



**Minutes of the February 8, 2023
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 (entered at 4:25pm)
3. Brad Augustin – Secretary
4. Bill Eckstein – Treasurer
5. Rae Runck – PRI
6. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
7. Jennifer Norton – CED, Brown County FSA (exited at 4:40pm)

AGENDA

- ◆ Motion was made by Eckstein and seconded by Runck to approve the agenda.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Reviewed the consent agenda items presented which included the January 11, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, the February 1, 2023 Annual Planning Meeting Minutes, the January 2023 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated January 7, 2023 to February 3, 2023, the 2023 Membership Dues for NUASF and MSHC totaling \$45.00, and the Staff Reports dated January 7, 2023 to February 3, 2023. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Eckstein to approve the consent agenda items as presented.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

GUEST – JENNIFER NORTON, FSA

- ◆ Jennifer Norton, County Executive Director of the Brown County FSA office discussed programs and activities occurring at the FSA office.

*Wellner entered at 4:25pm *Norton exited at 4:40pm

WATER PERMITS/WCA REPORTS

- ◆ Krueger advised there are no new items to report on this month.

PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed written report provided by Fore.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed written report provided by Kjorness.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Braun was unable to attend the meeting.

COST SHARE REPORT & CONTRACTS

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

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Policy Committee:** Discussed assigning a new alternate Policy Committee member as Bill Eckstein was appointed as the RCRCAs committee member and can no longer serve as the SWCD's alternate. Motion was made by Wellner and seconded by Eckstein to assign Brad Augustin as the new alternate committee member for the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota 1W1P Policy Committee.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **2022 Audit Bid:** Reviewed the audit bid. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Wellner to accept the bid of \$3,500 from Peterson Company for 2022 audit services.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **MASWCD Legislative Event:** Discussed this year's MASWCD legislative event. None of the Supervisors are planning to attend.
- ◆ **Highway 14 Tour Sleepy Eye Event:** Discussed the Highway 14 CLASIC Tour Sleepy Eye stop. All Supervisors plan to attend and support a contribution. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Runck to authorize a contribution from Brown SWCD up to a maximum amount of \$1,000 towards the Highway 14 Tour Sleepy Eye event.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **BCCWMA Grant Policy:** Reviewed the grant overview and grant policy drafted by staff. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Eckstein to approve the Grant Policy presented for the 2022 Brown-Cottonwood Cooperative Weed Management Area grant.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **District Staffing Vacancy:** District Manager requested authorization for the Personnel Committee to proceed with the hiring process for the vacant staff position at the district. Motion was made by Runck and seconded by Wellner to authorize Personnel Committee to proceed with the hiring process to fill a vacant District Technician position with the level 1 or level 2 job description and make a hiring recommendation to the Board for approval at the April board meeting.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Supervisor Compensation:** Discussed the Supervisor Compensation process.
- ◆ **Meeting Reports:**
 - ◇ Runck provided a report about the GBERBA Policy meeting attended on January 13.
 - ◇ Kruger provided a report about the Area 6 Chairs Meeting attended on February 1.
 - ◇ Eckstein provided a report about the RCRCAs Board meeting attended on February 2.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Eckstein and seconded by Augustin to approve the upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Thursday, March 2 – RCRCAs Board Meeting, Marshall (Eckstein)
 - ◇ Wednesday, March 8 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 4:15pm (All)
 - ◇ Wednesday, February 22 – Highway 14 Tour Sleepy Eye Stop (All)Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 5:39pm

Secretary: _____

Date: _____

4-11-23