

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping People Help the Land”



Murray SWCD

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Supervisors

Chair
Anthony Conrad
District III

Vice Chair
Mona Henkels
District IV

Secretary
Paul Posthuma
District I

Treasurer
Karen Hurd
District V

PR & I
Jason Miller
District II

Staff

District Administrator
Shelly Lewis

Program Manager
Craig Christensen

Resource Specialist
Devin Ryan

Members Present:

Anthony Conrad-Chair
Mona Henkels-Vice Chair
Paul Posthuma- Secretary
Karen Hurd-Treasurer

Member Absent:

Jason Miller- P.R. & I

Others Present:

Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager
Devin Ryan-Resource Specialist
Cheryl Heard-District Conservationist

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Additions to Agenda: The chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Henkels to approve the agenda with adding the following:

Discuss Rain Gauge Monitor gift
Motion to approve Rent contract for 2024
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Minutes of November 9, 2023: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to approve the Murray SWCD November 9, 2023, minutes.
Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None
Motion carried.

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

Salaries: Motion by Henkels second by Hurd to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for November 2023.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None.

Motion carried.

DC Report: Heard reported on the following:

Dylon Bartles is back to Rock County

CSP: Certified letters were sent out

EQIP-January 19, 2024, application deadline, cost-list received

Ag Certification Update: The Board reviewed the Ag Certification update. A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve contract payment to Loren Heintz.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

FY20 & 21 Capacity Grants, FY20 & 21 State Cost-Share Grants: The FY20, FY21 Capacity Grants and FY20, FY21 State Cost-Share Grants are completed.

Soil Health Grant: The SWCD Board discussed at length options for hiring a person through the soil health grant. The staff will do some more checking and bring back more definite answers for the January Board Meeting.

Pickup Topper: A motion by Hurd seconded by Henkels to purchase a pickup topper from Radko in Sioux Falls.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Earned Sick & Safe Time: As of January 1, 2024 employees in Minnesota are entitled to earned sick and safe time, a form of paid leave. A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to adopt the earned sick and safe time as required by the State of Minnesota starting January 1, 2024.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Murray SWCD 2024 Budget: The Board reviewed the 2024 Murray SWCD Budget. A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Hurd to approve the Murray SWCD 2024 Budget.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

R10 Survey Equipment: The Board discussed updating the R10 Survey Equipment to a R12. At this time the R10 survey equipment will not be updated.

Soil Health Field Day: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve splitting the cost of food & venue with Pipestone SWCD for the Soil Health Field Day to be held on January 10, 2024 in Lake Wilson, MN.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

MASWCD Convention Update: Henkels and Lewis updated the Board on the MASWCD Convention that they attended on December 11-13, 2024 in Bloomington.

Capacity Grant Cost-Share payment: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve the following cost-share payment:

Doug Fey	#21-04	WSCOB	FY22 Capacity Cost-Share	\$30,194.80	TSA Technical
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Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Rock Intake Account: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Henkels to approve the following Rock Intake payments:

Brian Crowley	2 Intakes	\$400.00
Dennis Swan	1 Intake	\$200.00

The funds are from the Murray SWCD account and not taken from any grants.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Building Rent for 2024: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to approve the agreement for 2024 Building Rent and Storage Space Rent with the cost same as 2023.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Rain Gauge Monitor: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Henkels to purchase gift certificate in the amount of \$30.00 for the Rain Gauge Monitors. The funds for purchasing will not be used by any grants.

Affirmative-Henkels, Hurd, Conrad
Abstain-Posthuma
Motion carried.

District Administrator Update: Lewis updated the Board on the following:

- End of the Month

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- TSA information for BWSR grant verification
- Finished grants that were set to expire on December 31, 2023 (all funds spent)
- Posting in eLINK
- BWSR Academy
- Scanning in cost-share projects
- Entering projects into eLINK

Program Manager Update: Christensen updated the Board on the following:

- 1W1P meetings
- Working on Easements for CREP & RIM
- BWSR will be sending money out for Soil Health which will come in 2 phases
- Working on Tree Plans

Resource Specialist: Ryan updated the Board on the following:

- 5 projects were constructed this fall.
- WCA has been busy with 2 solar projects, 3 new sewer projects and some new developments
- Working with Pipestone SWCD for the Soil Field Day on January 10, 2024 in Lake Wilson, MN.

Bills: A motion by Henkels seconded by Hurd to approve the Murray SWCD bills from November 10, 2023-December 14, 2023, in the amount of \$81,047.08.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2024

Approved by Paul Posthuma, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date