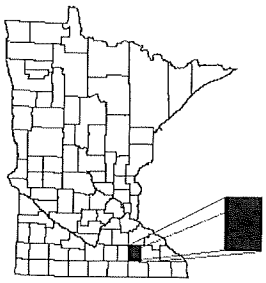


DODGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

916 2nd Street SE
Dodge Center, Minnesota 55927
Phone: 507-374-6364 ext. 3

Minutes of the November 16, 2021 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Regular Board of Supervisor's Meeting

United States Department of Agriculture Service Center
916 2nd St. S.E. Dodge Center, MN 55927

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
Bruce Freerksen, PR&I (late: 7:30 P.M.)

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Adam King, District Manager, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District; Nancy Peterson, Dodge County Resident.

Approval of the November 16, 2021 Meeting Agenda – Additions to the November 16, 2021 agenda includes District Cost-Share Contract 2020-10 Cancelation under Other New Business. A motion was made to approve the November 16, 2021 meeting agenda as amended.

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

Approval of the October 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes – The supervisors discussed the October 21, 2021 board meeting minutes. There were no additions or corrections. A motion was made to approve the October 19, 2021 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes as presented.

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

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 (BWSR), 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

Bruce Freerksen entered at 7:30 P.M.

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements and Payment of New Bills – Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the Balance Sheet, the incomes of $43,748.68, expenditures of $26,482.84, the General Ledger, and Aging Summary, with a payables total of $10,309.06. The supervisors discussed the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made to approve the October 2021 Treasurer's Report, and payment of the bills on the Aging Summary, for a payables total of $4,204.21.

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

Unfinished Business

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District (MASWCD) 2021 Annual Convention
Adam King, District Manager, reminded the supervisors that the MASWCD 2021 Annual Convention is to be held on December 12-14 at the Doubletree in Bloomington, MN with registration costing $255.00 / person, and Tuesday Luncheon of $40 / person. No supervisors are able to attend the convention. A motion was made to approve staff that wish to attend the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District 2021 Annual Convention, and Tuesday Luncheon, along with anyone representing the Delzer Family Farm for the Tuesday Luncheon.

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

New Office Furniture Quotation
Adam King, District Manager, presented a quotation from National Business Furniture for remaining needed office furniture, including chairs, totaling $2,337.15. A motion was made to approve the purchase of new office furniture from National Business Furniture, not to exceed $2,337.15

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

New Business

2022 Final Draft Budget
Adam King, District Manager, presented the 2022 Draft Final Budget for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District. The supervisors reviewed the budget. A Finance Committee Meeting was set up for Tuesday, December 07, 2021 at 7:30 A.M.

Minnesota Soil Health Coalition Dues for 2022

Adam King, District Manager, presented a representation letter from the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition informing the supervisors what they do, and the benefits of membership. The dues for 2022 would be $25.00. The supervisors discussed the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition and dues for 2022. A motion was made to approve payment of $25.00 for 2022 dues to the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition.

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

Resolution #01-2021 to Adopt the Greater Zumbro Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Adam King, District Manager, presented the summary of the Greater Zumbro Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, and informed the supervisors that the plan has been approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and is now ready to be adopted. A motion was made to approved Resolution #01-2021 and adopt the Greater Zumbro Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
Roll Call Vote: Alberts: Affirmative; Freerksen: Affirmative; Scherger: Affirmative; Livingston: Affirmative; Hahn: Affirmative
The motion carried unanimously.

FY19 SWCD Local Capacity Services and FY19 Buffer Law Grant Amendment II

Adam King, District Manager, presented the second amendment for the FY19 BWSR SWCD Local Capacity Services and BWSR Buffer Law Implementation grants. The amendment extends the expiration date by one year, from December 31, 2021 to December 31, 2022. A motion was made to approve, sign, and submit the FY19 SWCD Local Capacity Services and FY19 Buffer Law Grant Amendment II.

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

Technology Subscriptions for 2022

Adam King, District Manager, presented the current subscriptions for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District, and reviewed staff recommendations for technology subscriptions for 2022. A motion was made to approve WeWorked at $169.99/year for timekeeping, DocuSign at $300.00/year for digital signatures, Microsoft upgrade to Teams for an extra $1.00/employee/month totaling $5.00/employee/month, and an Adobe Acrobat Pro license at $179.88/year.

Motion: Rick Alberts
Seconded: Bruce Freerksen
The motion carried.

FY22 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Outreach and Implementation Grant Agreement

Adam King, District Manager, presented the CREP Outreach and Implementation Grant Agreement totaling $46,050.00 with $13,550.00 for the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District, and the remaining $32,000.00 for Pheasants Forever. A motion was made to approve the FY22

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Outreach and Implementation Grant Agreement.

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

FY22 District Cost-Share Program

Adam King, District Manager, reviewed the FY21 District Cost-Share Program with the supervisors. The supervisors discussed potential changes to the FY22 District Cost-Share Program. A motion was made to approve the FY22 District Cost-Share Program (ATTACHED).

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

District Cost-Share Contract 2021-01 (Trapp) Payment

Roy and Pearl Trapp of Kenyon, MN are requesting payment from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the installation of a well decommissioning in Section 05 of Concord Township. The total eligible cost of the practice was $3,650.00, and District Cost-Share Contract 2021-01 will cover $1,500.00, the maximum allowed. A motion was made to approve payment of $1,500.00 from FY 19 Local Capacity Services District Cost-Share Funds for District Cost-Share Contract 2021-01 to install a well decommissioning for Roy and Pearl Trapp.

