



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thursday, August 10, 2023

9:00 a.m.

4100 220th Street W, Suite 102
Farmington, Minnesota

Board Members Present:

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

SWCD Staff Present:

Brian Watson
Pam LaValle
Curt Coudron
Joe Barten
Todd Matzke

Others Present:

Dain Olson, DCAO
Brad Becker, Dakota County
Lizzy Dawson, NRCS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Zanmiller called the meeting to order at 9:00 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. Nobody came forward.

4. Approval of Agenda with Addition

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

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approval of July 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The July 13, 2023 meeting minutes were presented.

6. Approval of August 10, 2023 Accounts Payable

The August 2023 accounts payable were presented.

7. Acceptance of July Finance Report

The July finance Report was presented.

23.061 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to approve the consent agenda items. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, and Chamberlain. Motion carried.

Supervisor Dee joined the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Carol Leifeld for Installation of Grassed Waterway.

Carol Leifeld has completed the reconstruction of a grassed waterway in Hampton Township, Cannon River Watershed. The project was approved for funding at the April 13, 2023 Board meeting at 85% cost share not to exceed \$20,825 based on a cost estimate of \$24,500. Project installation has been certified by SWCD staff. Final eligible expenses were \$19,571.26. Staff is recommending final payment of \$16,635.57.

23.062 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to provide final payment of 16,635.57 to Carol Leifeld (23-IPP-04) for reconstruction of a grassed waterway. Funds are available through our FY21 Cannon WBIF Grant. Members voting in favor: Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, and Zanmiller. Motion carried.

9. Authorization to Execute Contract with William Callister Jr. for Installation of Grassed Waterway.

William (Chip) Callister Jr. is proposing to construct a grassed waterway in Hampton Township, Cannon River Watershed. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$18,900. Staff is recommending approval at 85% cost share not to exceed \$16,065. Project funds are available through our FY21 Cannon WBIF Grant and our agreement with Dakota County.

23.063 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contract with William Callister Jr. (23-IPP-06) for installation of grassed waterway. Members voting in favor: Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, and Skog. Motion carried.

10. Authorization to Execute Three Contracts with Nick Becker for Establishing Cover Crop. (3 year)

Nick Becker (LLB Farms, LLC) is proposing to establish cover crops on 158 acres on three different fields; one field is located in Ravenna Township and two fields are located in Marshan Township. All fields are in the Vermillion River Watershed. Each field will have a separate contract that will require establishment of a cover crop for three consecutive years. Project funds are available through our FY22 CWF Drinking Water Protection Phase 2 grants and our agreements with Dakota County and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization.

23.064 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to execute three contracts with Nick Becker (23-IPP-25, 23-IPP-28, and 23-IPP-29) not to exceed \$21,330 over three years for establishing cover crop. Members voting in favor: Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, and Johnson. Motion carried.

11. Authorization to Execute Two Contracts with Nick Becker for Establishing Cover Crop. (1 year)

Nick Becker is proposing to establish a cover crop on two different fields. One field is located in Vermillion Township and one field is in Marshan Township, both in the Vermillion River Watershed. Each field will have a separate contract. Project funds are available through our agreements with Dakota County and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization.

23.065 Motion by Johnson, second by Chamberlain to execute two contracts with Nick Becker (23-IPP-26 & 23-IPP-27) not to exceed \$2,520 for establishing cover crop. Members voting in favor: Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, and Dee. Motion carried.

12. Authorization to Execute two contracts with Tom Leifeld for Establishing Cover Crop. (1 year)

Tom Leifeld is proposing to establish a cover crop on 159 acres on two different fields located in Douglas Township, Cannon River Watershed. Project funds are available through our agreement with Dakota County.

23.066 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to execute two contracts with Tom Leifeld (23-IPP-38 & 23-IPP-39) not to exceed \$5,565 for establishing cover crop. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee, and Chamberlain. Motion carried.

- 13. Authorization to Submit FY24 Clean Water Fund Grant application to Implement Streambank Stabilization and Stormwater Best Management Practices along Interstate Valley Creek and Execute Grant if Awarded.** Staff is proposing to submit a competitive FY24 Clean Water Fund Grant application to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to implement streambank stabilizations and stormwater best management practices along Interstate Valley Creek between Marie Avenue and the Mississippi River in Mendota Heights and to execute the grant agreement if awarded. Joe Barten provided an overview of the completed study, proposed practices and ongoing coordination between project partners.

23.067 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to authorize the submittal of the FY24 Clean Water Fund Grant application and execute the grant agreement if awarded. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

- 14. Selection of 2023 Outstanding Conservationist**

Coudron stated that each year a selection is made to identify a landowner or entity that has made significant contributions to protecting our land and water resources. The selected Outstanding Conservation Cooperator will be invited to a future SWCD Board meeting and will be invited to participate in the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annual program in December.

23.068 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to select Jim Sipe and Nancy Schumacher as the 2023 Outstanding Conservation Cooperator. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

- 15. Announcements and Reports**

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) report was provided by Lizzy Dawson. Dawson reported they are busy certifying practices and planning for EQIP this winter.

Dakota County

The Dakota County report was provided by Brad Becker. Becker provided a Vermillion River staffing update, 2024 budget planning update, and a Byllesby Dam and Thompson Lakes project update.

Supervisor Dee left the meeting.

Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board

The Cannon River Watershed report was provided by Kevin Chamberlain. Chamberlain reported they met August 2, 2023 and he provided updates on the items reviewed at the meeting. The next meeting will be held November 1, 2023.

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board

No report provided.

Metropolitan Conservation Districts Joint Power Board

No report provided. Zanmiller stated the next meeting will be August 30, 2023.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

No report provided.

District Managers Report

Watson reported the Finance Committee met August 3rd and will be converting a portion of our savings to certificates of deposit to utilize the higher interest rates available. Staff is working on 2024 budget documents for Dakota County and updating language to our 5-year Joint Powers Agreement. Currently there are a lot of outreach programs occurring including the Dakota County Fair, Fishers and Farmers visiting the South Branch of the Vermillion River, and the BWSR tour on August 23rd. Watson proposed dates for the Dakota County legislators tour this fall. It was decided to hold the event the morning of Thursday, September 28th.

Board of Supervisors Announcements

No report provided.

16. Upcoming Events

The upcoming events were reviewed.

17. Adjourn

23.069 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to adjourn. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Zorniller, Chair

for

Chelsea Skog
Secretary