



Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

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May 14, 2024

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The May Board meeting of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District was convened on May 14, 2024, at the North Branch Area Library, 6344 379th Street, North Branch, MN 55056. Chair Birkholz called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

ATTENDANCE

Supervisors: Jim Birkholz, Rick Cedergren, Lance Petersen, and Justin Wilson.

Supervisors absent: David Tollberg

Staff: SWCD District Administrator Craig Mell, SWCD Water Resource Specialist Casey Thiel (left early), and NRCS District Conservationist Megan Lindberg (left early).

AGENDA

Motion by Birkholz and seconded by Wilson to approve the agenda after moving agenda item 3a2)

Board Minutes – Correction and Amendment – September 12, 2023, until after the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Wilson to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to approve the corrected and amended September 12, 2023 board minutes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Cedergren to approve supervisors and staff attendance at the EMWREP/LSC WP Workshop on the Water series on June 24th, August 7th, and September 30th.

Motion carried.

STAFF/SUPERVISOR REPORTS

SWCD Water Resource Specialist Casey Thiel provided an update to the Board regarding the upcoming *We Are Water MN* exhibit coming to Chisago County June 20th through August 12th. No board action taken at this time.

District Conservationist Lindberg and District Administrator Mell reviewed the NRCS and SWCD activities of the past month. No board action taken at this time.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Cost Share Request – Nonstructural Land Management Practices

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to approve the following 10 conservation practice assistance contracts:

1) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-16

- Conservation Practice: 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
- Total Acres: 18.5 acres
- Cost Share Requested: \$2,775 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
- Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2024
- Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 2) Contract #: DDSiC 23-02
 - Conservation Practice: 328 Conservation Crop Rotation
 - Total Acres: 18.5 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$555 FY23 Priority BMP Implementation Targeting Lawrence Creek, Dry Creek, and Direct Drainage to the St. Croix River Phase II (C23-4644)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 3) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-17
 - Conservation Practice: 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
 - Total Acres: 14.8 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$2,220 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
 - Contract Expiration Date: December 31, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 4) Contract #: NFWF 24 C1
 - Conservation Practice: 327 Conservation Cover (Pollinator Species)
 - Total Acres: 1.0 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$500 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 5) Contract #: NFWF 24 C3
 - Conservation Practice: 327 Conservation Cover (Pollinator Species)
 - Total Acres: 1.1 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$550 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 6) Contract #: NFWF 24 C4
 - Conservation Practice: 327 Conservation Cover (Pollinator Species)
 - Total Acres: 1.0 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$500 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

- 7) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-18
 - Conservation Practice: 329 No-Till
 - Total Acres: 80 acres per year (3-year contract)
 - Cost Share Requested: \$4,800 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
 - Contract Expiration Date: December 31, 2026
 - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD

- 8) Contract #: GCW 21-13
- Conservation Practice: 340 Cover Crops
 - Total Acres: 80 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$12,000 FY21 Goose Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation (C21-6961)
 - Contract Expiration Date: December 31, 2024
 - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD
- 9) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-19
- Conservation Practice: 329 No-Till
 - Total Acres: 80 acres per year (3-year contract)
 - Cost Share Requested: \$4,800 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
 - Contract Expiration Date: December 31, 2026
 - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD
- 10) Contract #: GCW 21-14
- Conservation Practice: 340 Cover Crops
 - Total Acres: 80 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$12,000 FY21 Goose Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation (C21-6961)
 - Contract Expiration Date: December 31, 2024
 - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

Project Certification – Nonstructural Land Management Practices

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Wilson to approve the following two project certification and payment request:

- 1) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-10
- Conservation Practice: 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
 - Total Acres: 25 acres
 - Cost Share Requested: \$3,750 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
 - Payment #: one of one
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD
- 2) Contract #: CWF SH C 23-17
- Conservation Practice: 512 Pasture and Hay Planting
 - Total Acres: 14.8 acres
 - Flat Rate Payment Requested: \$2,220 FY22 LSC Soil Health Grant (C22-7318)
 - Payment #: one of one
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No Board action taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Anoka Conservation District Soil Health Grant Amendment

