



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

January 9, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on January 9, 2020 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Outgoing Chair Welke called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Roger Stenhoff
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Jean Meiners, Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers & Appointments:

Chair Welke called for nominations for Chair. Graf nominated Kruse and Stenhoff nominated Feldmeier. **Motion** by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier to cease nominations. Chair Welke called for the vote. Feldmeier received two votes and Kruse received three votes. Kruse accepted the position.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving Glenn Kruse as Chair; Cecil Graf, Vice-Chair; Roger Stenhoff, Secretary; Matt Feldmeier, Treasurer and Jerry Welke, Reporter.

Voting affirmative: Stenhoff, Graf, Kruse and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

2020 Chair Kruse presided over the meeting.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving Committee Appointments for 2020 remain the same as 2019 Committee Appointments:

Finance Committee: Stenhoff & Feldmeier

Personnel Committee: Welke & Kruse

TSA [formerly JPB]: Welke

One Watershed, One Plan: Kruse

Alternate: Graf

Voting affirmative: Stenhoff, Graf, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting Date & Time: **Motion** by Stenhoff, seconded by Feldmeier, to hold the monthly Root River SWCD board meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. May – October and 1:00 p.m. November – April at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Welke, Stenhoff and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Minutes: **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the December 12, 2019 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, to approve the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Messner indicated that a December 2019 Treasurer's Report has not been prepared at this point to place on file for audit.**Motion** by Stenhoff, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the continuation of the following:

Houston County Treasurer – depository for all district funds

Bank of the West – as the general checking account

Eitzen State Bank – investment, designated reserve and cost-share

MCIT – Bonding & Insurance Liability, Property, and Workman's Compensation insurance

Voting affirmative: Graf, Welke, Stenhoff and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Agency Reports:**Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report**

- ❖ Larson shared conservation planning has been one of the focus areas this past month. Larson indicated that there are 22 RCPP EQIP applications and 28 EQIP applicants that were not funded last year that have opted to keep their application active to be considered again during the next funding period. He stated in addition to those applications there are approximately 20 new EQIP applications.
- ❖ Larson stated a CRP sign-up is in process. To date there are ten continuous CRP sign-ups (at an average payment rate of \$149/acre) and 80 general CRP sign-ups (at an average payment rate of \$140/acre). The general CRP sign-up deadline date is February 28, 2020.
- ❖ Walter stated the Caledonia Field Office was the fifth highest in the state of MN for EQIP applications and funded applications in 2019.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter reported he met with the county commissioners on January 7th and discussed the Local Capacity county match option to the Local Capacity grant. County commissioners approved appropriating \$14,400 to the SWCD for the Local Capacity Grant. Walter stated that he informed the commissioners that the appropriation would be used for BMPs. He also told our board supervisors that BWSR would be matching the funds that the county is appropriating.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported the final plat for the horse track is being reviewed.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter informed the board that we are entering the last year for this program. A waste storage facility will continue to be constructed in the spring. No other projects are scheduled at this time.
- **RCPP 1W1P** - Walter stated there have not been any recent projects.
- **Root River 1W1P** - Walter shared \$1.4 million is being allocated to the Root River 1W1P. Of the \$1.4 million the Root River SWCD will have \$125,000 for BMP projects and \$50,000 for Technical & Engineering. Crooked Creek Watershed will have \$380,000 for the Klinski project and \$55,000 for Technical & Engineering.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – Walter stated \$22,000 will be appropriated to the SWCD for 2020.
- **MAWQCP** – A workshop is scheduled for January 14, 2020 at Good Times in Caledonia, MN.

MASWCD & MACDE**Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving costs for staff and board supervisors to attend Day at the Capital March 24 – 25, 2020.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Welke, Stenhoff and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 17th. He indicated that the results from ERI testing for the Klinski project were received today along with recommendations from the NRCS geologist. Scanlan stated that a new appropriation of Root River 1W1P funds has been earmarked.

Scanlan shared that he is working with Caledonia High School on maintenance options for a storm water pond. The possibility of goats to perform the maintenance was explored but there are concerns about the goats getting sick if they intake the storm water.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Larson stated clearance has been given to move forward with survey on the Anderson sinkhole site.

Winnebago – Walter stated there is a sinkhole on the Koch site that will need repair.

Staff Reports:**Bob Scanlan – Program & Staff Reports**

- **Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)** – Scanlan shared that a funding application was submitted this fall and we are waiting to hear if we were accepted for the grant funding.
- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated the SWCD has been awarded \$226,000. Since the approval he has submitted a work plan and it was approved. Scanlan reviewed the work plan with the supervisors and added that he is currently developing policies for cost share, equipment rental and soil health testing. Walter and Scanlan both stated that we may want to amend the two Local Capacity Grants that have cover crop cost share set aside and reallocate those funds to BMPs or Technical & Engineering activities. The board supervisors agreed with their sentiments.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan stated he recently made a site visit in the targeted work area. There has not been any further discussion with the county regarding a MOA for technical assistance that was requested outside the targeted work area.
- **SWAG** – Scanlan stated he and Messner have put together a 2020/2021 budget and work plan for the program.
- **WCPI** – Scanlan indicated that he has been accompanying Wermager on field walkovers and is running RUSLE2 and WINPST for plans.
- **Other** – Scanlan stated he is in the process of developing a plan for a rain garden near the proposed swine barn at the Houston County Fairgrounds.

Jean Meiners – Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** - Meiners reported there is a site along County 16 that she will be checking in the spring.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners stated that she is surveying and designing projects for 2020.
- **MN Land Trust** – Meiners informed the board supervisors that she will be participating in a conference call on Tuesday, January 14th and it is likely that a grant agreement will be forthcoming.

Dan Wermager – Program Reports

- **WCPI** – Wermager stated he has performed a few site walkovers this past month and continues to make outreach phone calls.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager stated at their recent Policy Committee meeting it was decided to have quarterly meetings for the policy committee. This will help keep the committee more up to date.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared that a different lab is now providing the water test kits. Project funds for 2020 will offer incentive payments for push-up ponds, pond clean outs and field borders.

Staff Report:

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Reports

- **Trees** – Messner stated she recently reduced our tree order by 800+ trees. She also stated that over the course of the past few months 500+ trees were added to the tree order to accommodate landowners’ requests.

Old Business

Walter reported that he had not received the 2020 price list for the vehicle purchase.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the MASWCD 2020 dues.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the FY18 Watershed Conservation Planner Initiative Grant Amendment.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the FY20 Cover Crop Demonstration Pilot Program Grant.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the MAWQCP Report of Completion.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the 2019 Year End Audit bid of \$3,075 from Peterson Company Ltd.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the adoption of the 2020 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rates of \$0.575/mile and \$0.305/mile while claiming depreciation.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the board supervisor per diem of \$75/day for 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving employee step increases for Dan Wermager, Jean Meiners and Janice Messner retro-active to the start of pay period one 2020 (December 22, 2019).

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving a Cost of Living Adjustment at the rate of 2.75% per employee retro-active to the start of pay period one 2020 (December 22, 2019).

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Cost Share Programs

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00**

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$14,094.10**

State Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the following State Cost Share amendment request.

Contract # 13FY17LC Nelson, Tim. It is being requested to amend the contract for qualifying Pre-Construction Cover (flat rate payment of \$150.00 per acre, not to exceed 10 acres). The current request is for 2 acres at the rate of \$150/acre totaling \$300.00 cost share using FY20 State Cost Share as the funding source.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/20) – Available Funds \$ 3,258.68

FY19 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 6,350 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$15,000 (Flat Rate per acre)

RCPP 1W1P COST SHARE PROGRAM

RCPP 1W1P Amendment Request

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the cancellation request for contract #05-RCPP1W1P Danielson, Thomas in the amount of \$2,852.54.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: Upcoming meeting on January 28, 2020 from 9 a.m. till noon.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4152	Ron Carlsen – Rent – January	\$ 1,213.19
4153	VISA – Meal = \$20.26; Registration Fee = \$95.00	\$ 115.26
4154	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks = \$ 272.71	\$ 272.71
4155	Houston County Treasurer – License Plate Renewal – 2017 GMC = \$19.25 & 2008 Ford = \$19.25	\$ 38.50
4156	MASWCD – MASWCD 2020 Dues	\$ 3,413.69
4157	MCIT – Liability Ins. = \$ 2,624.00; Workers Comp = \$4,502.00	\$ 7,126.00
4158	Minnesota Revenue – 2019 Sales & Use Tax	\$ 709.00
4159	Jean Meiners – Office Supply	\$ 20.88
4160	Schumacher Nursery & Berry Farm – Trees remaining current balance	\$ 2,833.69
	Total	\$15,742.92

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for January 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, February 13, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: _____

2-13-2020
Date

Roger Stenhoff
Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

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MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

February 13, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on February 13, 2020 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Cecil Graf

Glenn Kruse

Roger Stenhoff

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the January 9, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, to approve the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Treasurer Feldmeier requested that the December 2019 and January 2020 Treasurer's Reports be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson stated the number of CRP sign-ups are increasing. The average payment for a continuous CRP sign-up is \$149/acre and the general CRP sign-up payment rate is \$140/acre.
- ❖ Larson shared there are 55 EQIP applications in-house. This includes new and deferred EQIP and RCPP EQIP applications.
- ❖ Larson indicated that staff conducted a recent grassed waterway survey before the snow.
- ❖ Larson reported that a reply was received from the Iowa State Conservationist regarding funding for repairs to Bear Creek #3 (sinkhole). The national office approved watershed repair funds in the 2020 operating budget.
- ❖ Larson requested that a 2020 Local Work Group meeting date be set. It was agreed that this meeting will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2020.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter reported he, Scanlan, Kruse, Larson, Ressel and Rochester attended the Driftless Symposium February 4th & 5th in La Crosse, WI. Topics included MNDOT streams along state roads and streambank restorations along Trout Run Creek using various methods for stream corridor fixes.
- ❖ Walter indicated that there was conversation about Root River SWCD taking on the fiscal agent role for the Root River 1W1P. Winona County SWCD will be going to their own 1W1P. The Winona County SWCD board of supervisors have indicated that they will continue their role as the fiscal agent.
- ❖ Walter shared that we have three board supervisors that have expiring terms at the end of the year. They are Matt Feldmeier, Roger Stenhoff and Glenn Kruse.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported the TEP committee will be holding monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. The committee consists of a representative from Army Corp of Engineers, BWRS Wetland Specialist, State Hydrologist, County Highway Engineer and County Zoning Department.

Donna Rasmussen, representative of Friends of the Root River, has requested a tour of the Hokah Wetland Bank area and the US Fish & Wildlife Root River tract. This is a 600 acre tract. They are interested in a restoration of a two year flooding event of the Mississippi River.

Walter stated he visited site in Mound Prairie Township that is experiencing sluffing issues. He also worked with an individual in Brownsville Township that would like to install trout creeks.

- **Bridge Creek** – Walter updated the board on the contracted waste storage facility project. The landowner discussed concerns with SWCD and NRCS staff they are experiencing with the private engineer they hired for the project. The engineering costs have dramatically exceeded the original cost estimate that was supplied by the engineer. The landowner shared with staff that concrete for the project was poured by the contractor. Staff worked with the landowner and a new agreement was reached between the private engineer and the landowner. The new cost estimate is \$45,000 and includes engineering and engineering supervision during construction of the roof.
- **RCPP 1W1P** - Walter stated he will be reviewing applications with Larson in the near future.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Reference District Manager's Report.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No updates at this time.
- **MAWQCP** – The workshop scheduled for January 14, 2020 at Good Times in Caledonia, MN was well attended. There were 50+ attendees. The workshop generated 13 new applications for the program.

MASWCD & MACDE

Scanlan and Welke indicated that they will be attending the Legislative briefing and Day at the Capital on March 24 – 25, 2020.

