

**DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES**

Monday, April 11, 2022 – 7:30 A.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the USDA Conference Room on Monday, April 11, 2022. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Cleary, Rutten, Froemming and Dropik, Also, in attendance were: Commissioner Englund, Mark Dybdal, Staff attending: Haggemiller, Rice, Anderson, Olson and Albertsen.

Pledge was recited

Minutes of the regular March 14, 2022, **meeting** was discussed. Motion by Rutten to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Cleary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Cleary to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** – Last meeting was March 11. Reviewed Grants. Discussed BWSR updates with ranking of projects for 1W1P. Also Discussed County Allocations for Pomme de Terre Coordinator.
- C. Sauk River Report** –No Meeting this last month. Watershed Coordinator left in late March. Position is posted. Next meeting TBD.
- D. Chippewa River Report** -Cleary reported March Meeting was canceled. Next meeting is April 15. Held Chippewa River Kick- Off Meeting with over 100 people in attendance. A list of projects and rough locations is requested by the lake associations to see where work is being done and money spent.
- E. Water Quality Legacy Fund**–Cleary mentioned they meet Quarterly, and next meeting is April 20.
- F. Douglas County Commissioner Report**- Commissioner Englund mentioned Construction might be a little different for roundabouts and road resurfacing this year then previously announced. Also looking at getting a permanent structure built for the Boat and Water Building.
- G. Long Prairie Report** – Dropik mentioned no recent meetings. April 21 is Next meeting. Plan is internal review for April. Formal review in June, and Approval set for October.

- H. **DCLA Report** – No Meetings Since November/Late Fall. Next meeting is this Wednesday. Then will meet 5 x a year total.
- I. **Area II Meeting – Supervisors and Staff Updates** – Good meeting. Douglas SWCD is the host for June. Date set for June 16. At the Corral in Nelson. Albertsen will get quotes on food.

Old Business

- A. **Covid-19 Office Opening preparedness plan** Welcome Back! We are currently open to the public again. (By appointment only or meet in the conference room). This is a week-by-week case, as long as numbers stay in “low” or “medium” range we will remain open to the public!
- B. **Employee Handbook Update** Haggenmiller reported that the staff met and went over his updates to the handbook. A Copy is provided to the supervisors to look over and review. Cleary, and Rutten agreed to head this up with Haggenmiller to discuss further and go over changes. Also presented was a comparison sheet of annual leave accumulation from other counties and SWCD’s. Additional corrections will be made and brought to the board for final vote/ adoption in May.
- C. **SWCD Aid** Haggenmiller said Bill Ingebrigtsen is on board. State Aid might not get passed this year – still in the tax committee. Thumbs up section in the paper from Paul Anderson from Starbuck also in support.

New Business

- A. **Field Office Update**–Dybdal gave the NRCS Report. They have been busy with contracts, 8 EQIP contacts are approved for 2022 from Douglas County totaling 789,000, CRP Plans are being written from PF Farm Bill Biologist, and more plans waiting on potential funding. Civil Rights Review with the District Board of Supervisors. Local Work Group meeting to follow the board meeting today.
- B. **2022 SWCD Administrative Session – Approval for Arceneau to attend - Motion by Rutten to pay for the \$95 registration fee and the 1-night hotel stay for Arceneau to attend this training, seconded by Froemming.** Motion Carried.
- C. **Supervisor Filing** – Haggenmiller mentioned that Barsness and Froemming are up this year. Filing dates are from May 17-31.
- D. **Boat Rental Agreements** Haggenmiller reviewed the Surface Water Assessment Grant which will monitor 9 lakes and 3 streams in the Long Prairie Watershed. Two separate agreements for Haggenmiller and Olson to rent their boats at \$53/ Day. Cleary made the motion. Dropik seconded. Motion Carried.

E. WCA Application – Dustin Ditch, Section 22 Ida Twp. Request to fill 1,760 St. Ft. for driveway replacement 2:1 through wetland banking. Haggemiller reported the TEP voted to approve the application to allow the landowner access to the back side of his property. Rutten made the motion to approve this. Cleary Seconded. Motion Carried.

F. Tractor Maintenance- Haggemiller reported that the Tractor we have needs general maintenance and oil changes every 2 year. Proposed for Rutten to do the work and the district pay him his shop rate of \$55/ hr to do the work and save the district some money. Cleary made the motion, Froemming seconded. Motion Carried. Rutten Abstained in voting.

G. Local Work Group Training to Follow the meeting– All supervisors, district staff and others welcome to attend.

Bills to Pay. During the month of April, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks # 10620 -10650 for a total of \$66,542.95 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Cleary to pay the bills, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Barsness to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

Secretary,

Bill Dropik, Secretary