



Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District

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Minutes of the August 16, 2022 Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Larry Scherger at 7:24 PM.

- Members Present:** Larry Scherger, Chair
Rick Alberts, Vice-Chair
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer
David Livingston, Secretary
Bruce Freerksen, PR&I
- Members Absent:** None
- Others Present:** Adam King, District Manager, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District; Samantha Rojo, Administrative Professional, Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District
- Approval of Meeting Agenda:** Additions to the August 16, 2022 agenda include District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04 Kruger Amendment, District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04 Kruger Payment, and Weed Inspections under Other New Business. A motion was made to approve the August 16, 2022 meeting agenda, as amended.
Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of the July 19, 2022
Board Meeting Minutes:** The supervisors discussed the July 19, 2022 board meeting minutes and found no corrections to be made. A motion was made to approve the July 19, 2022 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes, as presented.
Motion: Glenn Hahn
Seconded: Rick Alberts
The motion carried unanimously.

Partner Agency Reports

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Report

David Copeland, Board Conservationist, BWSR, 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), was unable to attend the meeting.

Dodge County Commissioner's Report

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

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements, Payment of New Bills

Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the July 2022 Financial Report, including the Balance Sheet, Revenues of \$20,583.37, Expenditures of \$20,630.88, the General Ledger and Aging Summary, with payables total of \$7,583.77. The supervisors discussed the Treasurer's Report, noting that the report for the General Ledger was difficult to follow as it was printed. Samantha Rojo, Administrative Professional, printed fresh copies in the correct format. A motion was made to approve the July 2022 Treasurer's Report, and payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$7,583.77.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

75th Anniversary Open House / Tour

Adam King, District Manager, explained that planning for the 75th Anniversary Open House and Tour is going well, adding that he would like to dial in the itinerary for the event. It was discussed that the guests invited to the tour portion of the celebration would be invited to arrive to the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District office (USDA office building) at about 1:00 PM on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. The plan would be to depart on the tour at approximately 1:30 PM, and return back to the office around 3:30 to transition into the Open House, which would begin at about 4:00 PM. It was also discussed that Samantha Rojo is to mail each supervisor the invitation for the event, as well as thoroughly covering the list of attendees that will be invited. The plan is still to commence regular board meeting at 7:15 PM, once open house attendees have begun to depart.

New Business

Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement Establishing the Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board

Adam King, District Manager, explained that The Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT) has completed a review of the Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board that was established in 1995, and they have recommended changes to the Joint Powers Agreement that establishes Technical Service Area VII (TSA VII). King added that Goodhue Soil and Water Conservation District, as the host district for TSA VII, has made the changes to the Joint Powers Agreement, and the TSA VII board has approved the changes. All districts forming TSA VII now must approve the changes. A motion was made to approve, sign, and submit the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement Establishing the Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Sub-Agreement between Mower Soil and Water Conservation District and Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for Cedar – Wapsipinicon Watershed Based Implementation Funds

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that The Memorandum of Agreement for the Cedar - Wapsipinicon Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan is receiving funding to implement the plan through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) to the Mower SWCD as the Fiscal Agent. King explained that since Mower SWCD is the Fiscal Agent for the grant, they will receive the funding of the grant, and the Dodge SWCD will invoice quarterly for work performed and funds paid out for cost-share. A sub-agreement has been developed in order to distribute the WBIF funds to local partnering entities for technical and financial assistance. A motion was made that the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District approves, signs and submits the Sub-Agreement Between the Mower Soil and Water Conservation District and the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for Watershed Based Implementation Funding.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

August 16, 2022 Dodge SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Page 2 of 5

Letter of Support for Trout Unlimited’s Driftless Area Habitat for the Wild and Rare – Phase 3 Proposal Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Adam King, District Manager, explained that Sara Stassman, who is the Driftless Area Program Manager for Trout Unlimited, is submitting a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) grant for the Driftless Area Habitat for the Wild and Rare – Phase 3, and is looking for support from Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Minnesota’s Driftless Area. Stassman provided a letter of support for convenience, which was provided to the supervisors. A motion was made that the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District approves and signs the Letter of Support for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program – Driftless Area Habitat for the Wild and Rare – Phase 3, and provides it to Sara Stassman.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2022-03 (Stoflet Family Farms) Encumbrance

Stoflet Family Farms of Byron, MN has requested cost-share assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the installation of a 412-Grassed Waterway. This project will be installed in Section 21 of Canisteo, and the estimated cost for the practice is \$24,563.00. Stoflet Family Farms is requesting to encumber 20%, not to exceed an amount of \$4,861.25. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of district cost-share contract 2022-03 for Stoflet Family Farms for the installation of a 412-Grassed Waterway at 20% of the total cost of the project, not to exceed \$4,861.25.

