

BIG STONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING – November 5, 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, Moen

Others present: Tammy Neubauer, Brett Baldwin – SWCD staff; Wade Athey, Big Stone County Commissioner

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

Secretary's Minutes – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the minutes of September 3, 2024, board meeting. 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 gave a buffer update in his report that he provided.
- UMRWD 1W1P – Tammy Neubauer gave an update on the UMR 1W1P. She has received 3 unfunded EQIP plans from WCTSA and is in the process of scoring them. As soon as landowners want to proceed with the projects and provide contractor bids, we can request funding from the UMR 1W1P.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

- Fraud Charges at Minnwest Bank – Tammy Neubauer updated the Board about the unauthorized charges on the debit card. Since the SWCD is considered a business, we are not covered by security and reimbursement for any fraudulent charges. Tammy explained that a MW Bank credit card would be a safer option. Motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to move forward with applying for a Minnwest Bank credit card. Passed unanimously.
- UMRWD 1W1P Policy for CRP Incentives – motion Reisdorph, second Moen, to stay with the UMRWD 1W1P CRP Incentives Policy. Passed unanimously.
- Alternative Tile Intakes Cost Share – moved to Old Business for December.
- ZOOM Account – motion Reisdorph, second Moen, to delete the ZOOM account. Passed unanimously.
- UMRW Based Implementation Funding Contract for Services – motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the Contract for Services with the UMRW Based Implementation Funding Contract for Services. Passed unanimously.
- Deletion of Cost Share Contract – the District had approved a cost share contract for additional funding for an EQIP project, to bring the cost share assistance for the landowner to 75%. After the project was complete, NRCS EQIP funding for the landowner was above 75%. Motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to delete Cost Share Project CS22-5. Passed unanimously.
- 2024 Cost Share Policy Amendments – after discussion, motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the amendments to the 2024 District Policy. Passed unanimously.
- MN DNR – Thielke Lake Shoreline Restoration – Tammy explained that the DNR has been anxious for the District to approve and sign the contract for the Thielke Lake Shoreline Restoration. The plans received from WCTSA have not been signed by the WCTSA engineer. The Board has agreed that the contract should not be signed until it has been approved and signed by the WCTSA engineer.

- Cost Share Payment Vouchers –
The following cost share vouchers are presented for approval:

Contract Number	Practice	Total Contract Amount	Percent or Flat Rate	Total Voucher to Approve	Funding Source(s)
23SH-3	cover crops year 1	\$7,150.00	flat rate	\$7,150.00	23SH, 23 LC
23LC-1	cover crops year 1	\$6,300.00	flat rate	\$6,300.00	22C/S, 23 C/S, 23LC
23LC-3	cover crops year 1	\$8,185.20	flat rate	\$8,185.20	23LC
25SH-1	cover crops year 1	\$8,185.20	flat rate	\$8,185.20	25SH, 23LC
23LC-2	cover crops year 1	\$10,000.00	flat rate	\$10,000.00	23LC
24CC-1	well sealing	\$1,925.00	50% up to \$800.00	\$800.00	24CC

Motion Moen, second Reisdorph, to approve the payment vouchers presented. Passed unanimously.

Lon Moen left the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Big Stone County Commissioners' Report** – Wade Athey, BSC Commissioner, gave the Commissioners' Report. On the following:
 - The Armor Grant provided \$250,000 for new radio equipment for officers, with at \$13,000 match from the County
 - Microsoft contract has been approved - \$48,000/year for 3 years
 - the County has appealed the decision by FEMA to deny claims from spring flooding
 - UMRWD has submitted a grant application for Community Resilience Program
 - Red River Flood map updated – FEMA will grant up to \$1 million with \$333,00 match for areas previously not covered
 - Ditch permitting is being updated
 - Phase 1 of Toqua Park Renovations is complete
 - Woodland Centers had an increase in costs of 2%
 - the County approved Services for Youth out-of-home placement
 - County approved a conditional use permit for gravel mining
 - County signed a 2025 Medical Examiner contract with Midwest Medical
 - Operation Green Light is in place, providing veteran support
 - the Veteran Service Officer is part time until he can be replaced
- **NRCS Report** – none
- **SWCD Technician's Report** – Tammy Neubauer presented a report from Dustin Hieserich.
- **Programs Technician's Report** – Brett Baldwin had provided the 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 2:25 p.m.

Sincerely,

Tammy Neubauer

District Manager