



**Minutes of the April 8, 2025
Brown SWCD Regular Board Meeting
Brown County Office Building, Sleepy Eye, MN**

Meeting was called to order at 10:30am by Craig Fischer.

PRESENT

1. Craig Fischer – Chair
2. Mark Wellner – Vice-Chair
3. Brad Augustin – Secretary
4. Bill Eckstein - Treasurer
5. Rae Runck – PRI
6. Melanie Krueger – District Manager
7. Brian Braun – Brown County Commissioner Liaison

ABSENT

1. None

AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- ◆ Reviewed the consent agenda items presented which included the March 17, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes, the March 2025 Treasurer's Report, the Bills Report dated March 13, 2025 to April 2, 2025, and the CCMR Annual Contribution of \$25.00. Motion was made by Eckstein and seconded by Runck to approve the consent agenda items presented.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

SWCD STAFF REPORTS

- ◆ Reviewed staff reports provided by Botz, Giefer, Krueger, Olson, Portner and Spence.

PF/FARM BILL WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed staff report provided by Ecker.

NRCS REPORT

- ◆ Reviewed report provided by Kjorness.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- ◆ Commissioner Braun provided an update on recent activities at Brown County.

COST SHARE REPORT & CONTRACTS

- ◆ Reviewed the cost-share report and approved one new contract.
- ◆ Mark Portner, \$200.00 MAWQCP certification incentive payment. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Runck to approve the \$200.00 MAWQCP certification incentive payment to Mark Portner.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ **2025 Quarter 1 Budget Report:** Reviewed the quarter one budget report.
- ◆ **Area 6 Meeting Hosting:** Discussed meeting hosting duties and potential agenda topics for the Area 6 meeting in June.
- ◆ **Certificate of Deposit Renewal:** Discussed renewal of certificate of deposit funds at SouthPoint upon maturity on 5/2/2025. Motion was made by Wellner and seconded by Eckstein to authorize renewing the current certificate of deposit funds with SouthPoint to an 11-month certificate upon maturity.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **MAWQCP Technical Assistance Funds:** Requested approval to submit a request to GBERBA for MAWQCP Technical Assistance funds to cover staff time working on the program. Motion was made by Eckstein and seconded by Wellner to authorize the contract request to GBERBA for \$6,000 of MAWQCP Technical Assistance Funds.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Soil Health Practices Grant:** Discussed the draft grant policy and draft ranking form for the soil health practices grant. Motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Eckstein to approve the FY25 Soil Health Practices Grant Policy and Ranking Form as presented.
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried
- ◆ **Meeting Reports:**
 - ◇ Runck gave a report about the SCTSA meeting attended on March 20 in Mankato.
 - ◇ Eckstein gave a report about the RCRCA meeting attended on April 3 in Redwood Falls.
- ◆ **Upcoming Meetings/Events:** A motion was made by Augustin and seconded by Runck to approve the upcoming meetings/events:
 - ◇ Friday, April 11 – GBERBA Executive Board Meeting, 1:00pm, Windom or Webex (Augustin)
 - ◇ Thursday, May 1 – RCRCA Board Meeting, 9:00am, Marshall (Eckstein)
 - ◇ Tuesday, May 13 – Brown SWCD Board Meeting, 10:30am (All) (Runck and Eckstein noted they will be absent for this meeting)
Affirmative: Augustin, Eckstein, Fischer, Runck, Wellner
Opposed: None; Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned – 12:08pm

Secretary: _____

Date: _____

5-13-25