

**COTTONWOOD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
JUNE 25, 2020**

The Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office, Windom, MN on June 25, 2020 through WebEx (video communications) . The meeting was called to order by Chairman Daryl Tasler at 8:36 a.m.

Cottonwood County Attorney Nick Anderson as attorney/chief legal counsel for the board, I am determining that requiring all supervisors to participate in person at board meetings is not practical or prudent. I have made that determination based on the WHO's determination that the COVID 19 outbreak is a health pandemic.

Member Present in Office: Chairman, Daryl Tasler
Members by Media (WebEx): Vice Chairman, Tom Muller
Or In Person PR&I, Clark Lingbeek

Others Present in Office: District Administrator, Kay Gross
District Technician, Dave Bucklin
District Administrative Program Assistant, Kari Clouse
MN Iowa Conservation Corp, Ashley Broussard

Others Present by Media: Tom Appel, Cottonwood County Commissioner
Karen Boysen, NRCS District Conservationist

Absent: Secretary, Jeremy Nerem
Treasurer, Cody Duroe

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

AGENDA: Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the May 28, 2020 Board Meeting minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the June Financial Report as presented and submit for audit.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve to pay June accounts payable totaling \$21,314.85.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

2017 and 2018 AUDIT UPDATE

SECOND QUARTER SUPERVISOR COMPENSATION and EXPENSES

April 2 – RCRCA/Area II Meeting – Redwood Falls - \$75.00; April 10 – GBERBA Executive Meeting – Mankato - \$75.00; April 15 – 1W1P Watonwan – Executive Meeting – WebEx - \$75.00; April 23 – SWCD Board Meeting – Office/WebEx - \$75.00.

May 7 – RCRCA/Area II Meeting – Marshall - \$75.00; May 8 - GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – WebEx - \$75.00; May 20 – 1W1P Watonwan Policy Meeting – WebEx/Office; May 28 – SWCD Board Meeting – Office/WebEx - \$75.00.

June 3 – RCRCA/Area II Meeting – Zoom - \$75.00; June 10 – Southwest Prairie TSA Meeting – WebEx - \$75.00; June 12 – GBERBA Executive Meeting – WebEx/Office - \$75.00; June 25 – SWCD Board Meeting – WebEx/Office - \$75.00; June 25 – EQIP Local Work Group Meeting – WebEx/Office - \$0.00.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Second Quarter SWCD Supervisors Compensation and Expenses.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

RCRCA: Lingbeek
GBERBA: Lingbeek, Bucklin and Gross
WATONWAN 1W1P: Lingbeek, Appel, Bucklin and Gross
DES MOINES 1W1P: Bucklin and Gross
SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE TSA: Muller and Gross

SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE TSA VOUCHERS and FINANCIAL REPORT:

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Southwest Prairie June Vouchers, Monthly Financials and Administrative Report.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

MASWCD and AREA V: Lingbeek
COTTONWOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONER: Commissioner Tom Appel
ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Kay Gross
LAWNS TO LEGUMES COST-SHARE CONTRACT APPROVAL

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Kelly Woizeschke (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-07) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Robyn Galer (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-08) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Denise Nichols (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-09) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Kristi Hedman (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-10) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Joni Barens (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-11) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Amy Minion (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-12) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract for Timary Rossow (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-13) for \$450.00.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

LAWNS TO LEGUMES COST-SHARE CONTRACT FINAL PAYMENT

Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share contract final payments for Steve Fresk (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-01) \$264.51; Joanne Kaiser (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-03) \$79.32; Dale/Jane Boyer (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-06) \$450.00; Margaret Horkey (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-05) \$371.19; Jason Kloss (L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-02) \$264.51.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

STATE COST-SHARE CONTRACT CANCELLATION

Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the State Cost-Share contract cancellation for Rodney Fruehling 19-04 for \$675.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

STATE COST-SHARE CONTRACT FINAL PAYMENT

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the State Cost-Share contract final payment for Shirley Matzke 19-03 for \$1,656.91.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

STATE COST-SHARE CONTRACT FINAL PAYMENT

Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the State Cost-Share contract final payment for City of Mountain Lake 19-05 for \$1,500.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

COUNTY BUFFER COST-SHARE CONTRACT APPROVAL

Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the County Buffer Cost-Share contract for Bruce Turner CB18-02 for \$4,768.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

COUNTY BUFFER COST-SHARE CONTRACT FINAL PAYMENT

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the County Buffer Cost-Share contract final payment for Bruce Turner CB18-02 for \$4,768.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

GBERBA 319 COST-SHARE CONTRACT APPROVAL

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the GBERBA 319 Cost-Share contracts for Darby Harder (319-TMDL-16-17-10) \$1,550.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

GBERBA 319 COST-SHARE CONTRACT APPROVAL

Motion by Tasler, second by Lingbeek to approve the GBERBA 319 Cost-Share contracts for Tom Muller (319-TMDL-16-17-11) \$3,250.00.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Lingbeek - Yes

Opposed: None.

