CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL
AGENDA – Approval
MINUTES of September 25, 2018 Board Meeting

1. FINANCIAL – Kay Gross
   • Financial Report
   • Accounts Payable
   • Unemployment – Determination of Benefits

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS and ACTION ITEMS
   RCRCA – Clark Lingbeek
   GBERBA – Clark Lingbeek, Kay Gross, Dave Bucklin
   2W2P – Lingbeek, Appel

   SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE JPO – Tom Muller, Kay Gross
      • Southwest Prairie TSA Vouchers, Financial and Administrative Report

   MASWCD – Clark Lingbeek
   COMMISSIONER REPORT – Tom Appel

3. ADMINISTRATIVE – Kay Gross
   • State Cost-Share Contract Cancellation
     Judith Junker  17-06 Selma 32 Filter Strip  C-S $225.00
   • GBERBA MAWQCP Contract and Payment Approval
     Jack Elness  17-5-21 Lakeside 32 Worksheet Completion  Incentive $100.00
   • Well Sealing Cost-Share Contract Approval and Payment Authorization
     Robert & Donna Mielke 2018-10 Great Bend 26 Well Sealing Cost $575.00  C-S $287.50
   • MASWCD Resolution Ballot – Need Signatures
   • BWSR – Work Order Contracts (3) – Signed and Executed
   • Monitoring Plan for Buffer Compliance Tracking – Cottonwood SWCD
   • Hurricane Lake Update
   • Administrative Program Assistant Position
   • BWSR – Request for Grant Reconciliation and Internal Controls Correspondence
   • Forensic Audit – Update
   • Civil Case – Update
   • December Board Meeting

• Meetings

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<td>December</td>
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<td>SSTS Continuing Education – Mankato</td>
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- OVER -
4. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST – Kelly Pfarr
5. TECHNICIAN – Dave Bucklin – Written Report
6. FARM BILL ASSISTANT/PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Becky Alexander – Written Report
7. RESOURCE TECHNICIAN – Hannah Herzfeld – Written Report
8. WATONWAN WATERSHED TECHNICIAN – Josh Votruba – Written Report
9. AREA 6 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Herman Bartsch – Written Report
10. AREA 5 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Danielle Evers – Written Report
11. MN CONSERVATION CORP MEMBER – Matt Remer – Written Report
12. PLANNING and ZONING TECHNICIAN – Alex Schultz – Written Report
13. GIS Specialist – Marty Mollenhauer – Written Report

Next Regular Meeting, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018 – 8:30 a.m. – Cottonwood SWCD Office
OCTOBER TRANSACTIONS

District Checking Account Balance 9-25-18  $305,359.81

RECEIPTS: (since last board meeting)

Bank of the West - September - Interest - Checking Account  $2.76
RCRCA - WRAPS Meeting Reimbursement  $320.00
Southwest Prairie TSA - PRAP Reimbursement - Personnel Policy  $1,697.50
Cottonwood County - July and August Contract for Services, Fair Booth Reimbursement  $11,363.99
GERBA - Coordinators, Area 6 Specialist, WW Resource Specialist  $13,813.88
Southwest Prairie TSA - 3rd Quarter Admin and Financial Coordinator  $7,960.29

TOTAL RECEIPTS  $35,158.42

DISBURSEMENTS: (since last board meeting)

9/28/18 23930-934 Supervisor Compensation - 3rd Quarter - Compensation, Expenses, Taxes and DCP  $3,094.63
9/28/18 23935-940 Payroll - 9-16-18 to 9-29-18 plus PERA, MN Dept of Revenue and FICA/MC (EFT's)  $12,511.46
10/12/18 23941-946 Payroll - 9-30-18 to 10-13-18 plus PERA, MN Dept of Revenue and FICA/MC (EFT's)  $12,453.05
  23947 Cottonwood County Auditor - October Insurance Reimbursement  $3,663.04
  23948 Hwy 71 Storage  $45.00
  23949 Herman Bartsch - Reimbursement Harvest Promotion  $746.16
  23950 The Hartford - Long Term Disability  $248.12
  EFT MN Department of Revenue - Sales Tax 3rd Quarter  $724.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS  $33,485.46

BALANCE BEFORE BOARD MEETING  $307,032.77

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
10/25/2018
(to be approved at this board meeting)

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<td>Minn-Kota Properties - Rent</td>
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<td>City of Windom - Internet Services</td>
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<td>Expressway Windom - Gas</td>
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<td>Kay Gross - Cell Phone, CrashPro, District Cell Phone &amp; harvest promo hand wipes</td>
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<td>Herman Bartsch - Mileage, Cell Phone and Training Registration</td>
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<td>Sun Life Financial - Critical Illness - October</td>
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TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  $17,678.59

District Checking Account Balance 10-25-18  $289,354.18

Balances as of 10-25-18:
PETTY CASH (Included in District Fund Balance)  $50.00
DATE:          OCTOBER 25, 2018

TO:            SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE TSA MEMBERS

FROM:          KAY GROSS, ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

SUBJECT:       COORDINATOR REPORT

Update of the Southwest Prairie TSA Personnel Policy
Review completed by the Personnel Committee and Board. Comments from the September TSA meeting will be vetted through Ann Goering and redistributed for review.

