



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thursday, October 14, 2021

9:00 a.m.

4100 220th Street W, Suite 102
Farmington, Minnesota

Board Members Present:

Laura Zanmiller, Chair
Kevin Chamberlain, Vice Chair
Jayne Hager Dee, Treasurer
Chelsea Skog, Secretary
Bruce Johnson, Public Information

SWCD Staff Present:

Brian Watson
Lana Rotty
Curt Coudron
Todd Matzke

Others Present:

Darrell Jacobson, City of Burnsville
Caleb Ashling, City of Burnsville
Cassandra Schaeffer, Hampton Twp

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Zanmiller called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Zanmiller led the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience

Chair Zanmiller asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Board on an item that is not on the agenda. CaSondra Schaffer spoke on behalf of her father, Charles Schaeffer, regarding a project he recently installed in Hampton Township; five water and sediment control basins and a critical area planting. Specifically, she addressed the Board with concerns about the value of in-kind labor and use of heavy equipment when provided by the landowner. Current cost-share policy is set at a reimbursement rate of \$60 per hour for use of heavy equipment. She noted that the rates contractors can charge and the cost to rent equipment if landowners complete the work on their own were significantly greater than allowed under cost-share policy. She added that policy hinders landowner to do their own work and save money. She asked for consideration of a higher reimbursement rate. Discussion followed including the SWCD's willingness to reevaluate current policy and the process SWCD uses to establish cost estimates before contracts are signed. The cost estimate process uses costs charged by contractors to complete similar projects and does not distinguish whether the work is done by the landowner or a hired contractor. Chair Zanmiller thanked Ms. Schaffer for bringing the issue to the Boards attention.

4. Recognition of 2021 Outstanding Conservationist – City of Burnsville

Chair Zanmiller welcomed Darrel Jacobson and Caleb Ashling, Natural Resources Department staff from the City of Burnsville, as recipients of the 2021 Dakota County SWCD Outstanding Conservationist Award. Coudron added that the City of Burnsville have been partnering with the SWCD for many years. They have recently restored 2.3 acres of native prairie at Lake Park in 2020, restored 8.5 acres of native prairie at North River Hills Park in 2021, have been a strong partner and supporter for the Landscaping for Clean Water program, sponsored and hosted workshops for turf-to-prairie conversion and installation of pollinator lawns, are currently completing the stabilization and restoration of shoreline on the north side of Crystal Lake, and installed bioretention (raingardens) at many locations on City property or in conjunction with street reconstruction projects.

Caleb Ashling thanked the Board of Supervisors for the recognition on behalf of the City of Burnsville. He added that they work hard to protect the soil and water resources and it is great to be rewarded. He noted that the partnership with staff over the years has led to valuable expertise and passion to get projects completed.

5. Approval of Agenda

21.091 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to approve the agenda. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA**6. Approval of September 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The September 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes were presented.

7. Approval of October 14, 2021 Accounts Payable

The October 14, 2021 Accounts Payable were presented.

8. Acceptance of September 2021 Financial Report

The September 2021 Financial Report was reviewed.

9. Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Eagan for Technical Services

Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Eagan for Technical Services from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

10. Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Burnsville for Technical Services

Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Burnsville for Technical Services from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

11. Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Inver Grove Heights for Technical Services

Authorization to Execute Contract with City of Inver Grove Heights for Technical Services from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

12. Authorization to Execute 2nd Contract Amendment with 144Design, LLC

Amend contract with 144 Design, Inc, to extend completion date to December 31, 2021 to allow for completion of web redesigns for WMO partners.

21.092 Motion by Johnson, second by Skog to approve the consent agenda items. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA**13. Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Bryce Kimmes under Two Separate Contracts for Establishing Cover Crop (1-year)**

Bryce Kimmes has established cover crop on 197 acres on two fields, one in Marshan Township and one in Hampton Township. The projects were approved for funding at the August 12, 2021 Board meeting with

an incentive payment not to exceed \$25 per acre. A cover crop of oats and radish was planted following sweet corn harvest to provide temporary cover.