A video on the two mile Trout Run Creek project in the Driftless area in SE MN (Winona, MN) was viewed.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – A video of the Kliniski project area was viewed by the board. Scanlan reported the NRCS state engineer and the engineering firm hired for the Kliniski project met February 10th to discuss suggested changes to the emergency spillway location, higher abutments and toe drains.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Reference NRCS Board Conservationist report.

Winnebago – Walter stated the sinkhole on the Koch site will be repaired this summer.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)** – Scanlan shared that one new landowner has expressed interest.
- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated he has met with various implement representatives on inter-seeding equipment and will discuss options in the new business portion of the meeting. He also shared that he has put together policies and agreements to discuss during the new business portion of the meeting.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan indicated from a recent mailing three producers had contacted him. Of those contacts, one has expressed interested.
- **SWAG** – No report.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan stated our application for services with the Conservation Corp of MN (CCM) has been approved. The contract is for eight days of service. The focus area is Crooked Creek.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter indicated that Meiners did a buffer mailing for spring/summer spot checks. He also shared that the State Buffer Coordinator is to be visiting our office in November to review the BuffCat program and view a few of our buffers.
- **MN Land Trust** – Walter informed the board supervisors that an information meeting is slated for March 18, 2020. Targeted areas for this event are the South Fork of the Root River and Beaver Creek. Wermager will also be presenting on conservation planning.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated that Meiners is designing grade stabilization structure projects for 2020.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **Trees** – Messner stated tree orders have been trickling in. The balsam fir are no longer available and the order form has been updated to reflect that change. She also stated that 575 trees that have been pre-ordered are currently available.
- **Signature stamps** – Messner shared that she investigated the possibility of signature stamps being used for monthly document signing by board of supervisor officers. BWSR will not allow the stamped signature without a doctor order stating that the individual is not physically able to sign. The county attorney also advised against the signature stamp for various reasons.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – No report.
- **Root River 1WIP** – Walter stated a Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2020.

Houston County Water Plan – No report.

Old Business

Walter reported that a 2020 Dodge Ram 5.7 truck has been ordered and will be delivered in three months. Cost \$25,044.79.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving to decline paying the FY20 NACD Dues for 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the FY20 MAWQCP Promo funding request for \$2,500.00

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Crooked Creek Watershed District Agreement for Services in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Stenhoff, seconded by Graf, approving the MN Land Trust Contract for Services in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the 2020 Envirothon dues in the amount of \$175.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the 2020 Annual SE SWCD Technical Support JPB Membership Dues in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Stenhoff, seconded by Graf, approving the MACDE 2020 Membership Dues for all staff members at the rate of \$25.00 each.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the registration fee of \$40/per day for Walter to attend the MN Wetland Certification Program Training.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the purchase of a Kuhn MDS 20.2 Twin Disc Spreader with dual acting hydraulic cylinders from St. Joseph Equipment for \$7,000.00. Add on equipment will be reviewed at a later date.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the Soil Health Test Program Policy for the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Stenhoff, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the Cover Crop Cost Share Policy for the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

It was unanimously decided to table discussions on the Cover Crop Demonstration Grant Lease Agreement for Use of Inter-seeder and the Custom Seeding Agreement for Use of Inter-seeder.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving a \$15.00 registration fee for the Economics of Soil Health & Cover Crops Workshop – Friday, February 28th 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Stewartville Civic Center.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

After this motion was approved it was brought to light that the SWCD had received an invitation to attend this event for free in Albert Lea, MN. Those expressing interest in attending are Welke, Stenhoff, Kruse, Scanlan and Walter.

Walter shared that he has been experiencing difficulties with his desk top computer. The board requested that he explore options for replacement in the \$1,000 range and bring his findings to a future meeting for consideration.

4172	City of La Crescent – Tree refund	\$ 6.00
4173	Josh Dahl - #26BC – Critical Area Plantings	\$ 1,401.36
4174	Houston County Ag Society – Fair Booth Rental Fee	\$ 175.00
	Total	\$ 6,189.24
	Houston County Treasurer - Investment Transfer of Funds (From 76-605-518-5383 Winnebago Watershed to Eitzen State Bank 10033340 Winnebago Watershed = \$1,000.00; Transfer of Funds from 76-605-000-5565 Bear Creek Watershed to Eitzen State Bank 10033399 Bear Creek Watershed = \$1,000.00)	\$ 2,000.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for February 2020 and transfer of funds.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Stenhoff to adjourn the meeting.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, March 12, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 3-12-20
 Date

Roger Stenhoff
 Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

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MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

March 12, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on March 12, 2020 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Roger Stenhoff
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Jean Meiners, Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Graf, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the minutes from the February 13, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, to approve the Employee Time Records and Supervisor per diems.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Stenhoff, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Treasurer Feldmeier requested that the February 2020 Treasurer's Reports be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported EQIP 2019 produced 41 contracts obligating \$1,034,919.00. To date \$276,903 has been paid, the remainder will likely be paid in 2020 when projects are completed. Contracted acres are 2,901.
- ❖ Larson indicated with the RCPP EQIP 2019 there were 11 contracts obligating \$200,984. To date \$31,195 has been paid with the remainder to be paid in 2020. Contracted acres totaled 152.
- ❖ Larson shared there are 46 EQIP 2020 applications in-house. Twenty-two applications totaled \$628,644 and there are 8 RCPP EQIP applications.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared the Mississippi – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P will be putting in an application for watershed approval. An informational meeting will be held in April 2020. Walter stated that there are misconceptions that

the JPB will then be dissolving but that is not the case. He shared only the La Crescent area is part of this watershed area not the entire county. A Houston County commissioner serving the La Crescent area as well as a Root River SWCD board supervisor representing the La Crescent area will be a part of this Policy Committee.

- ❖ Walter stated he attended a Basin Alliance Lower Mississippi Minnesota (BALMM) meeting on February 19, 2020. The federal 319 Grant for small watersheds will focus on a ten year plan for a four year grant. There was also discussion on an application for funding for the 2020 Safe Drinking Water in SE MN Private Well Users Grant that is being submitted.
- ❖ Walter reported he and Scanlan attended the From Entomology to Economics workshop on building soil health on March 5th at St. John's Church in Caledonia, MN. This was sponsored by Land Stewardship Project. Local farmers, Jordan Meyer and Connor McCormick, were on the local farmer panel. The speaker brought in entomology information and its effects on soil health.
- ❖ Walter indicated the Area 7 Envirothon will be May 6, 2020 in Byron, MN and the state competition will be May 18th at Itasca State Park, Park Rapids, MN.
- ❖ Walter shared a Conservation Tillage & No-Till Area Public Outreach meeting will be forthcoming. Scanlan, Walter and one board supervisor will be participating. No date is set at this time.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported the TEP committee met March 3rd. They visited sites and discussed the possibility of a landowner putting in trout ponds in Brownsville Twp., the installation of a bridge by the County Highway Department, in Crooked Creek Twp., and a site in Houston Twp. where a grade stabilization structure is to be installed. This project is waiting on approval from Army Corp of Engineers.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated construction on a waste storage facility has resumed. Additional cost-share slippage funds may be available to put towards this project to bring it closer to 75% cost share after an increase in the engineers fees.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported the Policy Committee met February 24th. Fruechte, Crooked Creek Watershed Committee; Kruse, Root River SWCD Bd.; Wermager, Root River SWCD; Johnson, Houston County Commissioner and Walter, Root River SWCD were all in attendance. A few key points are: Policy Committee meetings will be held quarterly; Walter did a presentation of the proposed Klinski project in the Crooked Creek Watershed and was very well received, and it is being requested that project pictures before and after shots be taken for civil engagement purposes. This will provide the opportunity to put the project story with the photos for 1W1P.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Scanlan and Welke will be attending the Legislative briefing and Day at the Capital on March 24 – 25, 2020.

The SE MN Association of Conservation District Employees Annual Spring Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31st at Clear Spring Farm LLC in Welch, MN.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated the next regular meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2020. With the Klinski project, a flat rate bid of \$10,200 was received from G-Cubed to amend the design to meet NRCS requests on the emergency spillway location, higher abutments and toe drains.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Walter stated that the Iowa state conservationist is working on the amount of funding that will be available for the repair of a sinkhole on Site #3. During conversation with the state conservationist Walter indicated that some local watershed maintenance funds were available if needed.

Winnebago – No report.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)** – Scanlan shared that some time ago he submitted an application for additional funding and will check on the status of the application.
- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated the broadcast seeder has been ordered through St. Joseph Equipment. Scanlan also looked at a used no-till drill that was for sale in the county. He recommended that we do not move forward with this type of a purchase at this time. Scanlan stated that producers aren't biting on inter-seeding at this point.

Discussion followed about the possibility of purchasing a second broadcast seeder. It was decided to hold off at this time.

Scanlan stated he has been working with producers on cover crop and no-till cost sharing and have taken applications. He also shared that a few producers expressed interest in the soil health sample testing.

- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan indicated there has not been much interest in the targeted two watersheds. County Feedlot Officer Meiners indicated that it can now be made available countywide.
- **SWAG** – Scanlan stated that the program will be ramping up in May and the SWCD will be sampling the Pine Creek.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared Conservation Corp of MN (CCM) application was approved and are contracted for eight days of service. The focus area is Crooked Creek.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Meiners informed the board that she will be conducting spot checks in Area 2 and has sent out notifications to those landowners.
- **MN Land Trust** – Meiners stated an informational workshop is slated for March 18, 2020 in Rushford, MN from 6:30 – 8 p.m. The following is the program layout: Protection Program Summary, David Ruff, The Nature Conservancy; Conservation Easements, Nick Bancks, MN Land Trust; Fee Acquisition, Bob McGillivray, Trust for Public Land & David Ruff, The Nature Conservancy; Land Management, David, Nick & Johnny Micheel, Chimney Rock Forestry; Personal Experience, Bob Scanlan, MN Land Trust program participant; Conservation Planning, Dan Wermager, Root River SWCD.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners stated that she has been doing survey and design work.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **Trees** – Messner stated tree orders picked up during February. To date we have sold 190 bundles. We have 325 pre-ordered trees available. Species that are no longer available include white pine, Norway spruce, white spruce and balsam fir.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager stated that he is near completion on several conservation plans and will be starting outreach efforts in Winona County during the upcoming month. He also shared that he had a speaking engagement at the Feedlot Conference March 11, 2020 in Rushford, MN. He promoted conservation planning to approximately 40 landowners. Other topics that were covered included Climate Trends &

Agriculture – Tom Hoverstad, U of MN Extension; 319 Grant (Cost Share) – Amanda Gentry, Winona County SWCD; DNR Water Appropriations Permit, Dan Scollan, MN DNR.

Wermager indicated he is assisting with EQIP applications as the current sign-up period ends Friday, March 13, 2020.

- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager indicated in addition to Walter’s report, Kevin Kuehner, Field to Stream, presented at the February 24th policy committee meeting. The next policy committee meeting will be June 22, 2020.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared that he has received 20 inquiries for the Pond Clean Out program. Of those inquires 12 have requested incentive payment assistance. Wermager stated there is also a field border program being offered.

Old Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the Lease Agreement for Use of Inter-seeder.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving to decline the Custom Seeding Agreement for Use of Inter-seeder.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Board Chair and Treasurer to sign the voucher for the purchase of the 2020 Dodge Ram 5.7 truck.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried

Walter stated that three board supervisors’ terms will be ending and asked each if they will be running for another term. Feldmeier and Kruse will be running and Stenhoff will not be running.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, for the meeting to be recessed.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried

The meeting recessed at 2:00 p.m.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, for the meeting to reconvene.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried

The meeting reconvened at 2:26 p.m.