Updating cost for the TSA was $3,395.00 with half or $1,697.50 being paid by the BWSR Performance Review and Assistance Program (PRAP).

NACD Grant – Technical Assistant Grant
Grant has been approved with the TSA receiving $125,000 with $25,000 of match. Quarterly report is due by October 31, 2018 and will be working with Shelly Lewis and Dawn Madison to complete the task.

NACD Grant – Collaboration
The Collaboration Grant is moving forward with the development of a Work Plan and Agreement through NRCS. Shelly Lewis and Kay Gross participated in a webinar as an introduction to ezfedgrants program. eAuthorization is required for staff working with the program – Kay Gross and Shelly Lewis are enrolled.

Dawn Madison has started meeting with District to review the work plan; Cottonwood SWCD has sent out 384 letter to producers highlighting cover crop cost-share.

Quarterly report is due by October 31, 2018 and will be working with Shelly Lewis and Dawn Madision to complete the task.

BWSR Nonpoint Engineering Assistance and Enhanced Shared Technical Services
BWSR will be sending out Grant Agreements for FY19 Nonpoint Engineering Assistance ($130,000) and Enhanced Technical Assistance ($240,000).

Request a motion by the Cottonwood SWCD to approve the FY19 BWSR NPEA and Enhanced Technical Assistance Grant Agreement when received.

FY19 Budget and Work Plan will be completed by the TSA Administrative and Financial Coordinators and sent out to the TSA Board and Member SWCDs.
# Southwest Prairie Technical Service
## Balance Sheet Detail
### As of October 24, 2019

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**Total Checking Account**: 788,297.97

**Total Savings Interest Account**: 927,368.66

**Total Savings Interest Account**: 972,942.56

**Total Checking/Savings**: 788,297.97

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1. COMPLIANCE TRACKING OF ALL PARCELS SUBJECT TO THE BUFFER LAW
All parcels in the county are to be reviewed within a 3 year timeframe. The Cottonwood SWCD will review a third of the parcels each year. Cottonwood County will be divided into three areas (See Attachment A) and the SWCD will randomly pick area A, B or C once every three years to review. The review shall consist of aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and access to the property.

2. RANDOM SPOT CHECKS
Random spot checks will be done in addition to the tracking of all parcels within a 3 year span. These checks may be conducted via aerial photo review or on-site review depending on availability of updated aerial photos and the practice that is being checked/access to farms. A combination of both aerial and on-site review may also be used.
   a. The SWCD will conduct 25-50 of parcels on the Buffer Protection Map located in Cottonwood County on a random spot check review each year outside of the scheduled area.
   b. Additionally, the SWCD will review parcels of emphasis more frequently, which include, but are not limited to:
      • Previously non-compliant
      • No-till/Conservation tillage or cover crop alternative practice plans
      • Variable width buffers (i.e. Land O’ Lakes buffer tool, Decision Support Tool)
      • Other Alternative Practice Plans, (expiring CRP)
      • Cost-share funded projects (years 1,3,9 of contract)
      • Parcels of further emphasis (potential violators)

3. PROCESS TO HANDLE COMPLAINTS
The Cottonwood SWCD will utilize the following process should a complaint be made regarding the compliance of a parcel:
   a. The SWCD shall review applicable files to determine if an alternative practice or exemption (i.e. CRP) is approved for the parcel and review previous aerial imagery to determine any possible changes made to the practices or buffer area since the most recent compliance check.
   b. If there is an approved practice, staff will contact the landowner via mail with a set date and time for a site visit and complete an on-site visit with or without the presence of the landowner (site visit timing will be determined by seasonality, timing of alternative practices, crop stage, etc) to determine that the alternative practice is being met.
      i. If compliant, staff will issue or reissue a Compliance Validation form and mail to the landowner.
      ii. If non-compliant, staff will forward the information to the county for enforcement.
   c. If there is not an approved practice, staff will contact the landowner via mail with a set date and time for a site visit to discuss the parcel’s compliance.
      i. An on-site visit will be made by staff to determine compliance.
         1. If compliant, staff will issue or reissue a Compliance Validation form and mail to the landowner.
         2. If non-compliant, staff will forward the information to the county for enforcement.
      ii. Failure for a landowner to meet at the specified time or reschedule by the specified date will result in a site visit by staff without landowner presence and a compliance determination made at that time. If the parcel is determined to be non-compliant it will immediately be referred to the county for enforcement.
Date: October 25, 2018

