COTTONWOOD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
June 27, 2025

The Cottonwood Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office, Windom, MN on June 27, 2025 (WebEx available). The meeting was called to order by Chairman Daryl Tasler at 8:45 a.m.

Members Present in Office or Media (WebEx):	Chairman, Daryl Tasler (Office) Vice Chairman, Tom Muller (Office) Treasurer, Cody Duroe (Office) PR&I, Clark Lingbeek (Office)
Absent:	Secretary, Jeremy Nerem
Others Present:	District Administrator, Kay Gross District Senior Technician, Becky Buchholz District Administrative Assistant, Annitra Moody District Senior Technician, Dave Bucklin County Commissioner, Tom Appel

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Agenda: Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the agenda as presented.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Lingbeek, second by Duroe to approve the May 22, 2025 Board Meeting minutes.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Financial Report: Motion by Lingbeek, second by Duroe to approve the June Financial Report as presented and submit for audit.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Accounts Payable: Motion by Duroe, second by Lingbeek to approve and pay June accounts payable totaling $34,760.52.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Certificate of Deposit

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the renewal of the Certificate of Deposit totaling $54,523.77 for 182-days at 3.75%.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Second Quarter Supervisor Compensation and Expenses

April 3 - Area II/RCRCA Meetings – Redwood - $125.00; April 4 – Talcot Lake Meeting – Office - $125.00; April 7 – Soil Health Mentor Meeting – WebEx/Office - $125.00; April 11 - GBERBA Executive Board Meeting – WebEx/Office - $125.00; April 17 - Des Moines Policy Committee – Windom - $125.00; April 24 - SWCD Board Meeting – Office - $125.00.

May 1 - Area II/RCRCA Meetings – Marshall - $125.00; May 6 – Cottonwood County Commissioner Meeting – Windom - $125.00; May 8 – Talcot Lake Meeting – Office - $125.00; May 15 - Des Moines Executive Meeting – Office - $125.00; May 22 - SWCD Board Meeting – Windom – WebEx/Office - $125.00; May 30 - GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – WebEx/Office - $125.00.

June 3 – String Lake Public Meeting – Windom - $125.00; June 3 – EQIP Local Work Group Meeting – Lakefield - $125.00; June 5 - Area II/RCRCA Meetings – Redwood - $125.00; June 13 - GBERBA Executive Meeting - WebEx/Office - $125.00; June 18 – Cottonwood Policy Meeting – Springfield - $125.00; June 20 – Des Moines Executive Committee Meeting – Windom - $125.00; June 26 – Area V SWMASWCD Meeting – Windom - $125.00; June 27 - SWCD Board Meeting – Windom – WebEx/Office - $125.00; June 30 - Southwest Prairie TSA Board Meeting – Marshall - $125.00; June 30 – Dave Bucklin's Retirement Party – Office - $125.00.

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

Savings Account – Moving Funds
Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the move of funds from the District savings account to the general checking in the dollar amount which totals the Annual and Sick Leave payout for Dave Bucklin's retirement on June 30, 2025.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

RCRCA: Lingbeek
GBERBA: Lingbeek and Gross
1W1P Des Moines: Muller, Tasler and Gross
1W1P Cottonwood/Little Cottonwood: Lingbeek, Gross
Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the Disbursal Agreement between Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area and Cottonwood SWCD for the Watershed Based Implementation Funds.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

1W1P Blue Earth: Gross
Southwest Prairie TSA: Muller and Gross
Southwest Prairie TSA Vouchers and Financial Report
Motion by Duroe, second by Lingbeek to approve the Southwest Prairie June Administrative Report and May Financials and June vouchers.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Area V MASWCD: Lingbeek, Gross - Next Meeting – Thursday, September 18
MASWCD: Lingbeek, Gross
NRCS: Karen Boysen, Acting CST – Cottonwood – Jackson – Martin – Watonwan – Not in Attendance
FSA: Rhonda Crowell, County Executive Director – Not in Attendance
Cottonwood County Commissioner: Commissioner Tom Appel