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize an amendment to the Lower St. Croix a Clean Water Fund Soil Health grant (BWSR Grant Agreement C22-7318) Statement of Work between the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District and the Anoka Conservation District as follows:

II. ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS

Sub-Recipient will be compensated in an amount not to exceed ~~\$10,000.00~~ \$272.30 in reimbursement of costs incurred in delivering all Statement of Work activities. Sub-recipient must provide Chisago SWCD an itemized invoice and staff time must be billed consistent with billing rate as provided for under appropriate grant administration provisions.

III. COMMITMENT OF GRANT MATCHING FUNDS

Sub-Recipient will contribute at least ~~\$1,100.00~~ \$0 of non-state match to the Activity's grant funding source.

Motion carried.

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Washington Conservation District Soil Health Grant Amendment

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Petersen to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize an amendment to the Lower St. Croix a Clean Water Fund Soil Health grant (BWSR Grant Agreement C22-7318) Statement of Work between the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District and the Washington Conservation District as follows:

II. ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS

Sub-Recipient will be compensated in an amount not to exceed ~~\$65,100.00~~ \$77,500.00 in reimbursement of costs incurred in delivering all Statement of Work activities. Sub-recipient must provide Chisago SWCD an itemized invoice and staff time must be billed consistent with billing rate as provided for under appropriate grant administration provisions.

Motion carried.

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreement and Statement of Work

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cedergren to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize and sign Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreements between the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District and Washington County for work related to the Lower St. Croix Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Motion carried.

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Wilson to approve the project list recommended by the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Policy Committee on April 22nd and to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize and sign a Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreement Statement of Work with the following Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership member:

- a) Washington County
 1. Activity: 1 Structural Ag BMP Implementation
 2. Description of Project: St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Ravine Stabilization
 3. Grant Funds Requested: \$120,000

Motion carried.

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership FY23 WBIF Work Plan Revision and Budget Amendment

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Cedergren to approve the proposed LSC FY23 WBIF Work Plan Revision and Budget Amendment. Motion carried.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cedergren to authorize Administrator Mell to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources the FY23 LSC WBIF grant work plan and budget revision once 2/3^{ds} of the governing bodies of the LSC WP JPA have formally adopted the FY23 LSC WBIF grant work plan and budget revision. Motion carried.

BWSR Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to approve the FY24 Chisago County Cooperative Weed Management Area Management Plan Implementation Grant Agreement with the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for \$15,000 and to authorize District Administrator Mell to be the grantee's authorized representative, which includes signing all documents related to this grant agreement. Motion carried.

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Wilson to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize a Professional and Technical Services Contract with Chisago County (Public Works and Environmental Services Departments) to implement the task associated with the Board of Water and Soil Resources FY24 Chisago County Cooperative Weed Management Area Management Plan Implementation Grant. Motion carried.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant Contract for Services Sub-Agreement

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Cedergren to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize a contract with Monarch Joint Venture for up to \$5,000 to complete the Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program task associated with our 2024 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant agreement, Grant ID 2007.24.080874. Motion carried.

BWSR Soil Health Grant

Administrator Mell provided the Board with an update on the BWSR 2024 Soil Health Grants. No Board action taken at this time.

Building Lease

Administrator Mell provided the Board with an update on the status of our building lease. No Board action taken at this time.

MASWCD Call For Resolutions

The Board discussed the MASWCD Call for Resolutions. No Board action taken at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

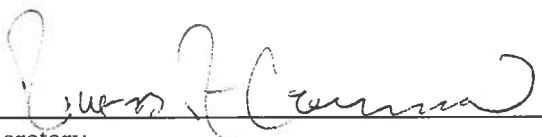
No Board action taken at this time.

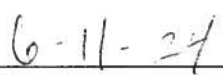
UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 8:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Cedergren to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 PM.


Secretary


Date