Reisdorph, Dybdahl, Moen, Holker

Others present: Brett Baldwin, Tammy Neubauer, Dustin Hieserich – SWCD staff; Wade Athey, BSC Commissioner; Luke Olson, BWSR Board Conservationist

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

**Secretary's Minutes** – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the minutes of May 7, 2024, board meeting. Passed unanimously.

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

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Buffer Compliance Update – Dustin Hieserich updated on the buffer compliance. Dustin has been emailing with Laura DeBeer, BWSR, and they have been able to check more off the list of previously non-compliant parcels. Notices of Non-compliance are going out soon. A NoN in Malta sections 32/33 was missing from any of the files. With all the rain recently, waters are steadily rising in the county. Dustin mentioned a ditch needing cleaning out-water running its own path and flooding fields. Dan Morrill talked about fields in the north part of the county-with the rains and wind, the fields could benefit from cover crops and no-till to prevent more erosion. Dustin said that one of the observation wells is up 17', and waters are still rising.
- UMRWD 1W1P – Luke Olson, BWSR Board Conservationist, said that the work plan for the WBIF for the UMR 1W1P had been submitted and approved. The plan is waiting for the ranking tool from Houston Engineering before projects can be entered into the program tool for scoring. Luke talked some about the WBIF and how it will work.

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Soil Health Payment Voucher – motion Moen, second Holker, to approve payment voucher for Tom Arens #23SH-2 cover crops – lump sum payment voucher for cover crops on 115 acres, 1 species, 1-year contract for \$4,025.00. Passed unanimously.
- Soil Health payment Voucher – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve payment voucher for Tyler Wilkening #23SH-1 no-till – lump sum payment voucher for no-till on 95 acres, \$18.00 per acre, 3-year contract for \$5,130.00. Passed unanimously.
- Highway 75 Soil Health Field Tour – Tammy Neubauer presented information about the Highway 75 Soil Health Field Tour on July 11, 2024, at the Doug Jahnke farm. She described the costs and volunteer work involved and asked the Board for a donation amount for the field day. After discussion, motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to submit \$1500.00 toward the expenses of the field day. Passed unanimously.
- Governance 101 Training – Tammy Neubauer discussed the Governance 101 - 2-day training in Alexandria, July 16-17. Supervisors should let Tammy know by July 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Local Work Group – NRCS annually holds an LWG, hosted by the SWCD. The purpose of the LWG meeting is to annually facilitate a meeting with local producers, citizens, and partners to identify any conservation resource concerns. NRCS uses LWG input and recommendations to identify conservation planning needs to prioritize resource concerns for the State's technical and financial assistance. We would like to host the LWG at 10:30 on

the day of the July board meeting. After discussion and due to a lack of a quorum for July 2<sup>nd</sup> board meeting, the meeting and LWG will be postponed until July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Big Stone County Commissioners' Report** – Commissioner Wade Athey was present to provide information from County Commissioners' meeting. The County has received 4-year assessment agreements from 13 townships. A dilapidated structure permit application has been received. New Prim Health Insurance – no interest from employees was receive. The administrative assistant at the Environmental Office has resigned. A child support officer has resigned. A highway maintenance worker has resigned. The County has submitted an RFP to host the Governor's Pheasant Opener. Final payment has been submitted for the trail project.

Melanie Dickman, NRCS Team Lead, arrived at the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

**NRCS Report** – Melanie Dickman introduced herself and provided an NRCS report.

Melanie Dickman left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

**BWSR Update** – Luke Olson, BWSR Board Conservationist, provided updates on current and upcoming funding available to the SWCD. He also explained the application process and what qualifies for practices.

Wade Athey left the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

**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 3:29 p.m.

Sincerely,

*Tammy Neubauer*  
District Manager