

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

September 8, 2025 – 7:30 A.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Monday, September 8, 2025. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Ledermann. Also, in attendance were Soil Conservationist- Cole Montgomery, County Commissioner Way, Staff attending Haggemiller, Albertsen, Arceneau, Jenc, Rice and Olson.

Pledge was recited.

Minutes of the regular August 11 meeting were discussed. Motion by Rutten to approve the minutes, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

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

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** –Next meeting scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2025.
- C. Sauk River Report** – Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2025.
- D. Chippewa River Report** – No Report
- E. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – No Report
- F. DCLA Report** – No Report next meeting, Wednesday, September 10, 2025
- G. Long Prairie Report** – No Report
- H. Douglas County Commissioner Report-** Commissioner Way mentioned there in the process of hiring new Ditch Inspector, Legislative Panel is on August 27, 2025.

Old Business

- A. Fair Booth Recap** – Supervisor's and Staff reported on this year's booth.
- B. Commissioner Budget Meeting** – Haggemiller reported he met with the Commissioners on August 19, where they approved the 2026 budget.
- C. 2026 Conservation Cooperation Award Application** – Bryan Meichner is the 2026 Conservation Cooperator.

New Business

- A. NRCS Field Office** Cole Montgomery mentioned **FY25** Funding has concluded for the year. Douglas will be the #1 country for EQIP funding in Minnesota, and the number 1 NRCS program county in Minnesota for the year. Our Team was #1 in EQIP and #1 in CSP. **FY26** Started working on FY26 EQIP applications. Those who received letters had until August 29th to respond if they were still interested in moving forward. 10 have

not responded, this was to be expected. Those moving forward will have until November 21st to have a plan in place, the ranking deadline for those applications is still January 10th. Have yet to receive any cost lists or extensive program rules, we expect that in October- hopefully. I would expect FY26 funding levels to be like this year. CSP renewals were put on complete pause. I believe CSP renewals will no longer exist and there will only be the CSP classic sign-up from here on out. Douglas only had 1 renewal this year, that application will likely just be rolled into the classic sign-up, however nothing is confirmed yet. **Other Items** Been working on a lot of payments. Many pasture projects are completing fences, pipelines, etc. Cover crops are now picking up as well. CSP Payment season will begin at the end of the month, deadline for folks to get documentation in is the 30th, - however many do not meet this deadline.

B. Area II Meeting will be on September 30, 2025, in Benson.

C. Chippewa River CRP Incentive Application

1. Solem Township Section 31 14.78 Acres \$200/Acre (\$2,956.00) Motion by Ledermann to approve Solem Township Section 31 14.78 Acres \$200/Acre (\$2,956.00), seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

D. Pomme De Terre WBIF Cost Share Application

1. **Evansville Township Section 4 Water & Sediment Control Basins Total Cost \$22,045.75 Cost Share 75% \$16,534.31 using Pomme De Terre WBIF Funds** Motion by Dropik to approve Evansville Township Section 4 Water & Sediment Control Basins Total Cost \$22,045.75 Cost Share 75% \$16,534.31 using Pomme De Terre WBIF Funds, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

E. FY 25 NRBG Septic Update Cost Share Application

1. **Ida Township Section 20 Septic Update Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00**
2. **Ida Township Section 30 Septic Update Total Cost \$23,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$11,372.00** Motion by Rutten to approve Ida Township Section 20 Septic Update Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00 and Ida Township Section 30 Septic Update Total Cost \$23,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$11,372.00, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

F. FY 25 Soil Health Cost Share Application

1. **Osakis Township Section 35, 34 & Orange Township Section 4 86.35 Acres Single Species Cover Crop @ \$35.00/Acre Total Cost Share \$3,022.25**
2. **Holmes City Township Section 20 14 Acres Multi Species Cover Crop @ \$50.00/Acre Total Cost Share \$700.00**
3. **Osakis Township Section 5 78.55 Acres Multi Species Cover Crop @ \$50.00/Acre Total Cost Share \$3927.50** Motion by Froemming to approve Osakis Township Section 35, 34 & Orange Township Section 4 86.35 Acres Single Species Cover Crop @ \$35.00/Acre Total Cost Share \$3,022.25, Holmes City Township Section 20 14 Acres Multi Species Cover Crop @ \$50.00/Acre Total Cost Share \$700.00 and Osakis

Township Section 5 78.55Acres Multi Species Cover Crop @ \$50.00/Acre
Total Cost Share \$3927.50, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

G. FY 25 NRBG Septic Update Cost Share Payments

1. **FY 25 NRBG Update #5 Millerville Township Section 33 Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00**
2. **FY 25 NRBG Update #6 Millerville Township Section 33 Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00** Motion by Rutten to approve FY 25 NRBG Update #5 Millerville Township Section 33 Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00 and FY 25 NRBG Update #6 Millerville Township Section 33 Total Cost \$20,000.00 Cost Share Flat Rate \$15,000.00, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

H. MN Wetland Conservation Act Replacement Plan Application

1. **Belle River Township Section 25 Application to Construct Access on property proposed to fill 3,470 square Feet of Wetland & Replace 2:1 through Wetland Bank Purchase** Motion by Rutten to approve Belle River Township Section 25 Application to Construct Access on property proposed to fill 3,470 square Feet of Wetland & Replace 2:1 through Wetland Bank Purchase, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.

- I. Designate Depositories** Motion by Ledermann to add Old National to Designate Depositories, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

- J. BWSR Academy** Motion by Froemming to approve staff to attend the BWSR Academy, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of September, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #11953-11987 for a total of \$127,296.84 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Rutten to pay the bills, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

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

Secretary,

Bill Dropik, Secretary