New Business

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the FY19 Drinking Water Protection in SE Minnesota Sub-Agreement.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Root River 1W1P Exhibit A – Amendment 5 in the amount of \$2,570.22.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the State of MN Professional & Technical Services Work Order Contract (Easement Delivery) in the amount of \$3,350.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the FY20 Conservation Delivery Financial Report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the SE MACDE 2020 Membership Dues for all staff members at the rate of \$10.00 each.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the registration fee of \$15.00 for two employee to attend the SE MACDE Annual Spring Meeting 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the \$10/person registration for anyone interested in attending the Cover Crop Production Seminar, March 18, 2020 in Zumbrota, MN.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving voucher 4182 to St. Joseph Equipment for the purchase of a broadcast seeder in the amount of \$7,000.00. The purchase was approved by each board supervisor at the February 13, 2020 board meeting. The voucher was prepared prior to the March meeting in order to move forward with the purchase and timely payment.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4182	St. Joseph Equipment – FY20 Cover Crop Demo Grant – Inter-seeder	\$ 7,000.00

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, agreeing to sell the 2008 Ford F150 with a list price of \$7,000 and approving Walter to negotiate the price as low as \$6,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Cost Share Programs

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$144,000** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Fund **\$36,000** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$12,000** (Flat Rate)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Flat Rate per acre) Available Funds \$144,000.00

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Gerard, Jeff	01FY20CC	\$12,000.00	100 acres @ \$40/acre for 3 yrs. = \$12,000.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20CC	\$8,160.00	68 acres @ \$40/acre for 3 yrs. = \$8,160.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
King, Cory	03FY20CC	\$1,080.00	9 acres @ \$40/acre for 3 yrs. = \$1,080.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
Koch, Robert	04FY20CC	\$12,000.00	100 acres @ \$40/acre for 3 yrs. = \$12,000.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
Gerard, Jeff	05FY20CC	\$6,000.00	50 acres @ \$40/acre for 3 yrs. = \$6,000.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving cover crop applications for the above listed requests.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Flat Rate per acre) Available Funds \$36,000.00

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Gerard, Jeff	01FY20NT	\$3,000.00	100 acres @ \$10/acre for 3 yrs. = \$3,000.00	Residue & Tillage Mgt. – No-Till	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20NT	\$2,040.00	68 acres @ \$10/acre for 3 yrs. = \$2,040.00	Residue & Tillage Mgt. – No-Till	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022
King, Cory	03FY20NT	\$270.00	9 acres @ \$10/acre for 3 yrs. = \$270.00	Residue & Tillage Mgt. – No-Till	11/1/2020 11/1/2021 11/1/2022

4191	Petty Cash – Registration fee - From Entomology to Economics: Building Soil Health March 5, 2020; Field Supply – Batteries = \$6.41	\$ 31.41
4192	Mike Motors – 2020 Dodge Ram Truck	\$ 25,044.79
	Total	\$ 29,006.06

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the Accounts Payable for March 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Stenhoff to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, April 9, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 4-9-20
Date

Jay Welke
Secretary

acting Chair



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

April 9, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met via teleconference on April 9, 2020 hosted from the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 1:22 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Roger Stenhoff

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Kruse turned the meeting over to Appointed Chair Jerry Welke.

Appointed Chair Welke cited “As appointed Chair I determine that it is not practical or prudent to hold today’s board meeting in person or a meeting under Open Meeting Law Section 13D.02 because of a health pandemic and the governor has issued a shelter in place order. **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Kruse, approving the citing.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Minutes: **Motion** by Kruse, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the minutes from the March 12, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: **Motion** by Stenhoff, seconded by Kruse, to approve the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Monthly Report: No March 2020 report was available at this time.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported there are 60 EQIP 2020 applications that are being scored, ranked and prepped for a May 22nd deadline date. There are six first time farmer applications and two limited farmer applications. Larson went on to say a Request to Start Project Early Waiver was sent out to a portion of applicants with spring waterway projects on the docket. He went on to explain how the waiver works and indicated that several have been returned for early start.
- ❖ Larson shared 128 CRP requests were received and all have been approved. All plans and paperwork need to be completed by October 2020.

- ❖ Larson indicated that JAA for the NRCS technician, as well as SWCD technical staff will be updated in the near future.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared Gov. Walz has extended the Shelter in Place to May 4, 2020. Walter stated many events have been cancelled including the Area 7 and State Envirothon competitions.
- ❖ Walter indicated that our grant application for continued funding of the Cooperative Weed Management Grant was not approved. He stated that we may consider amending our Local Capacity Grant to include some cost share dollars for those who have expressed interest in the program.
- ❖ Walter reported the FY19 Drinking Water Protection Agreement that was approved at the March board meeting will no longer require any staff or board of supervisor involvement. It will all be done through Fillmore SWCD.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported this past month was on the slower side. He indicated he did a site visit for a Highway Dept. bridge project in Sheldon Township and informed the board that the Army Corp of Engineers has approved a project for a Houston Township project.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated construction on a roof project would be resuming as weather permits.
- **Root River 1WIP** – Walter reported the FY2020 grant has been executed. Winona SWCD is having a sub-agreement put together. The sub-agreements should be ready for our May board meeting. Walter stated that it is okay to spend the funds since the grant has been executed. A small risk of the Winona SWCD board not approving a sub-agreement is involved.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- Walter stated he has been putting in time on COVID 19. There may be a possibility that FEMA will reimburse for time spent towards COVID 19. Walter also reported that he has been doing some survey and design work.

MASWCD & MACDE

It was noted that the Legislative briefing and Day at the Capital on March 24 – 25, 2020 was cancelled, as well as the MACDE Employees Annual Spring Meeting scheduled for March 31st.

Walter stated the 2020 Resolution Request information is out and has been emailed to each of the board supervisors.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated they cancelled their March 2020 meeting.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – No report.

Winnebago – No report.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** - Scanlan stated that this grant targets 1,200 acres in the six southwest townships of Houston County. He indicated that some type of a trailer to transport and store the new broadcast seeder should be considered.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan indicated he worked with a producer in Spring Grove Township during this past month.

- **SWAG** – Scanlan stated sampling is still scheduled to start in May of 2020.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared Crooked Creek watershed is the focus area for 2020. He has visited with a landowner in the watershed that would benefit by doing a stream bank revetment project. The crew is contracted for eight days of work.

Scanlan also reported he is working on a NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant application to do demonstration field trials comparing fall seeded to frost seeded cereal grains. He went on to report that he has been working on survey and design for upcoming waterway projects and assisting with the WCPI program.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – No report.
- **MN Land Trust** – Walter stated the workshop slated for March 18, 2020 was cancelled.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported that Meiners has been doing survey and design work.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **Trees** – Messner stated tree orders came in at about the same rate as February. She reviewed the number of orders received in March and the number of trees that are still available and the species. Messner indicated that tree pick up date is tentatively set for May 1st.

Messner shared the dates to sign-up as a candidate to run for a board supervisor positions, May 19 – June 2, 2020. There are three supervisors whose term is ending. Scanlan stated that he had contacted an individual in the Spring Grove area to consider being a candidate for that district. The individual has declined.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager stated that he has been making outreach calls to generate interest in doing field walkovers.

Wermager indicated he is assisting with scoring and ranking 2020 EQIP applications.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared there has been a high interest in the Pond Clean Out incentive program. He stated that he is currently conducting site visits on the proposed sites.

Old Business

Board Supervisor candidacy was covered under Messner’s staff report.

New Business

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the Root River SWCD Interim Policy of COVID-19 Utilization of Paid Leave during the 2020 Public Health Emergency.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the SWAG 2020-2021 Sub-Agreement in the amount of \$11,516.32.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the SE SWCD Technical Support TSA 2020 Annual Membership Dues Increase of \$2,500.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the purchase of a trailer for the broadcast seeder not to exceed \$3,000.00 with funds coming from the FY2020 Cover Crop Demonstration Grant Equipment activity.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the submittal of increased Job Approval Authority (JAA) for district employees to NRCS Board Conservationist, Gary Larson.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Cost Share Programs

FY20 1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM

Requests to change funding source:

- Contract #01FY18LCM Betz, Mitch \$4,253.64 from FY18 Local Capacity Match (Grade Stabilization Structure) to FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation.
- Contract #13FY17LC Nelson, Tim \$5,911.00 from FY19 State Cost Share (Grade Stabilization Structure) to FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation.
- Contract #10FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP \$940.91 from FY19 State Cost Share (Grade Stabilization Structure) to FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation.
- Contract #11FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP \$399.24 from FY18 Local Capacity Match and \$2,150.46 from FY19 State Cost Share (Grade Stabilization Structure) = \$2,549.70 to FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Kruse, approving the above listed funding source changes for Betz, Mitch contract #01FY18LCM, Nelson, Tim contract #13FY17LC, and Dahl Creek Farms LLP contract #10FY17LC & #11FY17LC to the FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Funding Program.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Snow, Richard	02FY201W1P	\$7,400.00	\$6,660.00	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Miller, Mike	03FY201W1P	\$3,200.00	\$2,880.00	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Paulson, Kevin	04FY201W1P	\$5,365.00	\$4,828.50	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Fruechte, Paul	05FY201W1P	\$4,250.00	\$3,825.00	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Davison Properties LLC	06FY201W1P	\$7,326.00	\$6,593.40	Grassed Waterways	9/10/2020

Motion by Stenhoff, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed applications for funding. Snow, Richard contract #02FY201W1P \$6,660.00; Miller, Mike contract #03FY201W1P \$2,880.00; Paulson, Kevin contract #04FY201W1P \$4,828.50; Fruechte, Paul contract #05FY201W1P \$3,825.00; Davison Properties LLC contract #06FY201W1P \$6,593.40.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Walter stated that there are more applications that will be requesting funding prior to the next board meeting and he would be exercising his appointed authority to approve applications with the consent of the board chair.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$104,760 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Fund \$26,190 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$11,640 (Flat Rate)

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/20) – Available Funds \$3,258.68 + \$4,652.88 = \$7,911.56

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share Amendment Request

Contract #10-RCPP1W1P Skifton, Gerald project cost estimate increased. A curtain drain and tile was added to help stabilize the site. The new cost estimate is \$29,967.00. An additional \$2,367.90 is being request to increase the amount of cost share to \$14,126.30.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the above amendment request for Skifton, Gerald in the amount of \$2,367.90 for contract #10-RCPP1W1P.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Zadow, Jeff	01FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	6.666666 acres @ \$300/acre = \$2,000.00

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed payment request for Zadow, Jeff contract #01FY19LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source*)

FY19 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/21*) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00**

FY20 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$13,194.10**

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: Welke stated a special meeting via teleconference was held Monday, March 30, 2020 to discuss the budget shortfall and approve a solution.

Scanlan shared that we have received one call inquiring on the 2008 Ford that we have listed for sale on Craig’s List.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4193	Ron Carlsen – Rent – April	\$ 1,213.19
4194	VISA – Postage = \$15.00; MN Land Trust Event = \$21.00; Field Supply – Replacement Soil Probe = \$87.16; Annual Fee = \$25.00; Tree Postage = \$25.35	\$ 148.16
4195	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 120.41
4196	Gunnar & Erin Schutz – Water Plan Infant Well Testing Reimbursement	\$ 51.75
4197	Quill LLC – Office supplies	\$ 244.71
4198	SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – 2020 Annual Membership Dues Increase	\$ 2,500.00
4199	Jeff Zadow – Brush Management - #01FY19LC-CWMA – 6.666 acres @ \$300/acre	\$ 2,000.00
4200	Schumacher’s Nursery & Berry Farm Inc. – Tree order payment	\$ 99.25
	Total	\$ 6,377.47

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Kruse, approving the Accounts Payable for April 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Stenhoff to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Stenhoff Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, May 14, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 14 May 20
Date

Cecil Graf Vice Chair
Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

May 14, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on May 14, 2020 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Cecil Graf

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the April 9, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, to approve the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Treasurer Feldmeier requested that the March and April 2020 Treasurer's Reports be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported that several EQIP applicants seeking finance assistance to install grassed waterways have signed the Request for Waiver to Start a Practice Early. This has allowed them to move forward with spring construction on these projects. Spring construction has been busy with the installation of several grassed waterways and a grade stabilization structure is underway this week.
- ❖ Larson stated that he is currently ranking 2020 EQIP applications.
- ❖ Larson shared 128 CRP requests were received and all have been approved. CRP plans are being written and site visits for status reviews will be conducted in the near future.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared Gov. Walz has extended the Shelter in Place to May 18, 2020.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported there is a delineation in Sheldon Twp. and partnering landowners are interested in a fishing easement. He indicated he is also working with the Highway Dept. on a bridge project.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated he will be checking in on the construction progress of a roof structure project.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported the FY2020 grant has been executed and a Policy Committee meeting will be held in June.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – Walter stated that he has been dedicating his time to spring construction and will be ramping up on the AIS during the summer months.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

Walter stated he will be starting RIM checks and assisting Meiners with buffer checks in the next month or two.