Name: Hannah Herzfeld (Cottonwood Resource Technician)

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Project Updates, Working on

Past Events:
- October 9th – WCA training Mankato

Upcoming Events:
- October 29-31 – BWSR Academy

Project Updates:
Another Buffer letter has been sent to all landowners who have signed waiver, or who have not seeded their buffer as a reminder that the deadline is November 1st 2018. RIM spot-checks were completed.

Working on:
- Developing an alternative practices list, and making site visits to determine alternative practices for individual landowners.
- Working with Becky Alexander and occasionally going into the field to correct maps made in the office or working on individual buffer maps for landowners.
- Tracking buffer compliance using the BWSR BuffCAT tool is a continual process.
- Continuing SSTS mentoring
- Working on cost-share database
DATE: October 24, 2018

NAME: Josh Votruba
Watonwan Watershed Technician

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Working on

Past Events:
- Sept 27 – GBERBA GIS Workshop, Mankato, MN
- Oct 12 – GBERBA Executive Meeting, Mankato, MN
- Oct 15 – Watonwan SWCD Board Meeting, St. James, MN
- Oct 17 – Watonwan 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting, St. James, MN
- Oct 17 – Watonwan 1W1P Policy Meeting, St. James, MN

Upcoming Events:
- Oct 25 – Cottonwood SWCD Board Meeting, Windom, MN
- Oct 29-31 BWSR Academy, Breezy Point, MN
- Nov 9 – GBERBA Policy/Tech Meeting, Mankato, MN

Working on:
- Training: I attended the GBERBA GIS workshop Sept 27 in Mankato. During this training session I got training in using ACPF and PTMAApp. These tools are very useful in that they can be used to find conservation opportunities across the landscape (ACPF), and evaluate the feasibility of a conservation practice and estimate the water quality benefits of a conservation practice (PTMAApp).

- GBERBA Cover Crop Cost-Share: The GBERBA cover crop cost-share letter we sent out at the end of August has been continuing to get responses from interested landowners in Cottonwood County. Hannah Herzfeld and I have gotten training from Dawn Madison in using Toolkit to create conservation plans for cover crops. With harvest coming to an end it is expected more farmers and landowners will contact us with interest in the GBERBA cover crop cost-share. If the response turns out to be lower than expected we may do another cover crop outreach to landowners and send out a postcard to landowners in Cottonwood County this winter or fall.

- Watonwan River One Watershed One Plan: I have gathered together all of the various plans and studies that will be needed for the Watonwan River One Watershed One Plan. These documents include county water plans, DNR and other state agency reports, fish and wildlife habitat plans, city wellhead protection plans, and county geologic and surface water hydrology atlases. A list which includes the links for these reports and studies is now available on the Watonwan 1W1P webpage on the Watonwan County website.
Herman Bartsch  
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST  
October 24th, 2018

**Workload:**
- Working with producers and SWCDs to complete assessments and certifications
- Assisting producers with MDA Grant Applications
- Cover Crop Plans
- Program Promotion
- Soil Health Field Day – Faribault Co. 9/24/18
- ACS Meeting – St. Paul 9/27/18
- Managed Tile Training – St. James 10/3/18
- Water Resources Conference – St. Paul 10/16/18

<table>
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<tr>
<th>AREA 6</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Certifications</th>
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<td>Brown SWCD</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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MAWQCP Numbers as of 10-15-18

- 660 producers certified
- 425,263 acres certified
- 1,278 new practices installed or planned to be installed
- Sediment delivery to surface waters reduced by 24,009 tons per year (48,017,500 lbs.)
- Soil loss reduced by 61,234 tons per year (122,467,693 lbs.)
- Phosphorus loss reduced by 28,214 lbs. of P per year
DANIELLE EVERS
AREA 5 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST
Serving the Counties of: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln,
Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, & Yellow Medicine