Motion: Glenn Hahn
Seconded: Bruce Freerksen
The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2022-04 (Hoaglund) Encumbrance

Lyle Hoaglund of Mantorville, MN has requested cost-share assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District. The practice of a 351-Well Decommissioning is to be installed in Section 16 of Mantorville. The estimated cost for the practice is \$2,175.00 and Hoaglund is requesting to encumber 50%, not to exceed \$1,087.50. A motion was made that the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District approves the encumbrance of district cost-share contract 2022-04 for Lyle Hoaglund to install a 351-Well Decommissioning at 50% of the total cost of the entire project, not to exceed \$1,087.50.

Motion: Rick Alberts
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Zumbro Cost-Share Contract 2022WAGZ-DC-03 (Biber) Encumbrance

Jack Biber of Dodge Center, MN has requested cost-share assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District. The practice of a 340-Cover Crop will be installed in Section 11 of Wasioja. The estimated cost for the practice is \$13,500.00 and he is requesting to encumber 100%, not to exceed \$13,500.00. A motion was made for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District to approve the encumbrance of district cost-share contract 2022WAGZ-DC-03 for Jack Biber to install a 340-Cover Crop at 100% of the total cost of the entire project, not to exceed \$13,500.00.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Zumbro Cost-Share Contract 2022WAGZ-DC-04 (Dohrmann) Encumbrance

Dale Dohrmann of West Concord, MN has requested cost-share assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District. The practice of a 412-Grassed Waterway will be installed in Section 24 of Ellington Township. The estimated cost for the practice is \$4,200.00 and he is requesting to encumber 18% of the total, not to exceed \$756.00. A motion was made for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District to approve the encumbrance of district cost-share contract 2022WAGZ-DC-04 for Dale Dohrmann to install a 412-Grassed Waterway at 18% of the total cost of the entire project, not to exceed \$756.00.

Motion: Rick Alberts
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Other New Business

District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04 Kruger Amendment

Roger Kruger of Hayfield, MN is requesting an amendment to the District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04; he would like to include 5 acres of Pre-Construction Cover into his contract, with an agreeable amount of \$150.00 per acre, not to exceed \$750.00. A motion was made for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District to approve and sign the amendment of District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04 for Roger Kruger, to include 5 acres of Pre-Construction Cover to his contract, not to exceed \$750.00.

Motion: Bruce Freerksen

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2021-04 Kruger Payment

Roger Kruger of Hayfield, MN has requested a cost-share payment from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the installation of a 412 Grassed Waterway in Section 10 of Hayfield Township. The total cost for practice installation was \$10,270.77 and Kruger is requesting 65% of that amount, not to exceed \$6,676.00, and \$750.00 for Pre-Construction Cover. A motion was made to approve payment of district cost-share contract 2021-04 to Roger Kruger for the installation of a 412 Grassed Waterway at 65% of the total cost of the entire project, not to exceed \$6,676.00 and \$750.00 for 5 acres of Pre-Construction Cover.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Weed Inspections

David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, posed the issue of weeds in Dodge County, noting that in some of the solar fields, the weeds now grow between 4' and 8' tall. Livingston added that there was talks of individuals complaining that the Dodge County Lions Park also was having a weed issue. Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors of the current situation with Dodge County weed inspections, and that the weed inspections have been taken over completely by the County.

Correspondence & Staff Report

Adam King, District Manager, reported that Jessica Bakken, District Technician, has been working on field projects and shared that she will be getting married in August.

Supervisor Reports

Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor

Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported attending the Committee of the Whole meeting with Dodge County along with Samantha Rojo and Adam King on August 9th. He added that he felt the presentation was effective and well-received by the members present at the meeting.

Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor

Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, reported attending the Joint Powers Board meeting where they also signed the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement Establishing the Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board. Scherger added that they were provided the 2023 budget, and are still having trouble purchasing a new pickup truck as GM is not taking any vehicle orders currently.

David Livingston, District IV Supervisor

David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the most recent Cedar River Watershed District Meeting, where he learned that they received the Levy from the county last month, and the meeting for August 17th was postponed to August 24th, 2022 because of the public hearing notice not having gone out in time to the newspaper.

August 16, 2022 Dodge SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Page 4 of 5

Livingston also reported attending the August 3, 2022 Cedar-Wapsipinicon Policy Committee meeting they also signed the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement Establishing the Southeast Soil and Water Conservation District Technical Support Joint Powers Board. Livingston explained that they have spent approximately \$98,885 of the \$593,000 grant.

Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor

Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported that there have been no Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) meetings recently, but a possible August meeting may still be in the works.

Rick Albers, District I Supervisor

Rick Albers, District I Supervisor, did not provide a report.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be held Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. in the conference room of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Center, 916 2nd Street SE, Dodge Center, MN.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 09:38 P.M.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously.

Approved:	Date:	Recorder:
	9-20-22	Samantha Rojo

