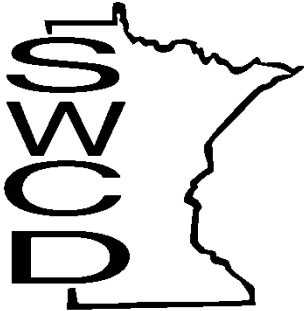


SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping bring YOU clean water”



Murray SWCD

2740 22nd St. Suite 3

Slayton, MN 56172

Phone: 507-836-6990 EXT 3

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
Mona Henkels-Secretary
Roger Steinman-Treasurer
Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Member Absent:

Shannon Cohrs-Vice Chairman

Others Present:

Ken Bickner-District Manager
Craig Christensen-District Technician
Shelly Lewis-District Secretary
Cheryl Heard-SC
Jim Jens-County Commissioner
Karen Hurd-public
Jason Beckler-BWSR

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. The addition of talking about consultants for the SWCD and approve attendance at County Commissioner meeting was added.

Minutes of July 13, 2016: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Steinman to approve the July 13, 2016 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 Henkels to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for July, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

County Commissioner August 23, 2016 meeting: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Steinman to approve Supervisors attending the County Commissioner's meeting on August 23, 2016 to discuss the SWCD manager's 3 month reviews.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Brinks to approve Steinman and Henkels attending the Personnel meeting on July 25, 2016.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

County Commissioner Report: Jens reported on meetings he attended which included County Commissioners, Historical, Ecology Bus Tour, End of the Line Park Open house, and EDA. Jens reported there will be cuts in the Budgets. The courthouse will be getting a new roof.

DC Report:

ENGINEERING: 5 erosion control EQIP applications.

EQIP: 2017 EQIP application deadline 8/19/2016. 15 applications to date. Anticipate a ranking period deadline in December or January. Hopefully pre-approvals this spring of 2017. EQIP post cards were sent to all producers

1026/spot-checks:

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP): 29 2017 CSP renewals. Interviews and field verifications done. We are waiting for land control statements from the producers. Quality assurance reviews will be completed after the middle of September.

CRP: Working on CRP eligibility.

Field office appraisal: Slayton FO appraisal held in July. Thank you to Roger for coming in for an appraisal interview.

Office: The locks are going to be changed soon.

Civil Rights Committee:

Infiltration tests:

EEO/CIVIL RIGHTS: Women's equality month.

Jason Beckler-BWSR: Jason Beckler-Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) attended the meeting to update the Board on the changes to the State Cost-Share Policy. The State Cost-Share Policy has not been updated for 35 years. There will be meetings for the staff with more detailed information on the program changes. Some of the major changes in the program are that state cost-share can now pay for buffers, state and federal assistance combined can now go up to 100%, and state cost-share can now pay for nonstructural land management. Beckler handed out a letter which stated the SWCD state statute and law clarification. Beckler also explained that the BWSR may reduce the amount of grants to a county by an amount equal to any reduction in the county's allocation to a soil and water conservation district. The letter is attached to the minutes.

Flood Recovery Cost-Share Phase 2: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve the following application:

Brian Richardson Water & Sediment Basins DR2-05 \$18,250.50 FY 16-
2014 - Minnesota Flood Relief Grant Phase 2
Allisa Wendland-NRCS Technical
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve the following application:

Donald Van Iperen Pond Repair DR2-06 \$21,425.00 FY16-
2014 - Minnesota Flood Relief Grant Phase 2
Russ Hoogendoorn-SWPTSA Technical
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Manager's Report:

- July 19: Buffer tech meeting, Marshall
- August 2: Farmfest, Redwood Falls
- August 8: MASWCD Buffer Roundtable, Mankato
- August 15-19: Begin sending buffer letters.
- August 18: RUSLE2 training, Marshall
- August 22: Cost share policy LGU meeting, Worthington
- September 12-16: WCA Training, Little Falls
- October 24-26: BWSR Academy, Brainerd

Buffers:

Map.

Letters.

County duties:

1. Decide whether to exercise jurisdiction, or to depend on BWSR to enforce.
 - a. If county chooses to enforce:
 - i. Adopt a rule under 103B.101, subd. 12a for enforcement or identify other rules for enforcement.
 - ii. Issue an order requiring correction and assessing penalties of up to \$500.

- iii. Provide landowner with a list of corrective actions needed to come into compliance and a practical timeline to meet the requirements in this section; provide a copy to BWSR.
- iv. In case of noncompliance, enforce using APO or other means.
2. Redetermination of benefits on ditches...
3. Other potential tax consequences.
4. Incorporate SWCD summary of other watercourse into water management plan.

Buffer Program Letter:

There will be letters going out to the landowners for the Buffer Program. A discussion followed regarding the letter. A map photo will be added to the letter to be sent out to the landowners.

Farm Bill Assistance Employee-Pheasants Forever option: The Murray SWCD will be receiving the grant for the Farm Bill Assistant and in return will give the money to the Pheasants Forever as they would do the hiring but the position would be housed in the Murray SWCD office. The position has been advertised with an application deadline of August 15, 2016 and an anticipated start date of September 5, 2016.

2017 SWCD Budget: The SWCD Board needs to approve the Murray SWCD 2017 Budget before it is presented to the County. The Board reviewed the 2017 Budget. Shelly will contact Heidi for going over and updated the 2017 SWCD budget.

Murray SWCD Outstanding Conservationist: Brian Luchtenberg has accepted the nomination for Murray SWCD outstanding conservationist.

FY2017 Farm Bill Assistance Program Grant Agreement: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to authorize the District Manager to sign the FY2017 Farm Bill Assistance Program Grant Agreement.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

FY17 2016 Clean Water Fund Local Capacity Service Grant Agreement Amendment: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to authorize the District Manager to sign the FY17 2016 Clean Water Fund Local Capacity Service Grant Agreement Amendment.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

SWCD Consultants: The Board reviewed the list of Consultants to be used for the Murray SWCD. A motion was made by Steinman seconded by Henkels to pursue the grant application for PRAP, contact 2 of the consulting options that expressed interest and make a selection from the 2 consultants.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

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Bills: A motion by Steinman seconded by Henkels to pay 7 Murray SWCD bills in the amount of \$3,799.14 for August and 3 Murray SWCD bills in the amount of \$1,279.32 from July.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Brinks seconded by Henkels to close the meeting at 5:15 p.m. to discuss 3-month evaluation on the District Manager.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Next Meeting: September 8, 2016.

Approved by Mona Henkels, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date