ADMINITRATOR REPORT: Kay Gross
GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Approval - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092)
Bruce & Lisa Turner 17-20(WBIF-WW-24) Lakeside 4 Grade Stabilization Cost $16,872.00 C-S $14,341.20

Motion by Lingbeek, second by Duroe to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092) for Turner (WBIF-WW-24-17-20) Grade Stabilization ($14,341.20).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

BWSR Cost-Share Contract Approval – WBIF – FY23-25 Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C23-0008) Cost $26,435.00

John & Lori Schaffer	23-DMRW-COT-039	Southbrook 26	Streambank/Shoreline Restoration	C-S	$17,000.00

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the BWSR Cost-Share Contract – WBIF – FY23-25 Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C23-0008) for Schaffer (23-DMRW-COT-039) Streambank/Shoreline Restoration ($17,000.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

MAWQCP – GBERBA Contract and Payment Authorization and Additional SWCD Technical Assistance

Cottonwood SWCD	MAWQCP TS-17-5-08	Additional Technical Assistance	Incentive $6,000.00
Tony Dick	MAWQCP 17-5-42	Worksheet Completion	Incentive $100.00

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the MAWQCP – GBERBA Contract and Payment Authorization and Additional SWCD Technical Assistance for Cottonwood SWCD (MAWQCP TS-17-5-08) Additional Technical Assistance ($6,000.00) and Dick (MAWQCP 17-5-42) Worksheet Completion ($100.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Cottonwood SWCD – Local Cost-Share Contract Final Payment – County Capacity 2023

Brandon Junker	SWCD-24-01	Selma 34	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$7,417.70	C-S	$2,500.00
Jacob Samuelson	SWCD-24-02	Selma 3	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$5,330.65	C-S	$2,500.00
Jerome Stoesz	SWCD-24-03	Midway 25	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$3,255.38	C-S	$2,500.00
Keith Wolf	SWCD-24-04	Delton 20	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$2,675.64	C-S	$2,140.51
Robert Schoper	SWCD-24-05	Amboy 6	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$1,660.00	C-S	$1,328.00
Darren Haugen	SWCD-24-07	Delton 4	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$3,920.00	C-S	$2,500.00

Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the Cottonwood SWCD – Local Cost-Share Contract Final Payments – County Capacity 2023 for Junker (SWCD-24-01) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,500.00); Samuelson (SWCD-24-02) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,500.00); Stoesz (SWCD-24-03) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,500.00); Wolf (SWCD-24-04) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,140.51); Schoper (SWCD-24-05) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($1,328.00); and Haugen (SWCD-24-07) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,500.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - SWCD Programs & Operations Grant Agreement – FY2025 Conservation Contracts - (P25-0107)

Doug Willaby	25-05	Delton 24	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$3,386.04	C-S	$2,500.00
Mary Shaner	25-07	Germantown 24	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$1,377.52	C-S	$1,087.48
Richard Thom	25-08	Selma 8	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	Cost	$3,397.66	C-S	$2,473.33

Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Final Payments - SWCD Programs & Operations Grant Agreement – FY2025 Conservation Contracts - (P25-0107) Willaby (25-05) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,50.00); Shaner (25-07) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($1,087.48); and Thom (25-08) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment ($2,473.33).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Amendments - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant - FY2023-2025 (C23-0008)

David & Beatrice					Increase Cost $484.27
Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-01	Dale 17	Grass Waterways – 1 Bid -Higher Cost	Increase C-S	$411.63
David & Beatrice (Amendment #2)					Increase Cost $1,969.68
Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-03	Dale 17	Grass Waterways – 1 Bid -Higher Cost	Increase C-S	$2,224.29

Motion by Duroe, second by Lingbeek to approve the BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Amendments - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant - FY2023-2025 (C23-0008) for Muller Trust (23-DMRW-COT-01) Increase Cost $484.27 and Cost-Share $411.63 and Muller Trust (Amendment #2) (23-DMRW-COT-03) Increase Cost $1,969.68 and Cost-Share $2,224.29.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Abstained. Muller
Motion carried.

BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant - FY2023-2025 (C23-0008)

Stan Kingery	23-DMRW-COT-023	Dale 7	Grade Stabilization Structure	Cost $46,647.84	C-S $39,650.66
Tim Ketzenberg	23-DMRW-COT-029	Great Bend 12	Grass Waterway	Cost $4,313.05	C-S $3,666.09
David & Beatrice					
Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-01	Dale 17	Grass Waterways (2) – 550 ft	Cost $3,463.27	C-S $2,943.78
Tom Muller	23-DMRW-COT-02	Dale 20	WASCOB (1)	Cost $13,565.31	C-S $11,530.51
David & Beatrice					
Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-03	Dale 17	Grass Waterways (3) 1,350 ft	Cost $9,034.32	C-S $7,679.17

Motion by Duroe, second by Lingbeek BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Final Payments - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant - FY2023-2025 (C23-0008) for Kingery (23-DMRW-COT-023) Grade Stabilization Structure ($39,650.66); Ketzenberg (23-DMRW-COT-029) Grass Waterway ($3,666.09); Muller Trust (23-DMRW-COT-01) Grass Waterways ($2,943.78); Tom Muller (23-DMRW-COT-02) WASCOB ($11,530.51); and Muller Trust (23-DMRW-COT-03) ($7,679.17).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Abstained. Muller
Motion carried.

BWSR Cost-Share Contract Partial & Final Payment - WBIF FY25-27 - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C25-0177)

Patrick & Andrea Tiede	25-DMRW-COT-001	Great Bend 3	Strip-Till – 3 yrs – 68 ac. $30/ac.	C-S $6,120.00
(TOTAL PAYMENT $12,600.00)		Springfield 15	Strip-Till – 3 yrs – 72 ac. $30/ac.	C-S $6,480.00
Tony Dick (PARTIAL)	25-DMRW-COT-002	Great Bend 1/Dale 23,26,36	No-Till – 3 yrs – 435 ac. $30/ac	C-S $39,150.00
Clark Lingbeek	25-DMRW-COT-008	Lakeside 30	Septic System	Incentive $5,000.00

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe BWSR Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - WBIF FY25-27 - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C25-0177) for Tiede (25-DMRW-COT-001) Strip-Till ($6,120.00) and Strip-Till ($6,480.00); Dick (25-DMRW-COT-002) No-Till ($39,150.00) and Lingbeek (25-DMRW-COT-008) Septic System ($5,000.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y
Opposed: None.
Abstained: Lingbeek
Motion carried.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - FY2023 BWSR CWF – Soil Health Grants – GBERBA Soil Health Implementation Grant Agreement (C22-6072)

Leonard Penner	17-01(CWF-SH-22)	Mt Lake 8	No-Till/Strip-Till –165 ac. $35/ac 3-year Contract	Incentive $17,325.00

Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Final Payments - FY2023 BWSR CWF – Soil Health Grants – GBERBA Soil Health Implementation Grant Agreement (C22-6072) for Penner (CWF-SH-22-17-01) No-Till/Strip-Till ($17,325.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Nerem – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092)

Tony Dick	17-10(WBIF-WW-24)	Carson 14 & 15	No-Till – 3yrs – 355 ac $35/ac	Incentive $37,275.00
Tim Penner	17-11(WBIF-WW-24)	Midway 14/20 Mt Lake 17/8	No-Till – 3yrs – 400 ac $35/ac	Incentive $42,000.00
City of Mountain Lake	17-17(WBIF-WW-24)	Midway 33	Tree/Shrub Establishment	Cost $3,000.00 C-S $2,550.00
Michael Mueller	17-18(WBIF-WW-24)	Midway 29	SSTS Completion	Incentive $5,000.00

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092) Dick (WBIF-WW-24-17-10) No-Till ($37,275.00); Penner (WBIF-WW-24-17-11) No-Till ($42,000.00); City of Mountain Lake (WBIF-WW-2417-17) Tree/Shrub Establishment ($2,550.00) and Mueller (WBIF-WW-24-17-18) SSTS Incentive ($5,000.00).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Talcot Lake Project - Update
DNR will be the lead for the project in presenting the proposal to Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage - $7.5 million dollar project which is proposal is scalable, with Phase 1 (Engineering) Phase 2 (Project) – non-scalable. The application has been submitted.

