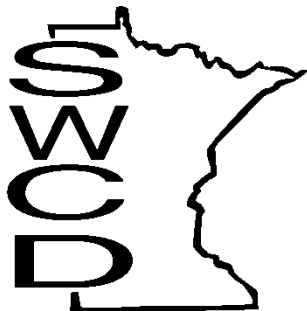


SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“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

Shannon Cohrs
District III
(507) 380-0997

Vice Chair

Mona Henkels
District IV
(507) 360-6348

Secretary

Paul Posthuma
District I
(507) 879-3102

Treasurer

Karen Hurd
District V

PR & I

Gary Brinks
District II
(507) 763-3775

Staff

District Administrator

Shelly Lewis

Program Manager

Craig Christensen

District Technician

Travis Radke

Members Present:

Mona Henkels-Vice Chairman
Paul Posthuma-Secretary
Karen Hurd-Treasurer
Gary Brinks-P.R.&I.

Member Absent:

Shannon Cohrs- Chairman

Others Present:

Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager
Travis Radke-District Technician
Danielle Evers-Ag Certification Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m.

Additions to Agenda: The chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. No items were added.

Minutes of July 11, 2017: A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Hurd to approve the July 11, 2017 Minutes.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

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

Salaries: A motion by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to approve Supervisor’s vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for July 2017.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

DC Report: DC REPORT 08/10/2017

ENGINEERING: 2 basin project through EQIP this fall.

EQIP: 2018 EQIP sign-up deadline is 8/18/17. We have 24 applications to date.

1026/spot-checks: New policy on processing 1026's. 1026's are not sent to the AO anymore. 1026's without certified determinations go to region C for evaluation. Minnesota has been broken up into wetland compliance regions.

CRP: CRP is over as we know it. CRP contract need to be written by July 12, 2017 for applications accepted before 5/3/17. No CREP applications yet. CRP rental rates are going down October 1.

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): There to rounds of pre-approval. We had a total of 36 pre-approval approved. We will end up with 32 CSP being obligated. Obligation deadline is 9/30/17. 2018 CSP renewal will be worked on after the 2017 general sign-up is completed. We have 19 renewal applications. Deadline is 9/15/17 for 2018 renewal eligibility.

Soil Health programs: On 8/24/17 Chris Schmidt is planning a soil health workshop. Bryan Biegler is planning a workshop for August also. There will be a soil health workshop in Nobles on 9/8/17.

Postage: NRCS is going to stamps.com and is no longer using the postage meter. The postage meter lease will expire at the end of September. I talked to FSA and they will still be using the postage meter.

Civil Rights: Women's equality month

Client Gateway: Sign-up for Client Gateway is strongly encouraged.

Ag Certification Specialist: Danielle Evers updated the Board on the program, information and success stories of the Ag Certification to date. The Murray SWCD has 5 applications that are certified to date.

Budget Meeting with County Commissioners: Lewis and Henkels presented the 2018 Murray SWCD budget to the County Commissioners. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is offering a grant for FY2018 in the amount of \$18,000 if the County is willing to match the same amount. Lewis ask the county for the \$18,000, a discussion followed of where the funds would come from. There is money in the Environmental Service budget for retention projects. A decision will be made at the County Commissioner's meeting.

Soil Health Field Day: A request was made for an additional \$200.00 to pay for a presenter at the Soil Health Field Day on August 24 in Tracy. A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Hurd to donate an additional \$200.00 to the Soil Health Field Day.

Affirmative-Brinks, Hurd, Henkels

Opposed-Posthuma

Motion carried.

Rock Intake: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Brinks to approve application from Darrell Berglund for an additional Rock Intake.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Buffer Committee: Lewis received a call from the Environmental Office who looking for a SWCD Supervisor to be on the Buffer Committee. The Committee will be reviewing the ordinance language for the buffers and develop a budget with the enforcement funding. A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to appoint Brinks on the Buffer Committee.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Murray SWCD September Meeting: The SWCD staff will be attending the governance 101 training in Minneapolis on the Murray SWCD September 14, 2017 board meeting. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to change the meeting to Thursday, September 24, 2017.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Tree Price list: The Board reviewed the current tree price list for the Murray SWCD. A discussion followed. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Brinks to change the discussed prices on the list.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2018 Capacity Grant: The Board discussed the work plan for the 2018 Capacity Grant. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to purchase survey equipment, continue funding for the shared TSA Technician, and use the rest of the money for Cost-Share projects.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Consultant Meeting: A motion was made by Brinks to approve the September 8, 2017 meeting with the consultant. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Bills: A motion by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to pay 10 Murray SWCD bills for \$3,685.97 for August and 13 Murray SWCD bills for \$8,356.11 from July.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2017.

Approved by Paul Posthuma, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date