

**DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Thursday, February 20, 2025 – 9:30 A.M.**

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Thursday, February 20, 2025. Chairman Rutten called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Ledermann. Also, in attendance were NRCS District Conservationist- Cole Montgomery, Staff attending Haggenmiller, Anderson, Rice and Olson.

Pledge was recited.

Minutes of the regular January 10, 2025, meeting was discussed. Motion by Rutten to approve the minutes with correction to Haggenmiller's wage, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

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

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggenmiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** – No report was given.
- C. Sauk River Report** – Rutten reported that Pearsons's abandonment of the ditch was approved. Meeting an RIM easement along the ditch Sauk River eliminated his ditch tax.
- D. Chippewa River Report** – Ledermann reported on Chippewa 1W1P next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 21st.
- E. Long Prairie Report** – Dropik reported their meeting was cancelled until March.
- F. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – Difficult getting people on board on Ditch 23. No new requests.
- G. Douglas County Commissioner Report**- No Report

Old Business

- A. Strategic Planning with BWSR** – Haggenmiller recommended the board look through the packet before the next meeting.

New Business

- A. NRCS Field Office** Cole Montgomery mentioned they might not have an intern now. 59 probationary/retired, 20 deferred. Partnership agreements at risk.

- B. 2024 Audit Engagement Letter -** Motion by Ledermann to sign the 2024 Audit Engagement letter, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
- C. MASWCD Legislative Day March 4-5-** No Supervisor's or Staff attending
- D. Staff Extra Work Compensation**–Tabled Discussion.
- E. Cost Share Applications-** 1) Motion by Rutten to approve Lake Ida II #5 Lakeshore Restoration Section 13 Ida Township Total Cost \$20,020.00 Cost Share 75% \$15,015.00 using Lake Ida Phase II Funding, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried. 2) Motion by Froemming to approve Lake Ida II #6 Lakeshore Restoration Section 13 Ida Township Total Cost \$19,080.00 Cost Share 75% \$14,310.00 using Lake Ida Phase II Funding, seconded by Ledermann, Motion carried.
- F. Cost Share Payments** 1) Motion by Froemming to approve Shane Wiederholt FY 22NRBG # 1 Septic update Section 29 Solum Township Total Cost \$18,780.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$6,000.00 using FY22NRBG Septic Update Funds, seconded by Dropik. Motion Carried.
- G. Lake Ida CD 23 Stormwater Pond Fix Final Payment –** Motion by Dropik to approve Lake Ida C23 Stormwater Pond Fix Final Payment Total Cost \$80,752.10 Cost Share 75% \$60,564.28 using Lake Ida CD23 Funds and 25% \$20,188.02 Douglas County Legacy Funds, seconded by Rutten. Motion Carried.
- H. Area II Meeting March 19th Litchfield**
- I. FY 25 Soil Health Practices Grant Application** Motion by Ledermann to approve the FY 25 Soil Health Practices Grant Application, seconded by Rutten, Motion Carried.
- J. Danielle Anderson 7 Year Review:** The Board appreciates the good work, Motion by Rutten to approve Anderson raise of a \$1.56 per hour, Motion Carried.
- K. Andy Rice 9 Year Review** the Board appreciates the good work, Motion by Rutten to approve Rice raise of a \$1.90 per hour, Motion Carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of February, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #11716-11740 for a total of \$158,855.78 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Froemming to pay the bills, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.

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

Secretary,



Bill Dropik, Secretary