

**Minutes of the February 15, 2022 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's
Regular Board of Supervisor's Meeting**

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

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 and Water Conservation District; Paul Hunter, Watershed Conservationist, Mower County Soil & Water Conservation District; Nancy Peterson, Dodge County Resident

Approval of Meeting Agenda – Additions to the February 15, 2022 agenda include Report from Paul Hunter with the Cedar River Watershed District under Partner Agency Reports, Sub-Agreement between Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District and Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for Watershed Based Implementation Funding – Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ), 2022 Day at the Capitol, and Employee Training Request – Managing the Human Resource under Other New Business. A motion was made to approve the February 15, 2022 meeting agenda, as amended.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the January 18, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes – The supervisors discussed the January 18, 2022 board meeting minutes. There was a correction made to omit the word 'the' under the Supervisor Reports, Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ) Policy Advisory Committee report. Corrections to the January 18, 2022 board meeting minutes were made and a motion was made to approve the January 18, 2022 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes, as amended.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – No Public Comment

Partner Agency Reports

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.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Report

David Copeland, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, was unable to attend the meeting

Dodge County Commissioner's Report

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

Cedar River Watershed District Report

Paul Hunter, Watershed Conservationist, Mower County Soil & Water Conservation District, explained that he wanted to attend the board meeting to introduce himself and let the Board of Supervisors know he is available for any assistance needed, including technical assistance and conservation planning.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the January 2022 Balance Sheet, Revenues of \$20,948.41, Expenditures of \$37,566.11, the General Ledger, and Aging Summary with a payables total of \$15,589.05. The supervisors discussed the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to approve the January 2022 Treasurer's Report, and payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of \$15,589.05. David Livingston abstained from voting.

Motion: Bruce Freerksen

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Sale of 2005 Dodge Ram

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that the battery in the Dodge Ram 1500 is still dead, and he has not had a chance to get it started to obtain some quotes. The supervisors agree to continue tabling the item, noting that this should be able to be resolved soon, as warmer temps are moving in.

New Dodge SWCD Logo

Adam King, District Manager, shared the rough drafts of logos received from Shades of Amber Design & Marketing. The supervisors discussed the logo drafts and agree they would like to see simplifying of the image so that it can be embroidered and used in print with ease. Samantha Rojo, Administrative Professional, to follow up with Amber from Shades of Amber Marketing & Design to make the requested adjustments.

Fuel Fleet Card

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that staff would still like to get a fuel fleet card for gassing the district vehicles. The supervisors again discussed the fuel fleet card options by Kwik Trip and Casey's, noting that the Dodge County fuel pumps in Mantorville are not likely to be fixed any time soon. The supervisors instructed King to bring another option(s) to the next board meeting on March 15, 2022.

New Business

FY19 Buffer Law Implementation Grant Close-Out

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors the grant funds for the BWSR FY2019 Buffer Law Implementation Grant have been exhausted, and the grant needs closing out. King presented the Final Financial Report, with \$25,122.31 spent of \$25,000 received, with no funds to be returned to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. A motion was made to authorize Adam King to sign and submit the BWSR FY19 Buffer Law Implementation Grant final Financial Report, with \$0.00 returned to the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously.

USDA-NRCS Unfunded Cooperative Agreement

Adam King, District Manager, informed the supervisors that he has been working with Rick Berscheid, Assistant State Conservationist of Field Operations for the Southeast Area, United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service to develop the Unfunded Cooperative Agreement. King notes that Paul Kiltinen, Dodge County Attorney, has also reviewed the document and sees no issues. A motion was made to approve Adam King to sign and execute the Unfunded Cooperative Agreement with United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

2022 Joint Powers Agreement Between the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District for Walk-In Access

Adam King, District Manager, presented to the supervisors The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Joint Powers Agreement with the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the Walk-In Access Program for 2022. King explains this JPA will allow the Dodge SWCD to enroll landowners in the Walk-In Access Program, and also explains this was an agreement we signed into last year. King notes that funds to the district will not exceed \$1,000, with \$250 being provided for each contract. A motion was made to approve Larry Scherger, Board Chair, to sign the 2022 Joint Powers Agreement Between the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District for Walk-In Access.