MASWCD & MACDE

Messner stated just a reminder that any 2020 Resolution Requests will be reviewed and voted on during our June meeting.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated they will be holding their May meeting at the South Fork Structure on May 15th. He shared that the final amendments to the design for the Klinski project are underway. This work is being done by G-Cubed. There may be fall construction but it is looking like 2021 construction is more likely.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Scanlan indicated federal funding has been approved for the repair on a sinkhole on Site 3.

Winnebago – Scanlan reported the sinkhole on the Koch site will be review by Rochester.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** - Scanlan stated that he recently submitted a news article to the local papers and it has created some additional interest.
- **319 Feedlot** – No report.
- **SWAG** – Scanlan stated the first sampling is scheduled for May 26th. We have just one site, Pine Creek.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared he will be in contact with the CCM supervisor as the Shelter in Place order is lifted in Minnesota due to the CO-VID 19 pandemic.

Scanlan also reported he has submitted a grant application for the NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant. The focus he took for this application was related to demonstration field trials comparing fall seeded to frost seeded cereal grains.

Scanlan stated that he has also been dedicating staff time towards the WCPI program.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – No report.
- **MN Land Trust** – Walter stated the workshop that was slated for March 18, 2020 may be re-scheduled.

- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported that Meiners has been on several grassed waterway projects during the past month.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **Trees** – Messner stated tree sales went well for the year. There were no extra trees available for sale during tree pick up. They were all sold prior to the trees being delivered. Tree pick up day went well with the majority of the trees being picked up that day. She shared the species that were most popular this year were the Colorado spruce and Norway spruce.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager stated that field walkovers during the past month have been minimal due to planting season for producers. He reported 73 conservation plans are written with the grant goal of 100 plans prior to the grant expiration date of December 2021.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1W1P** - Wermager indicated he, Welke and Kruse participated in a teleconference meeting and stated that most were in favor of going to the 1W1P approach, but there was some concerns from a few that were involved in the meeting.
- **WRAPS** – Wermager shared that a meeting is coming up. It will be an “Open for Public Review.”

Wermager reported during the past month he has helped NRCS with a few conservation compliance plans.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared no meeting was held in May. A push-up pond will go in within a few weeks.

Old Business

Board Supervisor filing for candidacy runs from May 19th – June 2, 2020. Scanlan indicated those that he was asked to contact have declined. Supervisors gave suggestions for other possible candidates.

Walter reported that we have not heard when the new truck is scheduled to be delivered.

Scanlan reported that both a seeder and utility trailer have been purchased using funds from the FY20 Cover Crop Demonstration Grant.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the Root River 1W1P Sub-Agreement 2020-2021 in the amount of \$125,000 for Ag practices and \$50,000 for technical assistance.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the FY19 Local Capacity Financial Report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the purchase of tires for the GMC truck, with a limit not to exceed \$865.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the payment of half of the lunch expense for the Bear Creek Inspection Tour if it is held this year.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Cost Share Programs

FY20 1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) – Available Funds \$86,557.85

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share

Pre-Approved Contracts

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Klug, Steve	07FY201W1P	\$14,348.00	\$5,627.20	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Hanson, Ted	08FY201W1P	\$2,100.00	\$1,890.00	Grassed Waterway	9/10/2020
Olson, Porteous	09FY201W1P	\$5,200.00	\$4,680.00	Grassed Waterways	9/10/2020
Van Gundy, Larry	01FY201W1P	\$9,812.00	\$8,830.80	Grassed Waterways	9/10/2020

It was acknowledged the above listed contracts were pre-approved by Chair Kruse. Contract #07FY201W1P Klug, Steve \$5,627.20; contract #08FY201W1P Hanson, Ted \$1,890.00; contract #09FY201W1P Olson, Porteous \$4,680.00; contract #01FY201W1P Van Gundy, Larry \$8,830.80.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Fruechte, Paul	05FY201W1P Grassed Waterways	\$4,250.00	\$2,615.00	\$2,615.00 x 90% = \$2,353.50 Payment Request = \$2,353.50; Slippage for re-allocation = \$1,471.50

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Fruechte, Paul contract #05FY201W1P \$2,353.50. Funds to be re-allocated total \$1,471.50.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/20) – Available Funds **\$5,543.66**

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share

Pre-Approved Contract

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Kolsrud, Mark	06FY18LCM	\$5,300.00	\$3,975.00	Grassed Waterways	9/10/2020

It was acknowledged that the above listed contract for Kolsrud, Mark contract #06FY18LCM \$3,975.00 was pre-approved on May 1, 2020 by Chair Kruse.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$104,760** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Fund **\$26,190** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$11,640** (Flat Rate)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Mierau, Karsen	06FY20CC	\$5,328.00	\$5,328.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Mierau, Bob	07FY20CC				11/1/2020,

		\$4,320.00	\$4,320.00	Cover Crop	11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
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Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed applications for funding. Mierau, Karsen contract #06FY20CC \$5,328.00.00; Mierau, Bob contract #07FY20CC \$4,320.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cover Crop Cost Share

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Mierau, Karsen	06FY20NT	\$1,332.00	\$1,332.00	Residue & Tillage Management No Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Mierau, Bob	07FY20NT	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00	Residue & Tillage Management No Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed applications for funding. Mierau, Karsen contract #06FY20NT \$1,332.00; Mierau, Bob contract #07FY20NT \$1,080.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$9,002.37**

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,194.10**

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4201	Ron Carlsen – Rent – May	\$ 1,213.19
4202	VISA – Postage Trees = \$5.85; Postage = \$55.00; Vehicle Maintenance - 2018 GMC Oil Change = \$74.91; FY20 Cover Crop Demo Grant Equipment – Utility Trailer, ball & ratchet strap = \$1,721.72	\$ 1,857.48
4203	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 68.82
4204	Quill LLC – Office supplies	\$ 851.73
4205	Schumacher’s Nursery & Berry Farm Inc. – Tree order payment	\$ 710.56
4206	Blackburn Mfg. Co. – Flags Trees = \$65.97; Flags Field Supply = \$216.76	\$ 282.73
4207	B & M Service Center – 2008 Ford – 2 brake pads and rotors	\$ 332.00
4208	Gene Grant – Tree Refund – Trees = \$12.00; Sales Tax = \$0.83	\$ 12.83
4209	Houston County Treasurer – Registration & Licensing Utility Trailer – FY20 Cover Crop Demo Grant	\$ 84.00
4210	Paul Fruechte – Grassed Waterways - #05FY201 W1P	\$ 2,353.50
	Total	\$ 7,766.84

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for May 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Graf

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, June 11, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

6-11-2020

Date

Roger A. Kentrapp

Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1
Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

June 11, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on June 11, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Roger Stenhoff
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the minutes from the May 14, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, to approve the Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Feldmeier, Matt – 2 nd Qtr. 3 mtgs. @ \$75.00/each	\$ 225.00
Graf, Cecil – 2 nd Qtr. 2 mtgs. @ \$75.00/each	\$ 150.00
Kruse, Glenn – 2 nd Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$75.00/each	\$ 300.00
Stenhoff, Roger – 2 nd Qtr. 2 mtgs. @ \$75.00/each	\$ 150.00
Welke, Jerry – 2 nd Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$75.00/each	\$ 300.00

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Treasurer Feldmeier requested that the May 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported that he and his staff are doing site visits in conjunction with their CRP status reviews. Staff has also been writing CRP plans.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared COVID-19 Reopening Phase 1 has been recently implemented. This has allowed all federal employees to return to working at the office at one time. This phase has not changed anything for SWCD staff.

- ❖ Walter stated the 2008 Ford F150 was sold for \$6,400. The new truck should be delivered later this month. The manufacture was shut down for a period of time due to COVID-19.
- ❖ Walter reported that an amendment to the FY20 Local Capacity Grant was approved by BWSR. This allowed us to take \$15,000 of Technical Engineering funds and dedicate it for CWMA cost share.
- ❖ Walter indicated with the recent rains washouts have occurred on newly installed grassed waterways. To repair the erosion a critical area planting will be implemented. Walter stated that he will be contacting Chair Kruse for cost share approval as the need arises during the upcoming month.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported there is a tiling request in the West Beaver area that he is working with and the Highway Department would like to do a bridge project in Freeburg. The area has been flagged as a wetland and the State will need to buy credits to do this bridge installation.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated construction is in progress on a roof structure and the manure pit portion of the project should start soon. Both projects are for the same landowner.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported a Policy Committee meeting will be held later in June.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated we have one sampling site, Pine Creek. Sampling will be done three times per month.
- **RIM** – Walter reported he has two site inspections left to complete. He shared that there are some conservation plan and practice changes that will need to be done as a result of this year's inspections.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Walter stated this year the area review meeting for the 2020 Resolution Requests will be conducted via Zoom. This allows for supervisors to participate if they are interested.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated they held their May meeting at the parking lot of the South Fork structure site. The June 19th meeting will also be held at this location. They will be planning the yearly Watershed structure inspection tour which will need to include an NRCS engineer. He shared there has been no status change on the Klinski project.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Walter stated the normal inspection tour will not be held this year due to COVID-19. A group of approximately five will be conducting the inspections which include Gary Larson, NRCS and himself. The inspection reports will be sent to everyone that is typically involved in the annual tour.

Scanlan indicated that he has received an application for funding that will need to be completed for the sinkhole repair work on Site 3. The SWCD will serve as the sponsor of the project.

Winnebago – Walter reported that Jason Rochester, JPB, is putting together a design for a sinkhole repair on the Koch site. Walter stated maintenance funds will be used for this repair.

Staff & Program Reports:**Bob Scanlan – Program Reports**

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** - Scanlan stated the broadcast seeder was requested for use. He indicated that producers are still enrolling for cover crop cost share funding.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with a landowner in Brownsville Twp. with a potential feedlot fix for a concentrated sediment area. Fifty percent cost share up to \$5,250 is available through the county.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he has five landowners, in addition to the application today, on a list that are interested in cost share.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared he has been in contact with the CCM supervisor and a small crew should be here in mid-July. They will be working on a revetment site in Crooked Creek Twp. and if time allows maintenance work on the Crooked Creek Watershed structures.

Walter indicated that he has received word that Trout Unlimited has \$2 million available for projects in the state of Minnesota. Cost share for 2021 habitat projects reducing sediment on DNR trout fishing easement areas is being offered. JPB technical staff will be assisting with these projects.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter reported that Meiners is conducting buffer and CRP checks. She has found a few buffers that will need to be measured this fall due to bank erosion.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated that Meiners has been on a few grade stabilization structure projects this past month. At one of the locations a time lapse camera was set up to record performance during a rain event.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **2018 Year End Statements** – Messner stated our CPA has requested our data to produce the 2018 Year End Financial Statements. Messner indicated she has most of the information uploaded and when asked she shared that she did have the financial statements balanced prior to submitting to the CPA.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Scanlan shared that he and Wermager have done a few walkovers. Wermager continues his attempt to schedule new walkovers. Messner reported that semi-annual reporting is underway with a June 15th reporting deadline.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1W1P** – Walter indicated that the 1W1P application was submitted this week. If the application is approved, the Root River SWCD has been asked to be the fiscal agent.