String Lake Project - Update
Permitting for String Lake Project will be completed through Cottonwood County Drainage department and Conservation Partnership Legacy Grant RFP will be completed by County Drainage/SWCD/DNR. Cottonwood County approved the moving forward with engineering plans and committed $30,000 for completion of those plans.

RCPP Soil Health Grant Program – Update

Training – Conservation Planning Course – July 21-25 – Registration, Lodging, Meals - $993.96 (MAWQCP)
Stewardship Summit – SWCD Governance & Leadership Essentials – Sept 10 & 11 – St. Cloud
Registration - $275/person plus lodging and meals – 3 Staff - ? Supervisors
MASWCD District Manager Professional Development Cohort – 14 day 2025-2026 – MASWCD Office
Registration - $4,200 plus lodging and meals

Motion by Muller, second by Duroe to approve the Conservation Planning Course, Stewardship Summit and MASWCD District Manager Professional Development Cohort for SWCD staff and Supervisors.
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

Retirement – Effective Monday, June 30, 2025 David Bucklin – 35 years
Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the retirement of David Bucklin on June 30, 2025 with the severance package of Annual Leave 33 hrs ($1,475.76) and Sick Leave 177 hrs (Payable to David Bucklin MSRS account $7,915.44).
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek - Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

June/July Meeting Dates
Supervisor Meetings
June 30 - Southwest Prairie TSA Board Meeting – Marshall; July 3 - Area II/RCRCA – Marshall; July 11 - GBERBA Policy/Technical Meeting – Virtual/Fairmont; July 16 - High Yield in Your Field – Russel Hedrick – McMullen; July 17- Des Moines Policy Board – Virtual/Law Enforcement; July 24 Cottonwood SWCD Board Meeting – Virtual/Office.

SWCD Employee Meetings
June 30 - Southwest Prairie TSA Board Meeting – Marshall; July 1 - Grass with Purpose – Austin; July 2 - Interview – Cottonwood 1W1P – Marshall; July 9 - Des Moines Tech Meeting – Virtual/Office; July 9 - Department Head Meeting – Courthouse; July 10 - Plant Training – Sunburg; July 11 - GBERBA Policy/Technical Meeting – Virtual/Fairmont; July 15 - Peterson Company – Audits – Office; July 16 - High Yield in Your Field – Russel Hedrick – McMullen; July 17 - Des Moines Policy Board – Virtual/Law Enforcement; July 17 - Windbreak Training – Cottonwood County; July 21-23 - Ag Inspector Short Course – Alexandria; July 21 - Blue Earth Policy Committee Meeting – Blue Earth; July 22 - Environmental Fair Meeting – Virtual/Marshall; July 22 - NRCS/SWCD Monthly Check-In – WebEx; July 23 - CRP Management Training – Litchfield; July 24 - Cottonwood SWCD Board Meeting – Virtual/Office.

Motion by Duroe, second by Muller to approve the Supervisor and Employee meetings and expenses for the month of June/July
Roll Call Vote: Tasler – Y Muller – Y Duroe – Y Lingbeek – Y
Opposed: None.
Motion carried.

SENIOR TECHNICIAN – Dave Bucklin – Written Report
SENIOR TECHNICIAN – Becky Buchholz – Written Report
PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Breanna Wagner – Written Report
PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Nathan Harder – Written Report
AREA 6 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Herman Bartsch – Written Report
AREA 5 CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST – Danielle Evers – Written Report
MN CONSERVATION CORP MEMBER – MAWQCP INTERN – Adriene Matthews – Written Report
PLANNING and ZONING TECHNICIAN – Alex Schultz – Written Report
COTTONWOOD COUNTY DRAINAGE INSPECTOR – Dylan Oeltjenbruns – Written Report

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned by the Chairman Daryl Tasler at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting will be on <u>Thursday, July 24 at 8:30 a.m.</u> at the District Office.

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District Supervisor **District Administrator**