Abstained: Muller

Motion carried.

WELL SEALING COST-SHARE CONTRACT APPROVAL

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Well Sealing Cost-Share contract for Joey Vought 2020-7 for \$462.50.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

RESIGNATION

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the resignation of Josh Votruba, Watershed Specialist, as of June 19, 2020.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD-6TH MONTH REVIEW

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the Personnel Committee recommendation to move Program Technician Lee Tapper off his Probationary Period and move his wage to \$18.27 starting June 21, 2020.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

PRAP – Final Report Submitted

BWSR FUNDING – DISTRICT CAPACITY, CLEAN WATER LEGACY and CREP OUTREACH IMPLEMENTATION

DNR OBSERVATION WELL PROFESSIONAL and TECHNICAL SERVICE CONTRACT

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Muller to approve the DNR Observation Well Professional and Technical Service Contract for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

JULY MEETING DATES

SUPERVISOR MEETINGS – ALL MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CONFERENCE CALLING OR WEBEX

July 2 – RCRCA/Area II Meeting – Marshall; July 10 – GBERBA Policy Meeting – WebEx; July 23 - Cottonwood SWCD Board - WebEx.

SWCD EMPLOYEE MEETINGS

July 10 – GBERBA Technical Committee Meeting – WebEx; July 10 - GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – WebEx; July 23 - Cottonwood SWCD Board Meeting – WebEx.

Motion by Muller, second by Lingbeek to approve the Supervisor and Employee meetings and expenses for the month of July 2020.

Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Yes Muller – Yes Lingbeek - Yes
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST – Karen Boysen

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES – Jill Sackett Eberhart

SENIOR TECHNICIAN – Dave Bucklin – Written Report

FARM BILL/PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Becky Buchholz – Written Report

RESOURCE TECHNICIAN – Hannah Herzfeld – Written Report

WATERSHED SPECIALIST – Joshua Votruba – Written Report (FINAL)

AREA 6 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Herman Bartsch – Written Report

AREA 5 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Danielle Evers – Written Report

PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Lee Tapper – Written Report

MN CONSERVATION CORP MEMBER – Ashley Broussard – Written Report

PLANNING and ZONING TECHNICIAN – Alex Schultz – Written Report

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned by the Chairman at 10:35 a.m.

Next Meeting will be on THURSDAY, July 23, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office (by WebEx).

District Supervisor

District Administrator

COTTONWOOD COUNTY LOCAL WORK GROUP LISTENING SESSION
Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District
Thursday, June 25, 2020 – WebEx by Phone, Computer or In Person

Tom Muller, Cottonwood SWCD Supervisor
Clark Lingbeek, Cottonwood SWCD Supervisor
Taylor LeTexier, NRCS Soil Conservationist
Kay Gross, District Administrator
Ashley Broussard, MN/IA Conservation Corp Member

Karen Boysen, NRCS District Conservationist
Tom Appel, Cottonwood County Commissioner
Dave Bucklin, District Senior Technician

Called to order by Tom Muller at 11:05 a.m.

Introductions

Review of Previous Year EQIP

Rough estimate of \$1 million in applications for Cottonwood County. Review of projects funded. For 2020 sign-up, there were 45 applications, of which 37 were eligible and screened high. None of these applications were funded.

Review of Previous Year CSP

2019 there were 4 applications funded. For 2020, there are 14 CSP applications, which have yet to be scored.

Review Previous Year ACEP (ALE & WRE)

There have been no applications in 2019 and 2020.

FY2019 Priority Resource Concerns, Practices and Geographic

- Priority Resource Concerns:
 - Soil Erosion, Rill & Wind and Excessive Bank Erosion from Shorelines
 - Water Quality Degradation
 - Habitat Degradation
- Recommended Practices:
 - Cover Crops and Grass Waterways

FY2021 Survey Results

- Priority Resource Concerns
 - Air Quality – 1
 - Erosion Control – 8
 - Forest Management – 0
 - Grazing – 1
 - Water Resource Protection – 7
 - Wildlife Habitat Improvement – 6
- Recommended Practices
 - Cover Crops and Grass Waterways

Additional Comments:

- Could there be additional points for projects with outside funding (1W1P or Other C-S)
- Bring back points for projects that reapply, if funding is not received in an earlier funding period.
- Need more funding, can every county get at least one application funded.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.