

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



Murray SWCD

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murrayswcd.org

Supervisors

Chair

Gary Brinks
District II
(507) 763-3775

Vice Chair

Shannon Cohrs
District III
(507) 380-0997

Secretary

Mona Henkels
District IV
(507) 360-6348

Treasurer

Roger Steinman
District V
(651)368-0744

PR & I

Paul Posthuma
District I
(507) 879-3102

Staff

District Manager
Ken Bickner

District Secretary
Shelly Lewis

District Technician
Craig Christensen

Members Present:

Gary Brinks- Chairman
Shannon Cohrs-Vice Chairman
Mona Henkels-Secretary
Roger Steinman-Treasurer
Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Others Present:

Ken Bickner-District Manager
Craig Christensen-District Technician
Shelly Lewis-District Secretary
Brian Christensen-DC
Jim Jens-County Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

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

Minutes of May 12, 2016: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Steinman to approve the May 12, 2016 Minutes.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

The monthly Statement of Treasurer was read and filed for audit.

Salaries: A motion by Steinman seconded by Posthuma to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for May, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

County Commissioner Report: Jens reported on meetings he attended which included County Commissioners, met with the Sheriff about new radios, Ditch 12, Hospital Board, Water Planning, EDA, District 8 meeting, and EQIP Local Workgroup meeting.

DC Report:

ENGINEERING: NRCS reviewed engineering requests with TSA and SWCD.

EQIP: The Local Work Group meeting was held today at 10:00 a.m. The deadline for 2017 EQIP applications is August 19, 2016.

1026/spot-checks:

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): There are 43 applications that met eligibility threshold. NRCS is working on getting contract signatures. There are 31 CSP contract renewals.

CRP: NRCS is working on CRP status reviews.

Field Office Appraisal: The Slayton Field Office will be having their appraisal in July, 2016.

EEO/CIVIL RIGHTS: Brian did a prairie presentation to a women's meeting in Windom on May 11, 2016.

Murray SWCD July Meeting: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Steinman to change the Murray SWCD July meeting to Wednesday- July 13, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

SWMASWCD Area V meeting: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve attendance at the SWMASWCD Area V meeting in Worthington on June 16, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

WCA 5-day Wetland Delineator Training: A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Henkels to approve Bickner attending a WCA 5-day Wetland Delineator Training in Little Falls, MN on September 12-16, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Manager's Report: Bickner informed the Board that the Murray SWCD received the grant for a Farm Bill Assistant employee. A discussion followed regarding the pay and job description. Bickner will develop a draft of the job description which will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors before it is posted. The Board discussed where to put the new farm bill assistant in the office. The Murray SWCD will be staying in the current building they are renting.

Farm Bill Assistance Grant has been received for \$58,500 plus \$5,850 local match, total \$65,000.

Buffer update meeting will be held June 14, 10-2 pm, Marshall. Two from Murray SWCD will attend.

May 12: Submitted Farm Program Assistance Grant application for \$65,000.

May 17: Attended HLWD meeting.

May 18: Met with MAWQCP coordinator to determine steps for finishing out grant.

May 20: Submitted final comments on Temporary Buffer Map revisions.

May 24: Met with BWSR Board Conservationist regarding ongoing programs.

May 26: Met with Mo. River Basin TMDL group in Luverne to begin watershed planning process.

June 6: Attended BWSR New SWCD Employee Orientation, Marshall.

~~June 8: RUSLE2 training, Marshall, postponed.~~

June 14: Buffer update, Marshall

June 16: Area V meeting, Worthington

June 18: DMR Watershed meeting, Windom.

August 2: Staff booth at Farmfest, Redwood County

September 12-16: WCA Training, Little Falls

October 24-26: BWSR Academy, Brainerd

Buffer map revisions will be available in July. The State has stated (May 31) that participation in the MAWQCP program will qualify as an alternate practice. (Letter to property owners.)

State Cost-Share: The Board discussed Douglas Fey's project which was approved for a total of \$4,125.00 with 75% cost-share being \$3,093.75. The actual invoice was for a total of \$7,200.00 due to the fact that the ridges were higher so the cost was more. A letter will be sent to Douglas Fey stating that if he would like more cost-share he would need to submit a request with the reason why the cost was more. The Murray SWCD would then consider using their own funds for more cost-share. The amount would not be able to be taken out of State Cost-Share funds due to the fact that the project is already done. A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve payment of the following:

Douglas Fey Basins FY14 \$3,093.75

Brian Christiansen-NRCS Technical

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Flood Recovery Cost-Share: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve payment of the following:

Harvey Sas Embankment Pond Repair DR-01 \$52,229.00

Russell Hoogendoorn-SWPTSA Technical

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

ArcGIS software: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Steinman to approve purchasing two ArcGIS software packages at a cost of \$1,350.00/each for a total of \$2,700.00 and using the District Capacity money to purchase.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Purchasing a Vehicle: The Board discussed purchasing a vehicle with the District Capacity Grant. They discussed purchasing a car, SUV vehicle or another pickup. They decided on purchasing a pickup since it can be used to go out in the field too. Bickner and Christensen will get quotes for a new vehicle and bring to the July Board meeting.

State Cost-Share FY17: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Cohrs to set the FY17 State Cost-Share reimbursement rate at 75% of the total cost.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Bills: A motion by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to pay 11 Murray SWCD bills in the amount of \$60,427.70 for June and 6 Murray SWCD bills in the amount of \$4,720.00 from May.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 13, 2016.