21.093 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to approve final payment to Bryce Kimmes (21-IPP-33, 21-IPP-34) for establishment of cover crop in Section 32 Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed at 100 acres and Section 22 Hampton Township, Cannon River Watershed at 97 acres for a total of \$4,925 from agreements with the Dakota County and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee. Motion carried.

14. Authorization to Execute Contract with Leonard Brochman for Installation of Four Water and Sediment Control Basins

Leonard Brochman is proposing to construct 4 water and sediment control basins and a grassed waterway in Greenvale Township within the Mud Creek and Dutch Creek watersheds of the Cannon River. The basins will capture surface water runoff and convey it through underground outlets to reduce future erosion and sedimentation. The waterway will reduce erosion caused by concentrated flow of runoff. Total costs of the project are estimated at \$36,100.

21.094 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to execute contract with Leonard Brochman 21-IPP-32 for installation of four water and sediment control basins in Section 30 Greenvale Township, Cannon River Watershed at 75% cost share, not to exceed \$27,075 from agreement with Dakota County and State Cost Share funds. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain. Motion carried.

15. Authorization to Execute Contract with Kent Otte for Installation of Grassed Waterway

Kent Otte is proposing to reconstruct a 720-foot grassed waterway in Hampton Township within the Lower Mainstem of the Vermillion River Watershed. The existing waterway has exceeded its functional lifespan and storm water runoff is flowing through the field and causing erosion. The reconstructed waterway will adequately convey runoff to reduce erosion. Total costs of the project are estimated at \$4,900.

21.095 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to execute contract with Kent Otte (21-IPP-38) for installation of grassed waterway in Section 16 Hampton Township, Vermillion River Watershed at 75% cost share, not to exceed \$3,675 from agreement with Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller. Motion carried.

16. Authorization to Execute Contract with Metropolitan Mosquito Control District for Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat

Metropolitan Mosquito Control District is proposing to install a 3.2-acre native prairie with pollinator habitat at the Rosemount office in the Vermillion River Watershed. The proposed project area is currently farmed, so minimal site preparation is needed. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators. Total costs of the project are estimated at \$7,000.

21.096 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to execute contract Metropolitan Mosquito Control District 21-IPP-42 for installation of 3.2-acre native prairie with pollinator habitat in City of Rosemount, Vermillion River Watershed at 75% cost share, not to exceed \$5,250 from agreements with Dakota County and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog. Motion carried.

17. Request Change to Board Meeting Date for November 2021

Watson stated that when we adopted the Board meeting schedule for 2021 to include the 2nd Thursday of the month, we did not recognize that November 11 falls on Veterans Day which is an observed holiday. A date change for our November Board meeting is requested.

21.097 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to change the November Board meeting to Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Announcements and Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service

There was no NRCS report. However, Watson read a written update provided by Michelle Wohlers, Farmington NRCS Field Office.

Dakota County

There was no Dakota County report.

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

There was no Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization report.

Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board

Chamberlain provided the Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board report. He stated the 2022 Budget was approved; dues structure is the same as last year. They have 11 projects under contract and there is also one contract for completing a lake survey. The next meeting is scheduled for January.

Metropolitan Conservation Districts Joint Power Board

Zanmiller stated the Metropolitan Conservation District Joint Powers Board (JPB) did not meet. Their next meeting is scheduled for November 17.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Watson requested the Board of Supervisors to complete their 2021 Resolution Ballot and forward it to the office as soon as possible.

District Manager Reports

Watson indicated that Board issued iPads will need to be updated to a new software system by October 26 or the iPad will be locked out of the County system. He requested the Rural Lands Committee meet to discuss the Schaeffer project, the native grass drill and native prairie program, and staff role with technical assistance involving the maintenance of drainage ditches. He also requested the Finance Committee schedule a meeting prior to the next Board meeting to review the third quarter finance report and a draft 2022 budget. Watson referenced information and a letter included in the Board packet regarding comments on BWRS's Metropolitan Watershed Based Implementation Fund Policy for FY22-23.

Board of Supervisors Reports

Supervisor Dee asked if there has been any word on redistricting? Watson stated that he has not heard any updates from Dakota County.

20. Upcoming Events

The upcoming events were reviewed.

21. Adjourn

21.098 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Skog
Secretary