Houston County Water Plan – Walter shared no meeting was held in June but an update was sent to the committee.

Old Business

Walter stated that Glenn Kruse and Matt Feldmeier have filed for board supervisor candidacy re-election. Ken Anderson has filed to replace Roger Steinhoff who has chosen not to run for re-election. Board Supervisor filing candidacy ceased June 2nd.

New Business – None

Cost Share Programs

FY19 1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM

Amendment Request

Contract #01FY18LCM Betz, Mitch is requesting to extend his grade stabilization structure project date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020. The landowner was planted crops instead of the pre-construction cover that was approved for cost share thus delaying construction until after fall harvest.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above amendment request for Betz, Mitch extending project completion date to 12/31/2020 for contract #01FY18LCM.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) – Available Funds \$67,001.35

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request and Re-Allocation of Funds

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Hanson, Ted	08FY201W1P Grassed Waterway	\$2,100.00	\$1,820.00	\$1,820.00 x 90% = \$1,638.00 Payment Request = \$1,638.00; Slippage for re-allocation = \$252.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Hanson, Ted contract #08FY201W1P \$1,638.00. Funds to be re-allocated total \$252.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY18 Local Capacity County Match Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/20) – Available Funds \$1,568.66

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$15,000 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Requests

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Felten, Brad	07FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	6.666 acres @ \$300/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Request = \$2,000.00
Felten, Ralph	08FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	6.666 acres @ \$300/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Request = \$2,000.00

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment requests for Felten, Brad contract #07FY19LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000 and for Felten, Ralph contract #08FY19LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000 for their brush management projects.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Bauer, Steve	01FY20LC-CWMA	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00 (\$100/acre @ 20 acres)	Brush Management	6/11/2021

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the funding request for Bauer, Steve contract #01FY20LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$95,112 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$23,778** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$11,640** (Flat Rate)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
King, Troy	08FY20CC	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00 (\$40/acre @ 15 acres)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the above listed application for funding. King, Troy contract #08FY20CC \$1,800.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$9,002.37**

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,194.10**

Cancellation Notification – FY20 State Cost Share

Mitch Betz provided a cancellation notification for his pre-construction cover crop cost share in the amount of \$600.00.

The cancellation notification from Mitch Betz for his pre-construction cover crop cost share was acknowledged by the board along with re-allocating the project funds in the amount of \$600.00.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: Walter shared that it is likely that we will see a 25% reduction in our FY21 Local Capacity funding. The reduction is to accommodate for unexpected State of Minnesota COVID-19 expenditures.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4211	Ron Carlsen – Rent – June	\$ 1,213.19
4212	VISA –Vehicle Maintenance - 2017 GMC 4 tires mount & balance and front end alignment = \$849.68; Field Supplies - Stake Driver & 2 hatchets = \$57.82	\$ 907.50
4213	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 147.15
4214	Schumacher’s Nursery & Berry Farm Inc. – Additional Tree Order	\$ 70.37
4215	Myhre Family Farm LLP – Push-Up Pond (no pipe)	\$ 600.00
4216	Talcott Resolution Life & Annuity Ins. Co. – Life Insurance Policy #LU1188704 Dave Walter	\$ 90.00
4217	Ralph Felten – Brush Management #08FY19LC-CWMA	\$ 2,000.00
4218	Hach Company – SWAG Supplies	\$ 518.98
4219	Ted Hanson – Grassed Waterway #08FY201W1P	\$ 1,638.00
4220	Quill LLC – Office Supply	\$ 262.90
4221	Matt Feldmeier – Mileage -108 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$62.10	\$ 62.10
4222	Cecil Graf – Mileage – 80 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$46.00	\$ 46.00
4223	Glenn Kruse – Mileage – 40 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$23.00	\$ 23.00
4224	Jerry Welke – Mileage – 120 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$69.00	\$ 69.00

4225	Petty Cash – Vehicle Maintenance - Car Wash = \$6.75; Misc. Fees - Finance Charge = \$0.72; General Supply- Duplicate front door key = \$3.74; WCPI Workshop Expense = \$2.14	\$ 13.35
4226	Brad Felten – Brush Management #07FY19LC-CWMA	\$ 2,000.00
4227	Roger Stenhoff – Mileage – 32 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$18.40	\$ 18.40
	Total	\$ 9,730.94

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for June 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf, Stenhoff and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, July 9, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

7-9-2020
Date

Glenn Kruse
~~Secretary~~
Chau



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

July 9, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on June 11, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Cecil Graf

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the 2018-2019 Root River 1W1P Amendment 6.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Minutes: **Motion** by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the minutes from the June 11, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Graf requested that the June 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported that grade stabilization structure projects are in progress. He shared a time lapse camera was set up on a project site during a recent rainfall. It recorded the action the structure offers during a rainfall. Larson stated that he will be sharing the recording with them at a future meeting.

Feldmeier joined the meeting.

- ❖ Larson shared several pollinator plantings will be seeded in the spring of 2021.
- ❖ Larson stated that CRP status reviews are being conducted.
- ❖ Larson indicated that re-organization within NRC is taking place. SE MN is now considered Team 21. The Fillmore County district conservationist is the team's lead.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared he was approached about offering support for a RCPP Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in MN grant application. He stated that we have benefitted from the grant in prior years.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported a tiling request in the West Beaver area was approved, an area is being delineated for the Freeburg bridge project and a potential violation in the Pferrer Valley area was called in.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated excavation work should be completed by the end of the week for a manure storage project.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported a Policy Committee meeting was held via phone. He gave an update to the committee on the Klinski project. In Mower County, a prairie strip CRP practice cost share program will be offered. The program will coordinate with Kevin Kehner's Field to Stream program. If the projects are installed in the pilot area additional monitoring station data can be collected.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated sampling will continue into September.
- **RIM** – Walter reported he has completed the site inspections. He shared that he and Messner are putting together conservation plan amendment requests for practice changes. This is primarily due to conservation plan practice failures or other circumstances.
- **BMP Spot Checks** – Walter shared that he has started this year's BMP spot checks. He informed the supervisors that BMP spot checks are conducted on years one, three, seven and nine during the projects life span.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Walter stated on July 21st the Area 7 Supervisor meeting will take place via Zoom. A time has not been announced and we will check on that. The 2020 Resolution Requests will be review and be brought to a vote. Supervisors were given a copy of each of the resolutions.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated the annual inspection tour was held Tuesday, July 7th. He discussed the two sinkholes and it was determined that they have not been increasing in size over the past few years.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Larson stated on July 17th a state engineer from IA, Corey Anderson (current landowner) and Scanlan will be meeting at Site 3 to view the site and review plans for the project repair. He stated that plans included lowering the intake pipe, tiling the pool area, directing a ditch away from the area and filling the sinkhole.

Winnebago – No report.

Walter announced that we just received word of the passing of Wilfred Pohlman. A plaque was discussed. **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving \$50 towards a memorial gift.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the purchase of a plaque for this year's retiring board supervisor.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Staff & Program Reports:**Bob Scanlan – Program Reports**

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – No report.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with a landowner in Brownsville Twp. with a potential feedlot fix for a concentrated sediment area. Fifty percent cost share up to \$5,250 is available through the county.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he will be reaching out to landowners that have expressed interest in the program.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared the CCM crew will be arriving next Tuesday, July 14th. They are scheduled for eight days of work and will be working on a revetment site in Crooked Creek Twp. If time allows they will also do maintenance work on the Crooked Creek Watershed structures.
- **2020 Conservationist of the Year** – Scanlan stated staff has discussed potential candidates for the award. The candidate is to be chosen from Welke's district this year. He indicated that he has contacted a candidate to verify if they would accept the award and they will. Discussion about the candidate followed. **Motion** by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving Larry Ledebuhr as this year's recipient.
Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the purchase of a plaque for the 2020 Conservationist of the Year.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter reported that Meiners has 119 parcels to check. To date she has 80 checked and 27 will need to be reflagged due to continual bank erosion.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated a stream bank project will be starting 7/13, a grade stabilization structure project will be starting today, and grubbing will be starting on another landowner's grade stabilization structure project. One project was just completed.
- **Trout Unlimited** – Walter shared Trout Unlimited has funds available for habitat projects that will reduce sediment on DNR trout fishing easement areas. Along with the TU funds, an RCPP grant has EQIP funds available for this type of project. There is also Outdoor Heritage funds to cover the remainder of the costs. Engineering funds will cover JPB technical staff costs. Hastings, Trout Unlimited, will forward landowner names to MN DNR to check for easements and determine if they are interested in pursuing the opportunity with the landowner or allow Trout Unlimited the opportunity to pursue it. They do have the option of not pursuing the project with a landowner. The list of landowners will also be forward to MN Trout Unlimited executive director to give him/her the opportunity to add additional Outdoor Heritage funds to a project which will alleviate a portion of the landowner's cost. If an easement is present, the project will receive 100% cost share. If there is not an easement 75% cost share will be available.

Janice Messner – Staff Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – Messner stated the current grant expired June 30th and a new grant is being put together to continue the program. During the month of June, she recruited three new volunteers. Two are replacing previous volunteers and one is in an area that a volunteer could not be found. She state that there is one additional node that needs a volunteer.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager shared to date we are on track for meeting the deliverables of the grant agreement. He stated that he has 80 outreach calls to complete for the current focus area and this fall a mailing will be done with a new focus area. He and Scanlan are doing field walkovers in the current focus area. Wermager stated he is writing CRP plans.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: Walter stated there will be a meeting in late July 2020.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

It was noted that Chair Kruse pre-approved the below voucher and it has been processed.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4238	Houston County Treasurer – Sales tax & Registration for 2020 Dodge Ram	\$ 1,662.37

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4228	Ron Carlsen – Rent – July	\$ 1,213.19
4229	VISA – Postage = \$55.00	\$ 55.00
4230	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 220.61
4231	SE MASWCD – Annual Dues	\$ 500.00
4232	Delbert Stehr - #28FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00
4233	Brian Doyle – Push Up Pond with pipe	\$ 1,000.00
4234	Adam & Amanda Schulte – Infant Well Testing Reimbursement	\$ 51.75
4235	Jason Van Gundy - #06-RCPP1W1P – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 18,185.60
4236	James Gray – Hayable Buffer Program Yearly Payment	\$ 3,500.00
4237	Gerald Skifton – Water Plan Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4239	Richard Snow – 02FY201W1P – Grassed Waterways	\$ 5,431.50
4240	Todd Nelson – 11-RCPP1W1P – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 20,396.17
4241	Gerald Hallum – Hayable Buffer Program Yearly Payment	\$ 5,350.00
4242	Grace Nelson – Hayable Buffer Program Yearly Payment	\$ 150.00
	- 2020 Dodge Ram Truck	
	Total	\$ 58,453.82
	Investments – Winnebago Watershed to 10003340 (From Cash – General Fund 76-000-000-000-1001) = \$1,000.00; Investments – Bear Creek Watershed to 10033399 (From Cash – General Fund 76-000-000-0000-1001) = \$1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Investment Transfer of Funds (From 008-773 Hayable Buffer – Eitzen State Bank to our Bank of the West Cash General Fund account)	\$ 9,000.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the Accounts Payable for July 2020 and transfer of funds.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Welke suggested that we acknowledge land owners with a personalized note that are doing good conservation work. There are many and Welke felt they should be acknowledged since everyone will not receive a Conservationist of the Year award.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, August 13, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 8-13-20
Date


Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

August 13, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on August 13, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Cecil Graf

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: **Motion** by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the minutes from the July 9, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the July 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Walter reported Larson continues to approve EQIP 2020 contracts.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared that he was approached about offering support for the Protecting Working Forestlands in the Blufflands: Trout, Turkeys & Timber FY21 Landscape Scale Restoration Grant. The three year grant would allow for hiring or contracting a forester to provide technical assistance for private lands.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving a letter of support.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported he followed up on a potential violation in the Pferrer Valley area. It was determined that no violation had occurred. He was also called to a site in La Crescent Township and a no loss process will be looked at.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated the roof structure is completed and the concrete was poured last week in the pit of the waste storage facility project.

