



**Minutes of the April 20, 2021 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's  
Regular Board of Supervisor's Meeting**

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Minnesota State Statute Section 13D.021, Subdivision 1 of the Minnesota Open Meeting Law which permits public bodies to hold meetings via telephone or other electronic means when specific conditions are met.

Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98446740779?pwd=T1U3YWtsTkJFWk90SW5wZ2hjb1VYdz09>  
Phone: 1 (312) 626-6799 (Meeting ID: 984 4674 0779, Passcode: 693830)

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Larry Scherger at 7:15 P.M.

**Members Present:** Larry Scherger, Chair  
Rick Alberts, Vice-Chair  
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer  
David Livingston, Secretary

**Members Absent:** Bruce Freerksen, PR&I

**Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District; David Copland, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources; Gary Kurer, District Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service; Nancy Peterson, Dodge County Resident

**Approval of April 20, 2021 Meeting Agenda** – There were no additions or corrections to the April 20, 2021 Agenda. A motion was made to approve the April 20, 2021 meeting agenda as presented.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

**Approval of the March 16, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes** – The supervisors discussed the March 16, 2021 board meeting minutes. There were no additions or corrections to the March 16, 2021 board meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve the March 16, 2021 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Rick Alberts

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

## **Public Comment**

Nancy Peterson, Dodge County Resident, reported working on the Bench<sup>3</sup> Initiative with it becoming the Career and Technical Education Center at Heintz (CTECH) / P-TECH. The CTECH is the building and P-TECH the state program being created through the Bench<sup>3</sup> Initiative. Peterson is partnering with Oxbow Park for the program, continues to work with the family of Caroline Gosse, the Greater Rochester Advocates for Universities and Colleges (GRAUC), and working on her doctorate. She continues working with the United Way, the National Rifle Association (NRA), and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to help seniors and immigrants. Peterson is also working with the Dodge Center Lions Club and American Legion for a Post Prom.

## **Partner Agency Reports**

### **Dodge County Commissioner's Report**

John Allen, Dodge County District I Commissioner, was unable to attend the meeting.

### **Natural Resource Conservation Service Report**

Gary Kurer, District Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), reported that they are currently hiring for a Soil Conservationist and a Soil Conservationist Technician and will just need a resume from those interested. 15 applicants were pre-approved out of the 60 applications for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), with an approval deadline of May 07, 2021, and an obligation deadline of July 23, 2021. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) has an assessment and ranking deadline of May 28, 2021. There have been meetings to check in with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) on the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and the Local Work Group (LWG) has been set for Wednesday, June 02, 2021 with a hybrid meeting.

### **Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Report**

David Copeland, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), reported that BWSR held a Spring BWSR Academy on March 30, 2021, and is planning for an in-person BWSR Academy in October at Cragun's Resort in Brainard. BWSR is monitoring bills this legislative session, and staff will start transitioning from working remotely to working in the office and having in-person meetings.

## **Treasurer's Report**

**Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills** – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the March 2021 financial report, including the Balance Sheet, noting that the unearned / deferred revenues are close to the amount in the accounts, Revenues of \$11,215.40, Expenditures of \$27,860.31, the General Ledger, and Aging Summary, with a payables total of \$552.93. The supervisors discussed the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to approve the March 2021 Treasurer's Report, and payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$552.93.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Larry Scherger

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **District Cost-Share Contract FY16CSA-04 (Paulson) Cancelation**

Lyle Paulson of West Concord, MN is requesting to cancel Cost-Share Contract FY16CSA-04 for financial assistance to install a Streambank and shoreland Protections in Section 16 of Milton Township. He has verbally informed Jessica Bakken, District Technician, that he is uncomfortable with the contract and doesn't like the life of the practice timeframe. Bakken informed him he would need to provide a written request to the board of supervisors. The written request has not been received yet. The supervisors discussed the request. A motion was made to cancel Cost-Share Contract FY16CSA-04 and unencumber the Section 319 Funds for in the amount of 90% of total eligible costs, not to exceed \$44,677.80 for a streambank and shoreland protection project for Lyle Paulson upon receipt of his written request to cancel the contract.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

