

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping People Help the Land”



Murray SWCD

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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

District Technician
Aaron Crowley

Members Present:

Paul Posthuma-Chairman
Gary Brinks-Vice Chairman
Karen Hurd-Treasurer
Mona Henkels-PR&I

Member Absent:

Shannon Cohrs-Secretary

Others Present:

Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager
Aaron Crowley-District Technician
Cheryl Heard-District Conservationist

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. No items were added.

Minutes of May 5, 2019: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Brinks to approve the Murray SWCD May 5, 2019 minutes.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried

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

Salaries: A motion by Brinks seconded by Hurd to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for May 2019.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

District Conservationist Report:

Cheryl Heard

District Conservationist Report

June 13, 2019

Personnel

- Troy Daniels was in Murray County 6/11/2019

230 – EEO-Civil Rights

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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
 - 4 pasture just recently preapproved (including dam repair potentially)
- 2nd group (Sign-up 3) Sign-up deadline 4/19/2019
 - May 17, 2019 is the Ranking deadline – 7 ranked. Have not heard additional funding yet
- 2019 Cover Crops for Fallow Fields
 - July 12 – deadline
 - Do not know \$\$/ac or Ranking yet if they will get additional points for multiple species mix

WRP/WRE/ACEP

- 2 WRE applications in process

EWP - Emergency Watershed Protection Program

- Flooding and Erosion areas that threaten life

CSP

- 17/14 renewals from 2014 sign-up up for 1 year extensions.
- Continue to take new applications
 - 34 applications for 2019 General sign-up

CSP -GCI – Grassland Conservation Initiative

- Ag producers with eligible base acreage that has been in grass over a nine-year period, rather than planted with commodity crops.
- Eligible producers will receive a letter from FSA providing information on the new initiative and how to apply.

- \$18/ac for up to 5 years.
- June 21, 2019 – 1st deadline to apply

CRP

- June 3 CRP opened for Continuous Program
 - General supposedly to follow this fall
- 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
 - 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 21 MASWCD Meeting – Lincoln County
- June 27/28 – State Soil Health training located in Murray County

Resolution: A Motion was made by Henkels seconded by Brinks to approve the Murray SWCD resolution asking for funding to repair easement related projects.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Groundwater Level Monitoring Agreement: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Hurd to approve the FY2020 Groundwater Level Monitoring Agreement.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Grazing Training & Wetland Delineator Program: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Henkels to approve the District Technician attending the Grazing Training on July 15-18 and Wetland Delineator Program on September 9-13.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Murray County Fair Booth: The Board discussed items to promote at the Murray County Fair Booth. A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Henkles to purchase flashlights or chip clips as a give away item at the fair booth.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

WCA Violation: A company wanted to open a gravel pit on a landowner's property due to construction on Hwy 91. The property had wetlands on the land so the Tep Panel went out and looked at it. After further reviewing old maps it was determined that a wetland was drained back in 2013. John Hansel (BWSR) is looking into it because it might be exempt and not a violation because it might be a type 2 instead of a type 3 wetland. The board will be updated at the July SWCD meeting when more information is received.

Ditch Clean Out: A landowner wants to clean out a ditch. John Hansel (BWSR) needs to know the depth and how much sediment in ditch before its approved because its all in a wetland.

Flood Recovery Cost-Share: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Brinks to approve canceling contract DR4-01 Diane Barstad contingent on receiving the signed cancelation letter from Diane Barstad.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Conserving Use Acres: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Hurd to approve Conserving Use Acres Agreement with Don Dreesen for 10 acres.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Bills: A motion by Hurd seconded by Brinks to pay Murray SWCD bills from May 10, 2019- June 13, 2019 in the amount of \$12,991.82.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 11, 2019.


Approved by Shannon Cohrs, Secretary of District Supervisors


Date