

**COTTONWOOD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
February 25, 2021**

The Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office, Windom, MN on February 25, 2021 through WebEx (video communications) . The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Muller at 8:34 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.

Members Present in Office or
Media (WebEx):

Chairman, Tom Muller (In Office)
Vice Chairman, Jeremy Nerem (WebEx)
Treasurer, Clark Lingbeek (WebEx)
PR&I, Daryl Tasler (WebEx)

Others Present:

District Administrator, Kay Gross
District Technician, Dave Bucklin
Kari Clouse, Administrative Program Assistant
Dru Larson, MN/IA Conservation Corps Intern

Others Present by Media:

Tom Appel, Cottonwood County Commissioner (WebEx)

Absent:

Secretary, Cody Duroe

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

AGENDA: Motion by Lingbeek, second by Nerem to approve the agenda with the following additions Letter of Support and Upcoming Trainings.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Nerem, second by Lingbeek to approve the January 28, 2021 Board Meeting minutes.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion by Tasler, second by Lingbeek to approve the February Financial Report as presented and submit for audit.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Motion by Nerem, second by Tasler to approve and pay February accounts payable totaling \$42,028.30.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

AUDIT UPDATE 2019

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 Nerem, second by Lingbeek to approve the Southwest Prairie January Monthly Financials, January and February vouchers and February Administrative Report.

Roll Call Vote: Muller – Yes Nerem – Yes Lingbeek – Yes Tasler - 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 CONTACT APPROVAL

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Tasler to approve the Lawns to Legumes Cost-Share Contract L2L-FY20-Cottonwood-14 for Jacob Gross totaling \$450.00.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

MASWCD ON-LINE LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

Motion by Tasler, second by Nerem to approve SWCD Supervisor and Staff registration for MASWCD Legislative Briefing On-Line with a cost of \$50/person.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT and IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION

Motion by Nerem, second by Lingbeek to approve the Letter of Support and \$10,000 in-kind match per year (totaling \$30,000) for the Building Relationships between Staff/Ag Service Providers. Fiscal agent is Redwood SWCD.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

UPCOMING TRAINING

Motion by Tasler, second by Lingbeek to approve SSTS Inspecting Onsite Systems Training – Alexandria June 2-4 registration \$310 plus lodging, meals and mileage and SSTS Soils Training – Alexandria – June 7-9 registration \$340 and lodging, meals and mileage.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

JANUARY MEETING DATES

SUPERVISOR MEETINGS – ALL MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CONFERENCE CALLING OR WEBEX

March 4 - RCRCA/Area II Meeting – Zoom; March 12 - GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – WebEx (Office); March 25 - Cottonwood SWCD Board – WebEx (Office).

SWCD EMPLOYEE MEETINGS

March 1 - MACFO Meeting – WebEx; March 1 - Local Watershed Implementation – WebEx; March 2 - Local Tech Team – Virtual; March 3 - Soil Health Training – Virtual; March – 3 - Walk-In-Access Training – Virtual; March 3 - Local Work Group – Training – Virtual; March 4-5 SSTS Continuing Education – Mankato; March 8 - CMM Conference Call; March 10 - Local Work Group – Training – Virtual; March 12 - GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – WebEx; March 15 - CREP Training – Virtual; March 17 - Local Work Group – Training – Virtual; March 18 – MASWCD Legislative Briefing – Virtual; March 16-18 - Wetland Restoration Training – Virtual; March 24 - GBERBA Technical Committee Meeting; March 24 - Local Work Group – Training – Virtual; March 25 - SWCD Board Meeting – WebEx.

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Nerem to approve the Supervisor and Employee meetings and expenses for the month of March 2021.

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

Opposed: None.

Motion carried.

NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST – Karen Boysen
SENIOR TECHNICIAN – Dave Bucklin – Written Report
FARM BILL/PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Becky Buchholz – Written Report
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 – Dru Larson – Written Report
PLANNING and ZONING TECHNICIAN – Alex Schultz – Written Report

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned by the Chairman at 9:27 a.m.

Next Meeting will be on THURSDAY, March 25, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office (by WebEx).

District Supervisor

District Administrator