- **Root River IWIP** – Walter reported Scanlan attended a virtual meeting last week. Scanlan stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated sampling will continue into September.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Welke shared that he was in virtual attendance of the July 21st Area 7 Supervisor meeting. The connection was poor, so he was unable to participate for the full length of the meeting.

It was noted that the MASWCD Annual Convention will be held virtually this year and they will not be selecting a State Conservationist of the Year. The candidates that are eligible this year are welcome to participate in next year's selection for the State Conservationist of the Year.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving \$300 for a meal to honor our local conservationist of the year.
Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated in regards to the Klinski project NRCS is requesting additional changes to the engineer's plans. The emergency spillway location is a subject of concern. Scanlan stated that he will be discussing these changes with the watershed committee at their next meeting on August 21, 2020.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Scanlan stated on July 17th he, the IA State NRCS engineer, Corey Anderson (current landowner) and Larson met on-site (Site 3) to view the sinkhole and review plans for the project repair. The landowner has agreed to move forward with the project.

Winnebago – Walter stated design plans are finalized for the sinkhole treatment on the Koch site. He and Rochester will be reviewing the plans with the landowner.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated that he is working with several landowners and has numerous applications for cost share assistance approval later in the meeting.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with a landowner in Brownsville Twp. on a potential feedlot fix for a concentrated sediment area.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated a few projects are finishing and the yearly spot checks have looked good.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared the CCM crew installed cedar tree revetment in two locations for a landowner in Crooked Creek Township. Between the two sites approximately 400 to 500 feet of revetment was installed. The crew also removed woody debris from one of the Crooked Creek watershed sites (Shamrock Lake). The CCM crew has fulfilled their contract with us.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – No report.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.

- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated a stream bank project has just been completed in Money Creek Twp., a grade stabilization structure project has started in Yuctan Twp. and two grade stabilization structures are starting today in Black Hammer Twp. He shared that they are working with another landowner in La Crescent Twp. on a grade stabilization structure.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – Messner stated that a new grant will be brought forward to the board later in today’s meeting. She also stated that 2020 test kits will be sent by the lab to the volunteers later this month.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Walter shared to date 100 plans have been completed meeting the work plan goal for Root River SWCD. All additional plans that are completed will count towards the overall grant goal.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1WIP** – The application for grant funding is submitted.

Houston County Water Plan – Walter stated that the Water Plan committee did meet at the DNR garage site for their August meeting. They acted on budget changes to fund additional projects.

Old Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Memorandum of Agreement Between the USDA NRCS & State of MN, Root River SWCD

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network Agreement in the amount of \$2,200.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the FY18 Local Capacity Grant financial report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the FY19 Buffer Law Grant financial report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the SE SWCD Technical Support JPB & Root River SWCD Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in MN sub-agreement in the amount of \$99,465.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Root River SWCD 2021 proposed budget.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC	#01LMRFM	\$270,395.00	\$99,465.00	Waste Storage Facility	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share request for Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC contract #01LMRFM in the amount of \$99,465.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,000** (Flat Rate per acre)

Contract Cancellation - FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share

The board acknowledged contract #03FY19LC-CWMA Fitting Brothers expired effective 7/11/2020 and funds are available for re-allocation.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Fitting Brothers	09FY19LC-CWMA	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00 (\$100/acre @ 20 acres)	Brush Management	8/13/2021

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed cost share request for Fitting Brothers contract #09FY19LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Ledebuhr, Larry	06FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	20 acres @ \$100/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Request = \$2,000.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Ledebuhr, Larry contract #06-FY19LC-CWMA \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,794.10**

Cancellation Notification – FY20 State Cost Share

It was acknowledged by the board that Tim Nelson provided a cancellation notification for his pre-construction cover crop cost share in the amount of \$300.00 and the funds are available for re-allocation.

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2021) Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds **\$82,726.06**

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Kolsrud, Mark	06FY18LCM Grassed Waterways	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 4,050.00	\$4,050.00x 75% = \$3,037.50 Payment Request = \$3,037.50 Slippage for Reallocation = \$937.50

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Kolsrud, Mark contract #06FY18LCM \$3,037.50. Funds to be re-allocated total \$937.50.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Cancellation Notifications – FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share

It was acknowledged by the board that Mike Miller, contract #03FY201W1P, provided a cancellation notification for his grassed waterway project in the amount of \$2,880.00. EQIP has funded the project at a rate of 90% cost share or greater. The funds are available for re-allocation.

It was acknowledged by the board that Davison Properties, LLC, contract #06FY201W1P, provided a cancellation notification for his grassed waterway installations in the amount of \$6,593.40. EQIP has funded the project at a rate of 90% cost share or greater. The funds are available for re-allocation.

Funding Source Change

The board acknowledged a funding sources change for Klug, Steve contract #07FY201W1P shifting \$937.50 from FY201W1P to FY191W1P cost share fund.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Klug, Steve	07FY201W1P Grassed Waterway	\$ 14,348.00	\$ 10,482.18	\$10,482.18 x 90% = \$9,433.97 EQIP = \$ 7,234.32 Payment Request = \$2,199.65 Slippage for Reallocation = \$3,427.55

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Klug, Steve contract #07FY201W1P \$2,199.65. Funds to be re-allocated total \$3,427.55.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Hongerholt, Randy	#11 FY201W1P	\$6,845.96	\$1,309.89	Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share request for Randy Hongerholt contract #11FY201W1P in the amount of \$1,309.89.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$93,312** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$23,778** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$11,640** (Flat Rate)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	09FY20CC	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00 (\$40/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Kochie, Jon	10FY20CC	\$2,160.00	\$2,160.00 (\$40/acre @ 18 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Green, Valiree	11FY20CC	\$768.00	\$768.00 (\$40/acre @ 6.4 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Schroeder, Todd	12FY20CC	\$720.00	\$720.00 (\$40/acre @ 6 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20CC	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00 (\$40/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share applications for McCormick, Connor contract #09FY20CC; Kochie, Jon contract #10FY20CC; Green, Valiree contract #11FY20CC; Schroeder, Todd contract #12FY20CC and Schroeder, Dean contract #13FY20CC.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	08FY20NT	\$840.00	\$840.00 (\$10/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Kochie, Jon	09FY20NT	\$540.00	\$540.00 (\$10/acre @ 18 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Green, Valiree	10FY20NT	\$192.00	\$192.00 (\$10/acre @ 6.4 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
King, Troy	11FY20NT	\$450.00	\$450.00 (\$10/acre @ 15 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Todd	12FY20NT	\$180.00	\$180.00 (\$10/acre @ 6 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20NT	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00 (\$10/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed cost share applications for McCormick, Connor contract #08FY20NT; Kochie, Jon contract #09FY20NT; Green, Valiree contract #10FY20NT; King, Troy contract #11FY20NT; Schroeder, Todd contract #12FY20NT and Schroeder, Dean contract #13FY20NT.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20CC Cover Crops	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 8,160.00	68 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$8,160.00 Payment Request = \$8,160.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Meyer, Jordan contract #02FY20CC \$8,160.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$ 2,040.00	\$ 2,040.00	68 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$2,040.00 Payment Request = \$2,040.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Meyer, Jordan contract #02FY20NT \$2,040.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4244	Ron Carlsen – Rent – August	\$ 1,213.19
4245	VISA – Other Repairs & Maintenance – Grease & grease gun = \$59.86; Memorial Maynard Welscher = \$40.61; Adobe AcroPro Subscription - 12 months \$192.25	\$ 292.72
4246	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 259.22
4247	Houston County Treasurer – Field Supply – 8’ x 3’ Posts = 2 @ \$20.875	\$ 41.75
4248	Steve Klug – 07FY201W1P – Grassed Waterway	\$ 2,199.65
4249	Lind Awards – Memorial Plaque = \$18.79 (our half); Retirement plaque = \$35.44	\$ 54.23
4250	Mark Kolsrud - #06FY18LCM – Grassed Waterways	\$ 3,037.50
4251	Jordan Meyer #02FY20CC & #02FY20NT	\$ 10,200.00
4252	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 252.73
4253	Larry Ledebuhr - #06FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00
	Total	\$ 19,550.99
	Investment Transfer of Funds (From Eitzen State Bank Savings Account 10033563 Investment - Capital Equipment to our Bank of the West Cash General Fund account)	\$20,060.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for August 2020 and transfer of funds.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, September 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: _____
Date

Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

August 13, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on August 13, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Cecil Graf

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the minutes from the July 9, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the July 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Walter reported Larson continues to approve EQIP 2020 contracts.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared that he was approached about offering support for the Protecting Working Forestlands in the Blufflands: Trout, Turkeys & Timber FY21 Landscape Scale Restoration Grant. The three year grant would allow for hiring or contracting a forester to provide technical assistance for private lands.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving a letter of support.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported he followed up on a potential violation in the Pferrer Valley area. It was determined that no violation had occurred. He was also called to a site in La Crescent Township and a no loss process will be looked at.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated the roof structure is completed and the concrete was poured last week in the pit of the waste storage facility project.

- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported Scanlan attended a virtual meeting last week. Scanlan stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated sampling will continue into September.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Welke shared that he was in virtual attendance of the July 21st Area 7 Supervisor meeting. The connection was poor, so he was unable to participate for the full length of the meeting.

It was noted that the MASWCD Annual Convention will be held virtually this year and they will not be selecting a State Conservationist of the Year. The candidates that are eligible this year are welcome to participate in next year's selection for the State Conservationist of the Year.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving \$300 for a meal to honor our local conservationist of the year.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated in regards to the Klinski project NRCS is requesting additional changes to the engineer's plans. The emergency spillway location is a subject of concern. Scanlan stated that he will be discussing these changes with the watershed committee at their next meeting on August 21, 2020.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Scanlan stated on July 17th he, the IA State NRCS engineer, Corey Anderson (current landowner) and Larson met on-site (Site 3) to view the sinkhole and review plans for the project repair. The landowner has agreed to move forward with the project.

Winnebago – Walter stated design plans are finalized for the sinkhole treatment on the Koch site. He and Rochester will be reviewing the plans with the landowner.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated that he is working with several landowners and has numerous applications for cost share assistance approval later in the meeting.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with a landowner in Brownsville Twp. on a potential feedlot fix for a concentrated sediment area.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated a few projects are finishing and the yearly spot checks have looked good.
- **Stream Bank Revetment** – Scanlan shared the CCM crew installed cedar tree revetment in two locations for a landowner in Crooked Creek Township. Between the two sites approximately 400 to 500 feet of revetment was installed. The crew also removed woody debris from one of the Crooked Creek watershed sites (Shamrock Lake). The CCM crew has fulfilled their contract with us.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – No report.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.

- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated a stream bank project has just been completed in Money Creek Twp., a grade stabilization structure project has started in Yuctan Twp. and two grade stabilization structures are starting today in Black Hammer Twp. He shared that they are working with another landowner in La Crescent Twp. on a grade stabilization structure.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – Messner stated that a new grant will be brought forward to the board later in today’s meeting. She also stated that 2020 test kits will be sent by the lab to the volunteers later this month.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Walter shared to date 100 plans have been completed meeting the work plan goal for Root River SWCD. All additional plans that are completed will count towards the overall grant goal.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1WIP** – The application for grant funding is submitted.

Houston County Water Plan – Walter stated that the Water Plan committee did meet at the DNR garage site for their August meeting. They acted on budget changes to fund additional projects.

