



629 NORTH 11TH STREET
COURTHOUSE SUITE 7
MONTEVIDEO, MN 56265

PHONE: 320-269-2696

**Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
May 6, 2024**

Minutes of the Chippewa Soil and Water Conservation District, Courthouse, Suite 7, Montevideo, MN 56265.

1. Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Calin Eisenlohr at 3:00 p.m.
 1. Members present: Michelle Overholser, Steve Jacobson, Calin Eisenlohr, Aaron Ahrenholz, Jerry Schwitters
 2. Other present: SWCD Staff- Zach Bothun, Desirae Jarett; BWSR Board Conservationist-Luke Olson; County Commissioner-Candice Jaenisch
2. M/S/P Jacobson, Overholser approve the agenda with additions. All in favor.
3. M/S/P Jacobson, Schwitters approve the April meeting minutes. All in favor.
4. Bills were presented for ratification and payment.
5. Luke Olson, BWSR Board Conservationist introduced himself and gave an update on BWSR programs and funding opportunities.
6. **Action Items:**
 1. Zach Bothun presented the Resolution to Adopt and Implement the Chippewa River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, contingent on the BWSR Board approval.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Ahrenholz approve to adopt and implement the resolution as presented. All in favor.
 2. Zach Bothun presented the Soil Health Acceleration Partnership Agreement with Kanati Land Management.
 - M/S/P Schwitters, Jacobson approve the Soil Health Acceleration Partnership Agreement with Kanati Land Management as presented. All in favor.
 3. Zach Bothun presented the Soil Health Acceleration Partnership Agreement with Renville SWCD.
 - M/S/P Jacobson, Ahrenholz approve the Soil Health Acceleration Partnership Agreement with Renville SWCD as presented. All in favor.
 4. Zach Bothun requested signing authority for two contracts (SWCD 2024-6 & CMRWP 2024-18 contracts) due to the timeliness of the project and possible interference with spring planting and board quorum issues.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Schwitters approve signing authority for district manager as needed to enter contracts for the Chippewa SWCD and CMRWP/WBIF funds. Amount of CMRWP funds not to exceed 50% and Chippewa SWCD funds not to exceed 25% (combined not to exceed 75%) of engineers estimate of \$10,153. All in favor.
 5. Zach Bothun presented Cost Share Contracts 2024-4 and 2024-5. Contract 2024-4 is a 3-year multi species contract on 78 rotational acres/year at \$60/acre totaling \$14,000 (capped). Contract 2024-5 is a 3-year multi species contract on 69.5 acres/year at \$60/acre totaling \$12,510.
 - M/S/P Overholser, Schwitters move to approved Cost Share Contracts 2024-4 and 2024-5 as presented. Supervisor Ahrenholz abstained from the motion due to a conflict of interest. Eisenlohr and Jacobson in favor.
 6. Zach Bothun presented Cost Share Contracts CMRWP 24-13, CMRWP 24-14, CMRWP 24-15. CMRWP 24-13 is a 2 year, multi species contract on 499.5 acres/year at \$75/acre/year totaling \$74,925. CMRWP 24-14 is a 2-year continuous no-till contract on 500 acres/year at \$50/acre/year totaling \$50,000. CMRWP 24-15 is a 3-year multi species contract on 210

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acres/year at \$85/acre/year totaling \$53,550. These contracts will all be funded through CMRWP WBIF

- M/S/P Ahrenholz, Schwitters approve CMRWP 24-13, CMRWP 24-14, and CMRWP 24-15 as presented. All in favor.

7. Discussion Items:

1. Desirae discussed the upcoming WCMASWCD Area II meeting and Governance 101. Board would like staff to check back after Memorial Day on registration/attendance.
2. Desirae noted the call for resolutions. Chippewa SWCD does not have any at this time.

8. Staff Reports

1. District Manager: Monthly activities and updates reported include but are not limited to: Hosted a managers meeting in the assembly room on April 9th; tree plans and orders with landowners; cost share contracts developed for landowners for both WBIF and SWCD fund sources; seed/seeding proposals and seed orders with landowners; CRWA and CMRWP TAC committee meetings, subcommittee meetings, and JPB meetings; attended the CRWA JPB meeting and the Chippewa River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Plan) public hearing in Glenwood on April 19th. The Plan was approved by the board following no comments from the public. BWSR has 120 days to review and approve the plan; drafted resolution to adopt the Plan locally (as Chippewa County & SWCD's Plan) upon BWSR's approval; unloaded trees at the building; equipment and building maintenance; tree pick up days; tree planting site prep and tree planting; and worked on wetland bank application for road bank.

9. Adjourn.

1. M/S/P Overholser, Schwitters approve adjournment of meeting. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING: June 3, 2024—Commissioner's Room, Courthouse 3:00 P.M.
*****PLEASE LET OFFICE STAFF KNOW A.S.A.P. IF YOU WILL NOT MAKE IT TO THE MEETING*****