



Chisago Soil & Water Conservation District

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July 9, 2024

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The July Board meeting of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District was convened on July 9, 2024, at the North Branch Area Library, 6344 379th Street, North Branch, MN 55056. Chair Birkholz called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Supervisors: Jim Birkholz, Rick Cedergren, Lance Petersen, David Tollberg, and Justin Wilson.
Staff: Craig Mell (SWCD), Willow Dean (SWCD, partial attendance), Casey Thiel (SWCD, partial attendance), Barbara Heitkamp (LSC WP, partial attendance), and Jessica Selu Teli (EMWREP, partial attendance).

AGENDA

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Cedergren to approve the agenda after moving agenda item 8d) SWCD Logo to agenda item 5b). Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

No Board action taken at this time.

STAFF/SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Barbara Heitkamp, Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership, reviewed with the Board the results of the SWCD Goose Lake lakeshore landowners survey and results of the SWCD production ag producers survey. No Board action taken at this time.

SWCD Logo

Administrator Mell reviewed with the Board the current SWCD logo and the new Chisago County logo. Barbara Heitkamp presented several Chisago SWCD logo ideas for the Board to consider. No Board action taken at this time.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Project Certification – Nonstructural Practices

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

1) Contract #: GCW 24-01

- Conservation Practice: 329 Residue and Tillage Management No-Till
- Total Acres: 80 acres
- Cost Share Requested: \$1,600 FY24 GCW TMDL Implementation (Grant ID C24-0064)
- Payment #: one of three
- Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

Project Certification – Structural Practices

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following project certification:

- 1) Contract #: GCW 21-08
 - Conservation Practice: water and sediment control basin, underground outlet, and a lined waterway outlet.
 - Total Project Cost: \$32,200
 - Approved Cost-Share Amount: \$15,256.67 CWF FY21 Goose Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation grant funds (C21-6961)
 - Technical Representative: USDA NRCS

Motion carried.

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following project certification:

- 1) Contract #: GCW 21-12
 - Conservation Practice: water and sediment control basin, underground outlet, and a lined waterway/outlet.
 - Total Project Cost: \$10,976.50
 - Approved Cost-Share Amount: \$10,976.50 CWF FY21 Goose Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation grant funds (C21-6961)
 - Technical Representative: USDA NRCS

Motion carried.

Cost Share Request – Nonstructural Practices

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

- 1) Applicant: Ben Arias
 - Contract #: CLLID Cost Share Program
 - Conservation Practice: Shoreline restoration
 - Cost Share Requested: \$1,500 Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement Funds
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2024
 - Technical Representative: Casey Thiel, Chisago SWCD
- 2) Contract #: NFWF 24 C9
 - Conservation Practice: Pollinator Planting (327)
 - Cost Share Requested: \$4,000 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD
- 3) Contract #: NFWF 24 C8
 - Conservation Practice: Pollinator Planting (327)
 - Cost Share Requested: \$250.00 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD
- 4) Contract #: NFWF 24 C10
 - Conservation Practice: Pollinator Planting (327)
 - Cost Share Requested: \$300.00 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
 - Contract Expiration Date: November 30, 2025
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

Cost Share Request – Structural Practices

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following cost share request:

1) Contract #: LSC WBIF Wetland 23-01

- Conservation Practice: Ditch plug, vegetation removal, and native vegetation establishment.
- Project Completion Date: November 30, 2025
- Total Project Cost: \$34,000
- Approved Cost-Share Amount: \$30,385
 - \$ 28,385 FY23 WBIF Lower St. Croix Watershed Partners grant (C23-0735)
 - \$2,000 FY24 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (2007.24.080874)
- Technical Representative: Grayson Smith, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Motion carried.

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Cedergren to approve the following cost share request:

1) Contract #: CLW 23-06

- Conservation Practice: Bioretention basin, underground outlet, and a lined waterway/outlet
- Project Completion Date: November 30, 2024
- Total Project Cost: \$24,800
- Approved Cost-Share Amount: \$ 24,800
 - \$ 17,800 FY23 CWF Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed Grant (C23-4274)
 - \$ 7,000 Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Funds
- Technical Representative: Rebecca Nestingen, PE, Washington Conservation District

Motion carried.

Cost Share Policy Amendment

Motion by Cedergren and seconded by Petersen to approve the amended Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District 2024 Cost Share Policy as presented with the update to include the change to the Forage and Biomass Planting policy as follows:

4) ~~Forage and Biomass Planting~~ **Pasture and Hay Planting** – Must follow NRCS Practice Standard 512

- a) contract duration and practice lifespan is 10 years.
- b) payment rate = \$150/ac
- c) Requires conversion from ~~row~~ an annual crop.
- d) Must be classified as Highly Erodible Land by the USDA, or directly draining to a DNR Public Water, or in a groundwater sensitive area, or has a surface- or ground- water benefit as determined by the SWCD Technical Representative.
- e) Stand-alone practice

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No Board action taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership

Administrator Mell provided the Board with an update on the FY25 LSC WBIF draft budget and the status of the open Agronomist position. No Board action taken at this time.

BWSR Soil Health Grant

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize a Cooperative Agreement with the Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District and the Washington Conservation District to implement the task associated with the Board of Water and Soil Resources 2024 NE TSA 4 Partnership Soil Health Staffing Grant, Grant ID C24-0142. Motion carried.

We Are Water Exhibit

Casey Thiel gave the Board a tour of the We Are Water Exhibit at the North Branch Library. No Board action taken at this time.

Supervisor Wilson left the meeting.

Office Space

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

2024 Outstanding Conservationist

The Board discussed the 2024 MASWCD Outstanding Conservationist program. No Board action taken at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

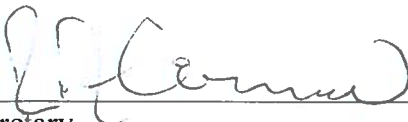
No Board action taken at this time.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING


The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Tollberg to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m.



Secretary



Date