

**DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES  
Monday, August 12, 2024 – 7:30 A.M.**

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Monday, August 12, 2024. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Cleary. Also, in attendance were Commissioner England, NRCS District Conservationist- Cole Montgomery, Staff attending Haggemiller, Albertsen, Anderson, Arceneau, Rice and Olson.

**Pledge was recited.**

**Minutes of the regular July 8, 2024, 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** – Barsness reported they met on July 12, 2024, and talked about the budget. A new chairperson started, Pete Waller from BWSR handed out the Legislative Update, working with the DNR on two dam removal projects.
- C. Sauk River Report** – Rutten reported they will meet on Thursday August 15
- D. Chippewa River Report** – Cleary reported there met July 18 where they reviewed the 1Watershed1Plan approval by BWSR.
- E. Long Prairie Report** – Dropik reported he missed July meeting, August meeting they discussed Project that have been completed, Long Prairie CRP funding provides a per acre or a \$100 payment.
- F. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – Froemming reported on Ditch 23 Lake Ida in early stage of project.
- G. DCLA** – Osakis LID project didn't go through hoping new one will be approved.
- H. SWCD Governance 101** – Dropik reported they discussed Open Meeting Law, BWSR contracts and Job Authority.
- I. Douglas County Commissioner Report-** England mentioned it's fair week all vendors and campground spots are full. New fish aquariums were donated, and a new carnival was hired this year.

## Old Business

- A. MASWCD Award Program Nominations.** Motion by Froemming to nominate Les Anderson for the 2024 Conservation Farmer and Jeff Pokorey as the Teacher of the Year, seconded by Dropik Motion carried.
- B. Fair Booth Schedule** Supervisors and Staff will work at the fair during 4-hour shifts.

## New Business

- A. NRCS Field Office Update** –Cole Montgomery mentioned they offered a job to an applicant, but they declined, so Alexandria will not be getting any new staff at least for the time being. EQIP and CSP funding likely finished for the Fiscal Year. 1 EQIP to be signed this week then all contracts will be obligated. Currently sitting on almost 60 EQIP applications for the next sign up by September 6th. CSP payments season will be coming around soon. Kasey has almost completed CRP plans, started to get CRP cost share reviews sent in for seedings and tree plantings for this spring. NRCS area meeting is on Thursday. Grazing training will be held in Alexandria with our grazing specialist to work on producing grazing plans.
- B. FY 25 SWCD Aid Resolution** Motion by Rutten to approve the FY 25 SWCD Aid Resolution, seconded by Dropik Motion carried.
- C. FY25 Soil Health Delivery Grant** - \$60,000.00 Cost Share Motion by Cleary to approve the FY 25 Soil Health Delivery Grant, seconded by Froemming Motion carried.
- D. 2025 Douglas County Budget Meeting** Haggemiller will present the proposed budget to the County Commissioners on August 20th.
- E. County Ditch 23 Maintenance Request** Motion by Rutten to approve the County Ditch 23 Maintenance, seconded by Cleary Motion carried.
- F. Cost Share Application**
  - 1. Low Income Septic Upgrade Moe Township Section 10 Cost Share Flat Rate \$7,500.00 Motion by Cleary to approve the Low-Income Septic Upgrade Moe Township Section 10 Cost Share Flat Rate \$7,500.00 seconded by Froemming Motion carried.
  - 2 Lakeshore Resolution Ida Township Section 12 Total Cost \$32,385.00 Cost Share 75% using Lake Ida Phase II \$24,288.75 Motion by Rutten to approve the Lakeshore Resolution Ida Township Section 12 Total Cost \$32,385.00 Cost Share 75% using Lake Ida Phase II \$24,288.75, seconded by Cleary, Motion carried.
- G. Cost Share Amendments**
  - 1. Lake Shore Restoration Project Section 24 Alexandria Township Increase Cost Share \$710.11 using Carlos 319 Funds because of extra materials needed for project. Motion by Cleary to approve Lake Shore Restoration Project Section 24 Alexandria Township Increase Cost Share \$710.11 using Carlos 319 Funds because of extra materials needed for project., seconded by Rutten, Motion carried.

## H. Cost Share Payments

1. Lake Shore Restoration Project Miltona Township Section 19 Total Cost Share \$14,816.49 Cost Share 75% using \$8,889.89 Lake Carlos 319 Funds (60%) and \$2,222.47 FY 22 State Cost Share (15%) Total Cost Share \$11,112.36  
Motion by Froemming to approve Lake Shore Restoration Project Miltona Township Section Total Cost Share \$14,816.49 Cost Share 75% using \$8,889.89 Lake Carlos 319 Funds (60%) and \$2,222.47 FY 22 State Cost Share (15%) Total Cost Share \$11,112.36 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
2. Lake Shore Restoration Project Section 24 Alexandria Township Total Cost Share \$140,000.00 Cost Share \$65,312.36 using Lake Carlos 319 funds and \$10,000.00 using WBIF Long Prairie Funds. Motion by Rutten to approve Lake Shore Restoration Project Miltona Township Section Total Cost Share \$14,816.49 Cost Share 75% using \$8,889.89 Lake Carlos 319 Funds (60%) and \$2,222.47 FY 22 State Cost Share (15%) Total Cost Share \$11,112.36 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried

**I Pomme De Terre Contract for Services** Motion by Barsness to approve the Pomme De Terre Contract for Services seconded by Froemming Motion carried

**J. Discussion on allocated credited funds for Arceneau's Health Insurance.** The Board tabled until they could get more clarification on funds.

**K. Discussion of Purchase Vehicle** Motion by Cleary to go up to \$11,000 for used Ford Flex seconded by Froemming Motion carried

**Bills to Pay.** During the month of August, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #11501-11539 for a total of \$171,839.47 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Cleary to pay the bills, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

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

Secretary,

Bill Dropik, Secretary