



News Release

For immediate release
December 13, 2018

CHISAGO SWCD SUPERVISOR CLEVELAND ELECTED PRESIDENT FOR STATE CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

Roland Cleveland of North Branch, Minnesota, was recently elected as the President of the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD). The election took place during the Association's annual convention which was held December 9-11 at the Double Tree Hotel, in Bloomington, MN. Close to 800 people attended the three day event.

Cleveland has served on the Board of Supervisors for the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) since 1987.

Cleveland is a graduate of the MASWCD/U of M Extension Service Leadership Institute, a program designed to build leadership skills of SWCD supervisors and employees. He has served on the MASWCD Board of Directors, representing the metro area SWCDs, and more recently as the organization's Vice President.

"Roland's experience in conservation issues, both as a landowner and as a Supervisor for the Chisago SWCD, give him a real advantage as President of the Association," said LeAnn Buck, Executive Director of the MASWCD. "With his leadership, I am confident that the Association will continue to make significant contributions in the area of local resource management," she said.

The MASWCD is a not-for-profit Association that represents Minnesota's Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) and the men and women who serve on their elected governing boards. SWCDs are local government units that started forming in the 1930s when Congress responded to the large amounts of topsoil being lost to wind and water erosion. SWCDs exist across the entire state and involve landowners as well as local and state officials in resource management protection. The Association is involved in helping to set policy for various conservation programs including: the state Erosion Control Cost-Share Program, Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Reserve Program, Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, and the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, to name a few.

During his two year term, Cleveland would like to continue the great tradition of grass roots leadership to put all local SWCDs in better positions for the future.

Active in his local conservation district, Cleveland will also continue to serve as a supervisor for the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District.



###