

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – 7:30 A.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Cleary. Also, in attendance were Commissioner England, NRCS District Conservationist- Cole Montgomery, Staff attending Haggenmiller, Albertsen, Arceneau, Rice and Olson.

Pledge was recited.

Minutes of the regular October 15, 2024, meeting was discussed. Motion by Cleary to approve, subject to audit, seconded by Froemming Motion carried.

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

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggenmiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** – Barsness reported they met on Friday, October 11 where they paid the grant bills and reviewed all the project. Next meeting is scheduled for December 9.
- C. Sauk River Report** – No Meeting
- D. Chippewa River Report** – No Meeting
- E. Long Prairie Report** – Dropik reported the next meeting will be in November.21, 2024
- F. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – No Meeting
- G. Area II Meeting** Supervisors reported on new election of Officers, Barsness reelected as Treasurer.
- H. Douglas County Commissioner Report-** England reviewed the November 5th Lake Ida meeting, applied for an Opioid grant for Narcan and the Pope & Douglas recycling buildings are almost completed should be opening.

Old Business

- A. 2023 Audit** Haggenmiller handed out the 2003 approved audit.
- B. CD 23 Stormwater Pond Fix** There will be a preconstruction meeting November 13 at 11.
- C. Vehicle purchase Ford Explorer**–Dropik will do a few minor changes to the vehicle and then he will bring it in.
- D. Work schedule modification request.** Motion by Cleary to approve a three month maternity leave for Danielle Anderson and for Jerry to resolve the Board and staff concerns regarding Danille's Request to go half-time before the end of her maternity leave, seconded by Dropik. Motion Carried. There was discussion on compensation for the staff's extra workload and the need to update handbook for part-time employee classification.
- E. MASWCD Convention December 2-4** – Arceneau registered the Supervisor's and staff.

New Business

- A. NRCS Field Office** Cole Montgomery mentioned that Kevin Behrens took a new position outside the agency which will leave Cole the only NRCS staff until he new Rangeland Conservationist starts will start January 12, 2024, EQIP ranking deadline was released for January 10th. EQIP training is

coming in 2 parts -1 this week and one later this month Still have no information on cost lists, new practices, new scenarios, etc. Will be 2 ACT Now pools for high tunnels and socially disadvantaged Farm Bill cap changes have been officially made. Payment limitations for a single contract still pertain (\$450,000 for EQIP \$200,000/\$400,000 for CSP) but those maximums within the FB18 period no longer exist. CSP application deadline is this Friday, November 15th. All those who have submitted CSP documentation for 2024 have been paid, still have 3 participants that have yet to submit documentation. They were sent letters detailing that they must provide it within 15 days. Been steadily making certifications on pasture infrastructure -will also have 1 or 2 sediment basin projects starting later this month.

- B.** RIM Boundary modification request – David Nathe Motion by Froemming to approve RIM Boundary modification request, seconded by Dropik. Motion Carried.
- C.** Request to advertise a 3 year grant funded Soil Health position Motion by Rutten to advertise a 3 year grant funded Soil Health position, seconded by Froemming. Motion Carried.
- D.** Cost Share Payments
 1. Low-income septic update section 10 Moe Twp. total cost \$17,800.00 cost share flat rate of \$7,500.00 using FY 24 NRBG septic funds. Motion by Dropik to approve Low-income septic update section 10 Moe Twp. total cost \$17,800.00 cost share flat rate of \$7,500.00 using FY 24 NRBG septic funds, seconded by Froemming. Motion Carried.
 2. Multi species cover crops section 2 and 28 Carlos Twp. 64 acres @ \$45.00/ac. total payment \$2,880.00 using FY 25 Long Prairie WBIF funds. Motion by Cleary to approve Multi species cover crops section 2 and 28 Carlos Twp. 64 acres @ \$45.00/ac. total payment \$2,880.00 using FY 25 Long Prairie WBIF funds, seconded by Froemming. Motion Carried.
 3. CRP incentive payment section 27 and 28 Carlos Twp. 8.81 acres @ \$500/ac. and 17.89 @ \$100/ac. to incentive payment \$6,194.00 using Long Prairie 1W1P CRP incentive funds. Motion by Cleary to approve CRP incentive payment section 27 and 28 Carlos Twp. 8.81 acres @ \$500/ac. and 17.89 @ \$100/ac. to incentive payment \$6,194.00 using Long Prairie 1W1P CRP incentive funds, seconded by Dropik. Motion Carried.
 4. Lake Shore Restoration section 33 Carlos Twp. total cost \$15,117.50 C/S 75% \$9,070.00 using \$887.93 of FY 22 state C/S and \$8,182.07 of FY 23 state C/S. Motion by Rutten to approve Lake Shore Restoration section 33 Carlos Twp. total cost \$15,117.50 C/S 75% \$9,070.00 using \$887.93 of FY 22 state C/S and \$8,182.07 of FY 23 state C/S., seconded by Froemming. Motion Carried.

E. Promo items – Albertsen went through possible promo items for next year.

F. Next meeting Monday December 9th 3:00 P.M. – Potluck

VIII. Bills to Pay. During the month of November, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #11607-11644 for a total of \$129,890.03 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

