



Brown Soil and Water Conservation District



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Minutes of the February 10, 2021 Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN

Meeting was called to order at 4:18pm by Craig Fischer.

PRESENT

1. Craig Fischer – Chair
2. Mark Wellner – Vice-Chair
3. Brandon Anderson – Secretary
4. Jeff Nielsen – Treasurer
5. Greg Roiger – PRI
6. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
7. Jonathan Matz – NRCS Assistant State Conservationist (exited 4:40pm)
8. Loren Clarke – NRCS District Conservationist (exited 4:40pm)
9. Dean Simonsen – Brown County Commissioner Liaison (entered 4:25pm)

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Roiger to approve the agenda with the addition of Redwood SWCD Grant Application Partnership under New Business and to move item 5 after item 2 on the Agenda.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Discussed securities agreement for the checking account and reviewed the Consent Agenda items which included the January 13, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, the January 27, 2021 Annual Planning Meeting minutes, the January 2021 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated January 9, 2021 to February 3, 2021, the NUASF 2021 Membership Dues payment of \$20.00, the MN Soil Health Coalition 2021 Dues payment of \$25.00, and Staff Reports dated January 9, 2021 to February 3, 2021. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Wellner to approve the consent agenda items presented.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Loren Clarke reviewed the NRCS report provided.
- ◆ Memorandum of Agreement: District Manager and Jonathan Matz discussed the agreement with those present. A motion was made by Wellner and seconded by Nielsen to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the NRCS as presented.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Krueger gave a report on 1 DNR water appropriation permit issued and a WCA TEP Panel review for impacted wetland acres on the CSAH 13 road project.

PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed report provided by Zilverberg.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Simonsen shared an update advising that ditch redetermination meetings have resumed on JD systems with Redwood County, the COVID vaccination process is ongoing, there is a round of grant funding for businesses affected by COVID, and also answered questions from the group.

COST SHARE REPORT & CONTRACTS

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share report. There were no contracts for approval this month.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **2021 Annual Work Plan:** Reviewed the final draft of the 2021 work plan discussed at the annual planning meeting. A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Anderson to approve the 2021 Annual Work Plan as presented.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **First Security Bank Resolution:** A resolution updating authorized signers for the First Security bank account was presented. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Nielsen to approve the First Security Bank Resolution presented that adds Craig Fischer as an authorized signer for the Brown SWCD account.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **SouthPoint Financial Credit Union Resolution:** A resolution updating authorized signers for the SouthPoint bank accounts was presented. A motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Wellner to approve the SouthPoint Financial Credit Union Resolution presented that adds Jeff Nielsen as an authorized signer for the Brown SWCD account.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **MASWCD Legislative Briefing:** Discussed the legislative update report from MASWCD and who plans to attend the upcoming MASWCD Legislative Briefing event on March 18 so manager can complete registration and payment.
- ◆ **Supervisor Compensation:** District Manager gave an overview of the Supervisor Compensation process for claims forms and monthly reports and paystubs.
- ◆ **Redwood SWCD Grant Application Partnership:** Reviewed the request from Redwood SWCD to partner and match on a grant application through the USDA. The grant is intended to build relationships between conservation staff and ag service providers and they have asked Brown, Renville and Cottonwood to consider partnerships with them on the grant. Discussion was held on the request. A motion was made by Roiger and seconded by Nielsen to table.
Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

◆ **Meeting Reports:**

- ◇ Anderson gave a report on the GBERBA Policy meeting attended January 22.
- ◇ Wellner gave a report on the RCRCA Board meeting attended February 4.

◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Nielsen and seconded by Roiger to approve and attend the upcoming meetings/events:

- ◇ Thursday, March 4 – RCRCA Board Meeting (Wellner)
- ◇ Wednesday, March 10 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:15pm (All)

Affirmative: Anderson, Fischer, Nielsen, Roiger, Wellner

Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 6:15pm

Secretary:  Date: 3/10/21