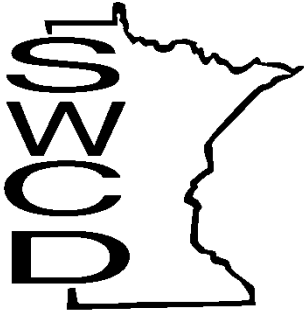


SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“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

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

Karen Hurd

District V

PR & I

Paul Posthuma

District I

(507) 879-3102

Staff

District Administrator

Shelly Lewis

Program Manager

Craig Christensen

District Technician

Aaron Crowley

Members Present:

Gary Brinks-Chairman

Shannon Cohrs-Vice Chairman

Karen Hurd-Treasurer

Paul Posthuma-PR&I

Member Absent:

Mona Henkels-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. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to approve the addition of the following:

Update from Megan Howell-Farm Bill Assistant

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Minutes of November 12, 2020: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to approve the Murray SWCD November 12, 2020 minutes.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried

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

Megan Howell-Farm Bill Assistant: 2020 Accomplishments

CREP easements accepted this year:

Boardmans CP2 Wellhead protection - 40 acres in the Red Rock Water Protection Area

Johnsons CP23a Wetland Restoration - 25 acres

Doeden CP23a Wetland Restoration- 90.24 acres

CREP easements recorded:

Bill Nelson- CP23a Wetland Restoration- 158.3 acres

Potential CREP applications when it opens up again:

Lorang/Flathers

RIM Grasslands Easements in process:

Landuyts - ~80 acres

Grimmius- 45 acres

WIA- 2 new walk in access sites

Seed a Legacy Pollinator Program-

1 application submitted for 2021 funding

CRP-

~270 Conservation plans written

Site visits

~364 site visits completed

Outreach

-Participated in an NRCS video to promote a grazing on CRP project with Chris Schmidt and Allisa.

-Participated in Rooster Roadtrip showcasing public lands in Murray County. Rooster Roadtrip is a national campaign that raises money and awareness for public land acquisitions and habitat management. We showcased habitat acquisitions and enhancements that PF and I have facilitated within Murray and Lincoln County.

- 2 videos
- 1 podcasat
- 2 blogs

-Wrote an article for the Farm Bill Biologist Newsletter in July about a Project I seeded and continue to monitor for the Monarch Joint Venture on the Timmerman's land.

DC Report: Cheryl reported on a new person started working at the Slayton FO. A new NRCS contractor will be starting on Monday, December 21st at the Slayton FO. EQIP deadline was November 21, 2020 for FY21 with around 90 applications for Murray County. The South West Team is going to have assistance with around 150 status reviews.

Salaries: A motion by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for November-2020.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None.

Motion carried.

MACDE & SWMACDE Membership: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to approve the MACDE & SWMACDE Membership for 2021.

Affirmative: Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Ag Certification update: The Board reviewed the November Ag Certification update.

Ag Certification Contracts: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to approve the contract and payment for Travis Schreier.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Cohrs to approve second payment for Stephen Schreier.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Convention Update: Lewis and Christensen attended the MASWCD convention on YouTube livestream. The keynote speaker was David Horsager, CEO and Best-Selling Author, “The Trust Edge”. Lewis also attended the MACDE Annual Meeting at 2:00 p.m. and gave the Director’s report for Area V. Brinks updated the Board on the MASWCD Convention that he attended on zoom.

Cost-Share: Lewis updated the Board on current cost-share projects and 2 new contracts that were submitted to the TSA for estimates.

WCA Update: Crowley updated the Board on WCA. He has been looking at more tilling requests. There was one ditch clean out and one solar panel field looked at.

Bills: A motion by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to approve the Murray SWCD bills from November 13, 2020- December 10, 2020 in the amount of \$1,893.85.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 14, 2021.

Approved by Mona Henkels, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date