Projects and Events:
- Continuing to meet with producers for assessments, create maps, & upload documents for state verification
- Assisting producers in submitting MAWQCP Cost-Share Grant Applications
- Contacting producers for potential new applications
- Coordinating with Water Resource Specialist in Nobles, Lyon, Lincoln, Pipestone, Rock for program promotion and to reach more producers in the wellhead protection areas
- Attending/Participating in events to gain continuing education credits for CCA certification
- Prep work for the Minnesota Rural Leadership Program
- Organize, assemble, and deliver harvest goodie bags for program promotion
- Sept 26th – Environmental Fair Presentation
- Sept 27th – ACS Meeting – St. Paul
- Oct 11th – ESE Drainage Training – Marshall, MN
- Oct 9th and 15th – Delivered Goodie Bags to SWCD’s
- Nov 8-9th – Minnesota Agriculture Rural Leadership (MARL) Seminar – Willmar, MN

Program Updates and Information:
- Water quality inlets are still available for interested farmers pursuing certifications (2 free for each applicant)
- $6,000 of Additional funding is still available through GBERBA for districts to continue working on the MAWQCP
- MAWQCP has certified over 660 farms, including over 425,263 acres with 1,278 new BMP’s
- Estimated benefits include: 24,009 tons of TSS reduced per year, 61,234 tons soil reduced per year, 28,214 lbs Phosphorous reduced per year
- Grant applications still available for up to $5,000 75% cost-share through the MDA for producers

YEAR TO DATE NUMBERS

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<tr>
<th>Area 5</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Assessments Completed</th>
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DANIELLE EVERS:
Area 5 Certification Specialist
119 2nd St SW Suite 13
Pipestone, MN 56164

PHONE: (507) 825-1199
CELL: (507) 221-0304
E-MAIL: Danielle.Evers@co.pipestone.mn.us
Date: October 25, 2018
Name: Alex Schultz

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Planning and Zoning, and Ag. Inspecting

Past Events:
- October 18th- WCA Meeting
- October 23rd- Feedlot Inspection

Upcoming Events:
- October 26th- MACPZA Meeting
- October 28th- BWSR Academy
- November 13th- Planning Commission Meeting

Planning and Zoning:
- Planning Commission Meeting
  - None
- Board of Adjustments
  - None
- Permits
  - Setback Permits, 7 Issued
  - CUP, 0 Issued
  - Variance, Issued 0

Feedlots
- Pankonin NPDES Permit accepted by MPCA
1) Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Act update.
   There has been a lot of WCA work. Cities development and Agricultural projects in
   Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties.

2) GBERBA.
   The Watonwan One Watershed One Plan effort is moving along very well. The group
   is negotiating with a consultant to begin as soon as a contract can be secured.
   
   GBERBA members are waiting to hear the results of the two CWF grant applications.
   One application is for a MDM Drainage grant for $304,950 and one for a Watonwan
   Watershed Resource Specialist Position grant for $99,000.

3) Tree Program.
   Several projects are in the planning stages. I have the early tree orders in to the tree
   nurseries for the 2019 season.

4) Watershed Restoration And Protection Strategies
   The WRAPS report is a jumping off place for the One Watershed One Plan Process.
   Staff is involved in the Watonwan, Des Moines, Little Cottonwood or Middle
   Minnesota, and the Cottonwood Watershed WRAPS process all at the same time. Part
   of the work is to establish pollution impairment reduction goals, which BMP’s will
   work and then and how long will it take to achieve the goals.

State Cost Share
The SWCD has several waterway project requests that have come. So far four projects
have been field checked and the estimates total $70,000 dollars for those four projects.

David Bucklin,
Cottonwood SWCD
Date: October 22, 2018

Name: Becky Alexander (Farm Bill Assistant/Program Technician)

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Farm Bill Assistance, SSTs, Buffers, Feedlots, Planning and Zoning

Past Events:
- September 25, 2018 – SWCD board meeting in Windom, MN

Upcoming Events:
- October 29-31, 2018 – BWSR Academy

Farm Bill Assistance:
- CREP & CRP likely will not open up until the end of the year/after the new year. A 2018 Farm Bill must be passed before new applications can be accepted.
- We have quite a few RIM violations that will be fixed this Fall after harvest due to crop encroachment. We will be working on systematically staking all of our easements regardless of boundary issues or not starting this Fall and coming Spring.
  - Hannah has been doing an excellent job on RIM spot checks.

SSTS:
- Continuing to send out letters as septic disclosure forms come in and as property transfers occur.
- SSTs installation is behind compared to other years due to the weather.

Buffers:
- Hannah and I sent out one last letter to everybody still marked as under review for public waters and public ditches. November 1, 2018 is the final deadline for everything. We have requested in the letter that they seed by December 1 and tell us or it will go to the county for enforcement. Technically, a dormant seed should occur after November 1st to prevent germination of the seeds and killing of the seedlings.