Old Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Memorandum of Agreement Between the USDA NRCS & State of MN, Root River SWCD

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network Agreement in the amount of \$2,200.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the FY18 Local Capacity Grant financial report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the FY19 Buffer Law Grant financial report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the SE SWCD Technical Support JPB & Root River SWCD Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in MN sub-agreement in the amount of \$99,465.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Root River SWCD 2021 proposed budget.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC	#01LMRFM	\$270,395.00	\$99,465.00	Waste Storage Facility	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share request for Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC contract #01LMRFM in the amount of \$99,465.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$13,000 (Flat Rate per acre)

Contract Cancellation - FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share

The board acknowledged contract #03FY19LC-CWMA Fitting Brothers expired effective 7/11/2020 and funds are available for re-allocation.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Fitting Brothers	09FY19LC-CWMA	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00 (\$100/acre @ 20 acres)	Brush Management	8/13/2021

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed cost share request for Fitting Brothers contract #09FY19LC-CWMA in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Ledeuhr, Larry	06FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	20 acres @ \$100/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Request = \$2,000.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Ledeuhr, Larry contract #06-FY19LC-CWMA \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$0.00

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$13,794.10

Cancellation Notification – FY20 State Cost Share

It was acknowledged by the board that Tim Nelson provided a cancellation notification for his pre-construction cover crop cost share in the amount of \$300.00 and the funds are available for re-allocation.

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2021) Available Funds \$0.00

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds \$82,726.06

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Kolsrud, Mark	06FY18LCM Grassed Waterways	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 4,050.00	\$4,050.00x 75% = \$3,037.50 Payment Request = \$3,037.50 Slippage for Reallocation = \$937.50

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Kolsrud, Mark contract #06FY18LCM \$3,037.50. Funds to be re-allocated total \$937.50.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Cancellation Notifications – FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share

It was acknowledged by the board that Mike Miller, contract #03FY201W1P, provided a cancellation notification for his grassed waterway project in the amount of \$2,880.00. EQIP has funded the project at a rate of 90% cost share or greater. The funds are available for re-allocation.

It was acknowledged by the board that Davison Properties, LLC, contract #06FY201W1P, provided a cancellation notification for his grassed waterway installations in the amount of \$6,593.40. EQIP has funded the project at a rate of 90% cost share or greater. The funds are available for re-allocation.

Funding Source Change

The board acknowledged a funding sources change for Klug, Steve contract #07FY201W1P shifting \$937.50 from FY201W1P to FY191W1P cost share fund.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Klug, Steve	07FY201W1P Grassed Waterway	\$ 14,348.00	\$ 10,482.18	\$10,482.18 x 90% = \$9,433.97 EQIP = \$ 7,234.32 Payment Request = \$2,199.65 Slippage for Reallocation = \$3,427.55

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed payment request and re-allocation of funds for Klug, Steve contract #07FY201W1P \$2,199.65. Funds to be re-allocated total \$3,427.55.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Hongerholt, Randy	#11 FY201W1P	\$6,845.96	\$1,309.89	Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share request for Randy Hongerholt contract #11FY201W1P in the amount of \$1,309.89.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$93,312** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$23,778** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$11,640** (Flat Rate)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	09FY20CC	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00 (\$40/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Kochie, Jon	10FY20CC	\$2,160.00	\$2,160.00 (\$40/acre @ 18 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Green, Valiree	11FY20CC	\$768.00	\$768.00 (\$40/acre @ 6.4 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Schroeder, Todd	12FY20CC	\$720.00	\$720.00 (\$40/acre @ 6 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20CC	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00 (\$40/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed cost share applications for McCormick, Connor contract #09FY20CC; Kochie, Jon contract #10FY20CC; Green, Valiree contract #11FY20CC; Schroeder, Todd contract #12FY20CC and Schroeder, Dean contract #13FY20CC.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	08FY20NT	\$840.00	\$840.00 (\$10/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Kochie, Jon	09FY20NT	\$540.00	\$540.00 (\$10/acre @ 18 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Green, Valiree	10FY20NT	\$192.00	\$192.00 (\$10/acre @ 6.4 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
King, Troy	11FY20NT	\$450.00	\$450.00 (\$10/acre @ 15 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Todd	12FY20NT	\$180.00	\$180.00 (\$10/acre @ 6 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20NT	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00 (\$10/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the above listed cost share applications for McCormick, Connor contract #08FY20NT; Kochie, Jon contract #09FY20NT; Green, Valiree contract #10FY20NT; King, Troy contract #11FY20NT; Schroeder, Todd contract #12FY20NT and Schroeder, Dean contract #13FY20NT.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20CC Cover Crops	\$ 8,160.00	\$ 8,160.00	68 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$8,160.00 Payment Request = \$8,160.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Meyer, Jordan contract #02FY20CC \$8,160.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Meyer, Jordan	02FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$ 2,040.00	\$ 2,040.00	68 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$2,040.00 Payment Request = \$2,040.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed payment request for Meyer, Jordan contract #02FY20NT \$2,040.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4244	Ron Carlsen – Rent – August	\$ 1,213.19
4245	VISA – Other Repairs & Maintenance – Grease & grease gun = \$59.86; Memorial Maynard Welscher = \$40.61; Adobe AcroPro Subscription - 12 months \$192.25	\$ 292.72
4246	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 259.22
4247	Houston County Treasurer – Field Supply – 8’ x 3’ Posts = 2 @ \$20.875	\$ 41.75
4248	Steve Klug – 07FY201W1P – Grassed Waterway	\$ 2,199.65
4249	Lind Awards – Memorial Plaque = \$18.79 (our half); Retirement plaque = \$35.44	\$ 54.23
4250	Mark Kolsrud - #06FY18LCM – Grassed Waterways	\$ 3,037.50
4251	Jordan Meyer #02FY20CC & #02FY20NT	\$ 10,200.00
4252	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 252.73
4253	Larry Ledebuhr - #06FY19LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00
	Total	\$ 19,550.99
	Investment Transfer of Funds (From Eitzen State Bank Savings Account 10033563 Investment - Capital Equipment to our Bank of the West Cash General Fund account)	\$20,060.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Accounts Payable for August 2020 and transfer of funds.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Welke and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, September 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 9-10-20
Date

Berna Kruse
Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD **September 10, 2020**

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on September 10, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Cecil Graf

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: **Motion** by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the minutes from the August 13, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: **Motion** by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the August 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported that he and staff are preparing CRP conservation plans. There are approximately 154 plans with a signing deadline of September 11, 2020. They have 40 – 50 to complete at this time.
- ❖ Larson stated there are 44 active EQIP contracts totaling \$1.2 million. EQIP 2021 applications are starting to come in.
- ❖ Larson shared that currently construction is going on a grade stabilization structure and many are scheduled for the fall.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter reported several of our presenters for 6th Grade Environmental Day are unable to take part due to restrictions related to COVID 19; therefore, we have cancelled this year's event.
- ❖ Walter updated the board regarding the Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in MN Grant that they approved at the August 13th meeting. The sub-agreement stated the incorrect dollar amount for the number of

animal units that the project funds were ear-tagged for. The amount is substantially less. During communications with BWSR relating to the situation with the sub-agreement, he learned that the state has \$260,000 that may be allocated. A portion of these funds may come through to backfill the funding difference of the sub-agreement. Meanwhile Walter stated the current option is to use Root River 1W1P project funds to offset the difference. Further action will occur later in today's meeting regarding an amendment to the sub-agreement.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – No report.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated the waste storage facility is nearing completion. The ramp into the pit will be constructed next week.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter reported the bylaw language will be changing in the near future. It will state the Policy Committee is making decisions instead of the government body.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated the last sampling scheduled for 2020 on the Pine Creek was conducted yesterday. All reporting will take place in October moving into November.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **Building Sites** – Walter shared there has recently been some building site issues in which the SWCD has been approached for input. In both cases the projects have already started. One is located in West Beaver and the other in Perkins Valley. Walter shared the circumstances of each project. Concern was voiced that the SWCD is being brought in while the projects are in progress instead of prior to the start of the projects. The projects have had to be halted in some instances.

MASWCD & MACDE

Messner stated that the MASWCD Annual Convention will be held virtually this year at no cost. Registration opened September 9, 2020.

Watershed Updates:

Croked Creek – Scanlan stated a special meeting was held regarding the Klinski project. NRCS has requested additional changes to the engineer's plan on the placement of the emergency spillway. The engineering firm is not comfortable with the change being requested and has asked that NRCS sign off on technical approval of the emergency spillway. NRCS was not in favor of this and stated that they would be willing to take on the project at no cost. Having several thousands of dollars invested in the engineering and design of the project, the committee has decided to stay with the engineering firm's design and forego NRCS funding on the project. They are moving forward with obtaining the necessary permits for the project. Their next regular meeting will be held September 18, 2020.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Kruse stated that he had received an email from the state of IA about the project. Larson indicated that a previous Operation & Maintenance Agreement was requested. It is thought that they are using a prior agreement to develop the new Operation & Maintenance Agreement for the Site 3 sinkhole repair project.

Winnebago – Walter stated design plans have been reviewed with the landowner and were found acceptable. Board supervisors inquired about the process that will be used to repair the sinkhole. Walter also shared that county levied Winnebago Watershed maintenance funds will be used as cost share on this project. Cost share will be at 100%.

Winnebago Watershed Operation & Maintenance Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Koch, Robert	01WinMtn	\$4,602.00	\$4,602.00	Karst Sinkhole Treatment	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the cost share request for Robert Koch contract #01WinMtn in the amount of \$4,602.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke Abstained: Graf Opposed: None Motion carried.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated a contracted producer organized aerial cover crop seeding. Any producer who was interested were welcomed to contact the organizer and take part. The charge was \$20/acre.

Producers are contacting the office regarding the program and are wanting to participate. Later in the meeting applications will be acted on. The applications if approved will use up the remaining funds available to allocate.

Scanlan shared that there is a lack of producer interest in the soil health testing cost share. He stated the soil health testing is an important component and has asked BWSR if the grant work plan could be altered allowing SWCD staff to do the sampling and sending samples to the lab for analysis. BWSR has agreed to the work plan change.

- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported currently he has one producer to contact.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – No report.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter stated buffer follow up will take place when crops are off.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated a grade stabilization project is underway in Yucatan Twp. and two grade stabilization structures are also being constructed in Black Hammer Twp. He shared that survey and design work are being done other projects.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – No report.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Walter shared to date 120 plans have been completed exceeding the work plan goal for our office. The additional plans will be credited to the overall goal of the grant work plan. Walter stated with COVID 19 they have not been able to host any workshops.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1W1P** – The grant application was approved. Winona SWCD will be the lead and we will be the fiscal agent for the grant. Walter indicated there will be a teleconference meeting with this group on September 15th and will be discussing laying the foundation for this 1W1P policy. Walter shared that we will need to have a board supervisor on the Policy Committee and stated that Welke would be the likely choice seeing it involves his district.

Houston County Water Plan – Messner shared several projects were completed during the past month. She also indicated they approved their budget for 2021.