Motion: Glenn Hahn

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen

The motion carried unanimously.

District Cost-Share Contract 2022-01 (Fay) Encumbrance

Marlin Fay of Grand Meadow, MN has requested cost-share assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the installation of a 412-Grassed Waterway in Section 28 of Vernon Township. The estimated cost for the practice is \$7,661.50, and Fay is requesting to encumber 65%, not to exceed \$4,979.98. A motion was made to approve the encumbrance of district cost-share contract 2022-01 for Marlin Fay for the installation of a 412-Grassed Waterway at 65% of the total cost of the project, not to exceed \$4,979.98. District Supervisor, Glenn Hahn, abstained from voting on this project.

Motion: Bruce Freerksen
Seconded: David Livingston
The motion carried unanimously.

Other New Business

Sub-Agreement between Goodhue County Soil and Water Conservation District and Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for Watershed Based Implementation Funding – Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ)

Adam King, District Manager, explains that Goodhue County SWCD has developed a Sub-Agreement to distribute the funds to the member LGUs for technical and financial assistance with the Watershed Based Implementation Funding – Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ). King notes that many of the funds will be used as passthrough to the member LGUs for financial and technical assistance for the implementation of conservation practices. King informs the supervisors that Goodhue County SWCD is the fiscal agent for the grant, will receive the funding of the grant, and will be invoiced quarterly for worked performed / funds paid out for cost-share. A motion was made to approve the Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District to sign and submit the Sub-Agreement between the Goodhue County 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

2022 Day at the Capitol

Adam King, District Manager, informs the supervisors that The MASWCD Legislative Day at the Capital will be held Wednesday, March 09, and Thursday, March 10, 2022. King notes the details surrounding the event, including that the conference registration is \$90.00 payable to the MASWCD. A motion was made to approve any staff members who would like, to attend the 2022 MASWCD Legislative Day at the Capital, and the \$90.00 payment request for each necessary registration.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Rick Alberts
The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Training Request – Managing the Human Resource

Adam King, District Manager, requests to attend the Managing the Human Resource training put on by the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust from April 06 – 07, 2022 at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud, MN. King notes that the cost for registration is \$110.00. A motion was made to approve sending Adam King to the Managing the Human Resource training at a cost of \$110.00 plus any related hotel and meal expenses.

Motion: Rick Alberts
Seconded: David Livingston
The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence & Staff Report

Adam King, District Manager, discusses the Dodge County Wind, LLC binders received by many board members and the district. King reported that Jessica Bakken has been preparing for her maternity leave and working on delegating her duties for while she is out. King informs the supervisors that 2021 grant reporting was completed.

Supervisor Reports

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported attending the Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation and Development meeting on January 24, 2022, where he learned that they are looking to get a \$250,000 grant.

Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there has not been a Feedlot Advisory Committee meeting set yet for this year.

Root River Policy Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that the next Root River Policy Committee meeting has not been set.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the Cedar River Watershed District meeting on January 19, 2022 via Zoom. Livingston also reports that the next CRWD meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, and that he is currently unsure if he will be able to attend. He hopes that Justin will be able to provide a report for Dodge County in this case.

Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ) Policy Advisory Committee – Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, reported attending the Thursday, January 13, 2022 via Teams where they authorized payment of the outstanding invoices, and set their regular meeting schedule for quarterly meetings.

Next Meeting

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

Adjournment

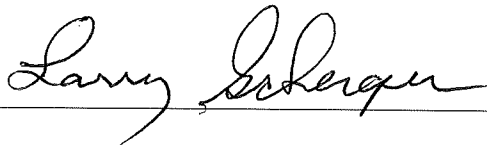
Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 10:09 P.M.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Approved: _____



Date: 3-15-22 Recorder: Adam King