## **New Business**

### **Sub-Agreement Amendment between Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the FY19 Drinking Water Protection in Southeast Minnesota Grant**

Adam King, District Manager, presented the Sub-Agreement Amendment between the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the FY19 Drinking Water Protection in Southeast Minnesota Grant. The Sub-Agreement Amendment would extend the expiration date from November 30, 2021 to April 23, 2023, allow for funds to be used for well sealing, and allow the Exhibit A to be changed without all sub-recipient's approval. A motion was made to sign and submit the Sub-Agreement Amendment between the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District and the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the FY19 Drinking Water Protection in Southeast Minnesota Grant.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion was carried.

### **District Cost-Share Contract 2021-02 (Stanton) Encumbrance**

Paul Stanton of Hayfield, MN is requesting financial assistance for Cost-Share Contract 2021-02 to install a well decommissioning in Section 21 of Hayfield Township. The total estimated cost of the Well Decommissioning is \$2,095.00 and Stanton is requesting 50%, not to exceed \$1,047.50. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of District Cost-Share funds for Cost-Share Contract 2021-02 in the amount of 50% of total eligible costs, not to exceed \$1,47.50 for a well decommissioning for Paul Stanton.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

### **2021 Dodge County Free Fair Booth**

Adam King, District Manager, presented information on the 2021 Dodge County Free Fair to be held July 14 – 18 at the Dodge County Fair Grounds in Kasson. The cost of a 8X10 booth is \$150.00, with a \$100.00 deposit. The supervisors discussed the 2021 Dodge County Free Fair. A motion was made to approve \$150.00 for a booth at the 2021 Dodge County Free Fair, and a \$100.00 deposit.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion was carried.

### **Other New Business**

There was no Other New Business

### **Correspondence & Staff Report**

Adam King, District Manager, reported that he has taken sick leave with COVID-19 issues at home with his children, as well as his second vaccination. The supervisors discussed COVID-19 vaccinations.

The supervisors discussed the May 18, 2021 meeting, and whether it should be in-person or remote. With most supervisors receiving their COVID-19 vaccinations, a motion was made to hold the Tuesday, May 18, 2021 meeting in person at the United States Department of Agriculture Service Center in Dodge Center, Minnesota at 7:15 P.M.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Larry Scherger

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion was carried.

### **Supervisor Reports**

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 via Zoom, and that the fishing event between James Fett and Paul Hunter went well. The CRWD is working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) to stock Wolf Creek with trout. There was a nice report on the news about stocking trout in Wolf Creek.

Root River Policy Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported attending the Root River Watershed Policy Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2021, via zoom, where they elected officers with Duane Bakke the Chair, Jeff Baldus the Vice-Chair, and Marcia Ward the Secretary. There was a presentation by Adam Bielke, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, on the planning status currently in Minnesota of 38 of 61 watersheds having a comprehensive watershed management plan approved and adopted, and wanting all watersheds completed by 2025. Kevin Stark, St. Mary's University, gave a presentation on GIS and hydro-conditioning the watershed, and Emily Zanon, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, gave a presentation on inventorying the current conservation

practices that are installed. The Crooked Creek capital improvement project funding will not be coming out of the FY18/19 Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant funds.  
Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there is no meeting currently scheduled.

Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ) Policy Committee – Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, reported attending the Thursday, April 08, 2021 meeting via Zoom where they were informed that everything is on schedule to go out for 60-day review, hold the public hearing, go out for a 90-day Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources review and approval. Beau Kennedy, District Manager, Goodhue Soil and Water Conservation District and Terri Peters, District Manager, Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District gave a presentation on the Mazeppa channel restoration project.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. to be held in the conference room of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Center, 916 2<sup>nd</sup> Street S.E., Dodge Center, MN.

### Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 8:52 P.M.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Rick Alberts

Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Absent; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative

The motion carried.

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: Apr. 1 21 Recorder: Adam King  
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**Supervisors: Rick Alberts – Bruce Freerksen– Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn**