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

Other New Business

District Cost-Share Contract 2020-10 (Scherger) Cancelation

Robert Scherger of Dodge Center, MN is canceling his request for financial assistance from the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District for the installation of a grassed waterway in Section 17 of Wasioja Township. Scherger submitted a letter to the supervisors informing them that he has received funding form other sources that have covered over 75 percent of the cost of the project. A motion was made to cancel District Cost-Share Contract 2020-10 for Robert Scherger and re-encumbering $2,966.50 to be used for other projects.

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

Public Comment

Nancy Peterson, Dodge County Resident, reported continuing to work with the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce and the Together Greater Rochester Area COVID-19 Community Support Fund. Peterson reported going to the US Highway 14 ribbon cutting with legislators, and had a booth at the STEM to STEAM conference. Peterson announced that the Dodge County Expo looks to be happening this spring, and she will have a booth. Peterson is looking forward to Small Business Week, and there were funds that went towards Rochester and the Destination Medical Center (DMC). Peterson is looking to apply for a youth development grant, and would like to see her doctorate accepted. Peterson stated that she will need a new computer, and is working with those that need food stamps, and assistance making energy and medical payments.

Correspondence & Staff Report

Adam King, District Manager, presented the 2021 Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District's (MASWCD) Annual Meeting Board Packet, and Social Security is giving a 5.9% increase in benefits in 2022. King reminded the supervisors that they will be deciding on a Cost-of-Living Allowance at their next meeting.

Supervisor Reports

Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there hasn't been a Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee meeting for a while, and was wondering if the Dodge SWCD still wanted a representative on the committee since there is another also on the committee. A motion was made to keep a representative from the Dodge SWCD on the Dodge County Feedlot Advisory Committee, and appoint Glenn Hahn as the representative.

Motion: David Livingston
Second: Rick Alberts
The Motion Carried

Root River Policy Committee – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported that there is no Root River Policy Committee meeting currently scheduled.

Atwell – Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, reported receiving a report from Atwell on a proposed transmission line running through Ripley, Westfield, Hayfield, Vernon, and Canisteo Townships. The supervisors discussed the report.

Cedar River Watershed District (CRWD) – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the CRWD meeting on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 where he was invited to sit at the table and give a Dodge SWCD report to the Board of Managers. Livingston reported that a project was approved, and project funds are down to $239,000, with $920,000 total. David Copeland, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, gave a report and thanked the CRWD for their help with the tour, and spoke on the Wild Indigo Trail. Livingston discussed another project in the Turtle Creek Watershed that helped fix a 4-foot gully. Bev Nordby, former Administrator, Cedar River Watershed District, attended the meeting, and Mower County has been enforcing it's zoning and permitting ordinance. Livingston presented an East Side Lake Newsletter that focused on a soil health field day in Adams, MN on October 21, 2021.

Cedar – Wapsipinicon Watershed (CWW) Policy Advisory Committee – David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, reported attending the CWW Policy Advisory Committee meeting on November 03, 2021 where the current budget was reviewed, and it was announced that another grant worth $593,000 will be coming available.

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) – Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, reported the next RC&D Meeting will be held on Monday, November 22, 2021.

Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ) Policy Advisory Committee – Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, reported attending the WAGZ Policy Advisory Committee held on Thursday, November 04, 2021 where they announced the plan was approved by the

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, and there will be a watershed-based implantation funding grant coming worth approximately $1.2 Million.

Next Meeting

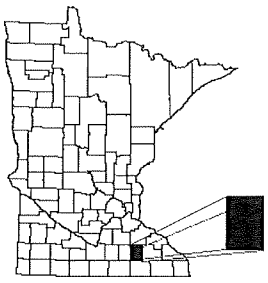
The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. to be held in the conference room of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Center, 916 2nd Street S.E., Dodge Center, MN.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 10:22 P.M.

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

Approved: Larry Scherger Date: 12-21-21 Recorder: Adam King



DODGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

916 2nd Street SE
Dodge Center, Minnesota 55927
Telephone: 507-374-6364 Ext. 3

DODGE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DISTRICT COST-SHARE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 FUNDS

Approved Tuesday, November 16, 2021

All cost-share / financial assistance will be funded from the FY22 Soil and Water Conservation District Local Capacity Fund Grant and will follow Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources requirements for financial assistance. Each project will require a cost-share application to be filled out and signed by the land owner / land occupier, and technical representative prior to being taken to the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors for approval and encumbrance.

STRUCTURAL COST-SHARE

- Maximum cost-share rate of 75% for practices with a pollution load reduction.
  - Well sealing – maximum cost-share rate of 50% not to exceed $2,000 per well.
- Other similar funding may be available to qualifying landowners through the NRCS EQIP or watershed implementation funding.
- Inspections will be conducted according to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Requirements.

NON- STRUCTURAL COST-SHARE

- Cover Crops (NRCS Practice Standard 340)
  - The Dodge SWCD will use a flat rate, based on the current EQIP rate (Currently $34.61/Acre for FY21).
  - The non-structural practice contract will be for 3 years with a total maximum of **50 acres**.
  - A one-time payment will be made the first year after the cover-crops have been installed, with inspections every year after to ensure compliance with the contract.
  - The landowner cannot be enrolled in any other program for the same activity.

Financial Assistance provided through additional funding sources will have different policies (Special Clean Water Fund Projects).

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Supervisors: Rick Alberts – Bruce Freerksen – Larry Scherger – David Livingston – Glenn Hahn