SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

"Helping People Help the Land"

Murray SWCD
2740 22nd St. Suite 3
Slayton, MN  56172
Phone: 507-836-6990 EXT 3
murrayswcd.org

Supervisors

Chair
Paul Posthuma
District I
(507) 879-3102

Vice Chair
Gary Brinks
District II
(507) 763-3775

Secretary
Shannon Cohrs
District III
(507) 380-0997

Treasurer
Karen Hurd
District V

PR & I
Mona Henkels
District IV
(507) 360-6348

Staff

District Administrator
Shelly Lewis

Program Manager
Craig Christensen

Members Present:
Paul Posthuma-Chairman
Gary Brinks-Vice Chairman
Shannon Cohrs-Secretary
Mona Henkels-PR&I

Member Absent:
Karen Hurd-Treasurer

Others Present:
Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Additions to Agenda: The chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. The item of discussing a Land Owner concern was added to the agenda.

Minutes of April 16, 2019: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Cohrs to approve the Murray SWCD April 16, 2019 minutes.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried

Minutes of April 29, 2019: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Brinks to approve the Murray SWCD April 29, 2019 minutes.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.
The monthly Statement of Treasurer was read and filed for audit.

**Salaries:** A motion by Henkels seconded by Cohrs to approve Supervisor’s vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for April 2019.  
Affirmative-Unanimous  
Opposed-None  
Motion carried.

**District Conservationist Report:**  
Cheryl Heard  
District Conservationist Report  
March 14, 2019  

Personnel  

  *  

230 – EEO-Civil Rights  

  *  

**EQIP**  

  * Continue to take new applications  
  * Murray’s 1st round (Sign-up 2) – 56 applications – Sign up deadline 1/18/2019  
    47 Eligible & Ranked  
    19 funded so far  
  * 11 new applications so far for 2nd group (Sign-up 3) Sign-up deadline 4/19/2019  
    May 17, 2019 is the Ranking deadline  

**WRP/WRE/ACEP**  

  * 2 WRE applications to be sent to the state office  

**CSP**  

  * 17 renewals from 2014 sign-up up for 1 year extensions.  
  * Continue to take new applications  
    Next Funding deadline is May 10, 2019  

**CSP -GCI – Grassland Conservation Initiative**  

  *  

**CRP**  

  * Waiting on farm bill for new sign-ups  
  * CREP -can’t submit – Contact Megan Howell with Pheasants Forever  
  * Re-enrollment – maxed at 15 years  
    Soil rental rates – range $89 - $191; many soils at $177. Avg at $131.20
o No SIP, PIP, or SRR 20% incentive

WETLAND N/HEL Compliance
- Backlog of tiling requests – get your requests in early
- Several reports of potential violations –
  - Wetlands – no new tile
  - Farmed Wetland (FW) – existing drainage, can replace at same size, same depth only, no new drainage
  - PC/NW – Prior Converted/Not Wetland

Upcoming events
- June 27/28 – State Soil Health training located in Murray County

Resolutions: Lewis and Christensen will put together a resolution to ask for funding from BWSR for project repairs to be reviewed at the June SWCD Board Meeting.

Missouri River One Watershed Joint Powers Agreement: A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Brinks to approve chairman signing the Missouri River One Watershed Joint Powers Agreement.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

One Watershed One Plan: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Brinks to approve submittal of the Missouri River One Watershed One Plan to BWSR.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Pond clean out request: The Heron Lake Watershed District sent an email to the Murray SWCD asking if they have any funding available to clean out Schindler’s pond west of Fulda Lake. The SWCD Board discussed the clean out. Craig will request a cost estimate for the clean out and bring it back to the June Board meeting.

RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Cohrs to approve Posthuma signing the RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

**Flood Recovery Cost-Share:** The Board discussed a cancelation of Contract #DR4-01 for Flood Recovery Cost-Share Contract by the son of the Contract holder. Craig will talk to the actual Contract holder to clarify.

**MAWQCP:** The Board reviewed the April MAWQCP update.

**WCA:** A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Cohrs to approve the WCA appeals resolution.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

**Other Business:** The Board discussed a concern from a landowner regarding a Dike on RIM ground.

**Bills:** A motion by Cohrs seconded by Brinks to pay Murray SWCD bills from April 17, 2019-May 9, 2019 in the amount of $2,192.79. (see attachment).
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 13, 2019.

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Approved by Shannon Cohrs, Secretary of District Supervisors  
7-11-19  
Date
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Gary Brinks-Vice Chairman
Shannon Cohrs-Secretary
Karen Hurd-Treasurer
Mona Henkels-PR&I

Others Present:
Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager

The meeting was called to order at 2:00p.m.

Additions to Agenda: The chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. None were added.

District Technician: The Murray SWCD board discussed the final applicants from the interviews by the Personnel Committee. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Brinks to hire Aaron Crowley as the Murray SWCD District Technician. Affirmative-Hurd, Brinks, Cohrs
Opposed-Henkels
Motion carried.
A motion was made by Cohrs seconded by Hurd to start Aaron Crowley at Range 6 Step 9 of the Murray SWCD pay scale.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to offer the job to Luke Bowe starting at Range 5 Step 5 if Aaron Crowley does not accept the job.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, May 9, 2019.

Approved by Shannon Cohrs, Secretary of District Supervisors  
Date 5-9-19