Old Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving an amended 2021 budget.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Notice of Grant & Agreement Award for the Bear Creek Site 3 project. Grant amount \$159,980.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving an Agreement for Contribution Between Technical Service Areas & Root River SWCD referencing a lease agreement for Rochester’s office space.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the amended FY20 Non-Structural Land Management Practices (NLMP) Implementation Plan.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the FY21 Non-Structural Land Management Practices (NLMP) Implementation Plan.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Sub-Agreement Between SE SWCD Technical Support JPB and Root River SWCD in the amount of \$2,191.74 for the engineering phase of the Olinger project.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving Amendment 1 to Sub-Agreement Between SE SWCD Technical Support JPB and Root River SWCD in the amount of \$48,026.25 for the construction phase of the Hoscheit project.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the 2019 Representation Letter that accompanies our 2019 Financial Statements.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

BRIDGE CREEK COST SHARE PROGRAM

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an amendment request for Contract #28BC Olson, Clair extending the completion date of the project from 9/10/2020 to 11/30/2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Bridge Creek Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Olson, Clair	27BC Waste Storage Facility Engineering	\$ 28,700.00	\$ 23,210.62	\$23,210.62 x 50% = \$11,605.31 Payment Request = \$11,605.31 Slippage for Re-allocation = \$2,744.69

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving payment in the amount of \$11,605.31 and re-allocation of slippage funds for contract #27BC Olson, Clair.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source*)

FY19 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/21*) – Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$13,794.10**

FY19 State Cost Share Payment Request and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Skifton, Gerald	10-RCPP1W1P Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 29,967.00	\$ 25,904.62	\$25,904.62 x 90% = \$23,314.16 EQIP = \$13,085.86 Payment Request = \$10,228.60 Slippage for Re-allocation from RCPP1W1P = \$3,897.70

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving payment in the amount of \$10,228.60 and re-allocation of slippage funds for contract #10-RCPP1W1P Skifton, Gerald.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 State Cost Share Request (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source*)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Leary, Richard	01FY20CS	\$4,950.00	\$3,712.50	Terraces	12/31/2020
Troendle, Ron	02FY20CS	\$4,686.00	\$3,514.50	Terraces	12/31/2020

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving contract #01FY20CS Leary, Richard \$3,712.50 and contract #02FY20CS Troendle, Ron \$4,686.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (*Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source*)

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2021*) Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2022*) Available Funds **\$84,578.10**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Amendment Requests

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the following amendment requests:

- ❖ Contract #04-RCPP1W1P Swenson, Craig extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020.
- ❖ Contract #09FY201W1P Olson, Porteous extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 6/1/2021.
- ❖ Contract #10FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020.
- ❖ Contract #11FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020.
- ❖ Contract #01-RCPP1W1P Hammel, Ralph extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020.
- ❖ Contract #02-RCPP1W1P Hammel, Ralph extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an amendment request for contract #03-RCPP1W1P Hammel, Ralph extending project completion date from 9/10/2020 to 12/31/2020 and to amend the cost share amount from \$2,769 to \$5,289 an increase of \$2,520.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Moldenhauer, Steve	12FY201W1P	\$16,000.00	\$9,333.00	Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2020

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving contract #12FY201W1P Moldenhauer, Steve in the amount of \$9,333.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

The board acknowledged a funding source change for contract #10FY201W1P Emmerick, Earl moving \$3,512.11 from FY19 RCPP1W1P to FY20 1W1P.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving an amendment request for contract #07-RCPP1W1P Van Gundy, Jason increasing cost share amount from \$12,351.64 to \$19,761.45 an increase of \$7,409.81.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Van Gundy, Jason	07-RCPP1W1P Stream Bank Restoration	\$ 61,586.53	\$ 61,586.53	\$61,586.53 x 90% = \$55,427.87 EQIP = \$35,666.42 Payment Request = \$19,761.45

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving payment in the amount of \$19,761.45 for contract #07-RCPP1W1P Van Gundy, Jason.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2020) – Available Funds \$ 0
FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering - (Grant expiration 12/31/2020) – Available Funds \$ 2,000.00

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving an amendment request for contract #01LMRFM Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC increasing cost share amount from \$99,465 to \$108,879.50 and changing the funding source reflecting \$48,026.25 allocated from Amendment #1 FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share and \$60,853.25 from FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Olinger, Brad	01FY20RCPP Feedlot - Engineering	\$1,750.00	\$1,312.50	Waste Facility Cover – Engineering Phase	12/31/2020

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the \$1,312.50 cost share request for contract #01FY20RCPP Feedlot-Engineering Olinger, Brad. Contingent upon technical assessment and cost estimate signature.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$93,312 (Flat Rate per acre)
FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$23,778 (Flat Rate per acre)
FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Soil Health Testing (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$11,640 (Flat Rate)

The board acknowledged the cancellation notification for contract #01 FY20SH Meyer, Jordan in the amount of \$360.00.

The board acknowledge the following pre-approved contracts by Board Chair, Kruse.

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	14FY20CC	\$4,320.00	\$4,320.00 (\$40/acre @ 36 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
McCormick, Kevin	16FY20CC	\$3,960.00	\$3,960.00 (\$40/acre @ 33 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Hendel, Karl & Matt	17FY20CC	\$7,320.00	\$7,320.00 (\$40/acre @ 61 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Hendel, Karl & Matt	18FY20CC	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00 (\$40/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Tessmer, Dave	21FY20CC	\$8,424.00	\$8,424.00 (\$40/acre @ 70.2 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

The board acknowledge the following pre-approved contracts by Board Chair, Kruse.

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
McCormick, Connor	14FY20NT	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00 (\$10/acre @ 36 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
McCormick, Kevin	16FY20NT	\$990.00	\$990.00 (\$10/acre @ 33 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Hendel, Karl & Matt	17FY20NT	\$1,830.00	\$1,830.00 (\$10/acre @ 61 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Hendel, Karl & Matt	18FY20NT	\$840.00	\$840.00 (\$10/acre @ 28 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Tessmer, Dave	21FY20NT	\$2,106.00	\$2,106.00 (\$10/acre @ 70.2 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Schroeder, Todd	15FY20CC	\$4,920.00	\$4,920.00 (\$40/acre @ 41 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Johnson, Eric	19FY20CC	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00 (\$40/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Jason	20FY20CC	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00 (\$40/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs.)	Cover Crop	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke approving contract #15FY20CC Schroeder, Todd \$4,920.00; #19FY20CC Johnson, Eric \$18,000.00; #20FY20CC Schroeder, Jason \$18,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cover Crop Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Schroeder, Todd	15FY20NT	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00 (\$10/acre @ 41 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Johnson, Eric	19FY20NT	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00 (\$10/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022
Schroeder, Jason	20FY20NT	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00 (\$10/acre @ 150 acres x 3 yrs.)	Residue & Tillage Mgt. No-Till	11/1/2020, 11/1/2021, 11/1/2022

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving contract #15FY20NT Schroeder, Todd \$1,230.00; #19FY20NT Johnson, Eric \$4,500.00; #20FY20NT Schroeder, Jason \$4,500.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
King, Troy	08FY20CC Cover Crop	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	15 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,800.00 Payment Request = \$1,800.00
King, Cory	03FY20CC Cover Crop	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00	9 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,080.00 Payment Request = \$1,080.00
McCormick, Kevin	16FY20CC Cover Crop	\$3,960.00	\$3,960.00	33 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$3,960.00 Payment Request = \$3,960.00
Hendel, Karl & Matt	17FY20CC Cover Crop	\$7,320.00	\$7,320.00	61 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$7,320.00 Payment Request = \$7,320.00
McCormick, Connor	09FY20CC Cover Crop	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00	28 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$3,360.00 Payment Request = \$3,360.00
McCormick, Connor	14FY20CC Cover Crop	\$4,320.00	\$4,320.00	36 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,320.00 Payment Request = \$4,320.00

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving payment request for contract #08FY20CC King, Troy \$1,800; #03FY20CC King, Cory \$1,080; #16FY20CC McCormick, Kevin \$3,960; #17FY20CC Hendel, Karl & Matt \$7,320; #09FY20CC McCormick, Connor \$3,360 and #14FY20CC McCormick, Connor \$4,320.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
King, Troy	11FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$450.00	\$450.00	15 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$450.00 Payment Request = \$450.00
King, Cory	03FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$270.00	\$270.00	9 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$270.00 Payment Request = \$270.00
McCormick, Kevin	16FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$990.00	\$990.00	33 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$990.00 Payment Request = \$990.00
Hendel, Karl & Matt	17FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$1,830.00	\$1,830.00	61 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,830.00 Payment Request = \$1,830.00
McCormick, Connor	08FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$840.00	\$840.00	28 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$840.00 Payment Request = \$840.00

McCormick, Connor	14FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00	36 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,080.00 Payment Request = \$1,080.00
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Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving payment request for contract #11FY20NT King, Troy \$450; #03FY20NT King, Cory \$270; #16FY20NT McCormick, Kevin \$990; #17FY20NT Hendel, Karl & Matt \$1,830; #08FY20NT McCormick, Connor \$840 and #14FY20NT McCormick, Connor \$1,080.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,000** (Flat Rate per acre)

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable and investment transfers

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4254	Ron Carlsen – Rent – September	\$ 1,213.19
4255	Matt Feldmeier – Mileage - 108 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$62.10	\$ 62.10
4256	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 223.39
4257	Myron Mathison – Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4258	Jay Richards – Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4259	Talcott Resolution Life & Annuity Ins. Co. – Life Insurance – Walter, Dave	\$ 90.00
4260	Wayne Runnigen – Push-Up Pond (no pipe)	\$ 600.00
4261	SHI International Corp – 2 computers	\$ 1,348.54
4262	Ralph Felten – Push-Up Pond (no pipe)	\$ 600.00
4263	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 16.01
4264	Tony Wermager – Push-Up Pond (with pipe)	\$ 1,000.00
4265	Jason Van Gundy – Streambank Restoration #07-RCPP1W1P	\$ 19,761.45
4266	Gerald Skifton – Grade Stabilization Structure #10-RCPP1W1P	\$ 10,228.60
4267	Troy King – Cover Crop & No-Till #08FY20CC & #11FY20NT	\$ 2,250.00
4268	Petty Cash – SWAG Supplies	\$ 2.98
4269	Kevin McCormick - Cover Crop & No-Till #16FY20CC & #16FY20NT	\$ 4,950.00
4270	Karl & Matt Hendel - Cover Crop & No-Till #17FY20CC & #17FY20NT	\$ 9,150.00
4271	Connor McCormick - Cover Crop & No-Till #14FY20CC, #09FY20CC & #14FY20NT, #08FY20NT	\$ 9,600.00
4272	Cecil Graf – Mileage – 80 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$46.00	\$ 46.00
4273	Glenn Kruse – Mileage – 60 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$ 34.50	\$ 34.50
4274	Jerry Welke – Mileage – 150 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$86.25	\$ 86.25
4275	Clair Olson – Waste Storage Facility Engineering #27BC	\$ 11,605.31
4276	Cory King – Cover Crop & No-Till #03FY20CC & #03FY20NT	\$ 1,350.00
	Total	\$ 75,018.32

Motion by Welke, seconded by Feldmeier, approving the Accounts Payable for September 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, October 8, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 10-8-20
Date


Secretary



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1
Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

October 8, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on October 8, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier
Glenn Kruse
Roger Stenhoff

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf
Jerry Welke

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff; and Karen Stenhoff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the minutes from the September 10, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the September 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson shared that currently construction is going on two Ag waste facilities and eight to ten grade stabilization structures with various contractors are scheduled when crops are harvested.
- ❖ Larson stated EQIP 2021 application cut-off is November 20, 2020.
- ❖ Larson reported that CRP status reviews are being conducted.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter reviewed COVID 19 guidance for the USDA building. At this time we will be using the heated bay in the DNR garage to work with landowners as needed. Tables have been placed and flexi glass will be obtained. One landowner/producer is allowed in the building at a time if necessary. He also reviewed the guidelines for exposure and at what point the office would need to be closed.
- ❖ Walter reported the FY21 Local Capacity grant did not see a 25% reduction as anticipated. He stated that a work plan will be created for the funds. A portion of the funds will be used to complete follow-up work on existing perpetual RIM easements.

- ❖ Walter shared construction has been completed on a few projects and we are waiting to receive bills.
- ❖ Walter updated the board regarding the excess state funds, \$260,000. It appears that these funds will be released for cost share projects. This would allow us to use these funds towards the Hoscheit project freeing up project funds from the FY20 Root River 1W1P grant. He will keep us updated on this progress.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported work has started on the horse track in La Crescent Township and is looking good.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated construction on a waste storage facility is still in progress.
- **Root River 1W1P** – No report.
- **SWAG** – Walter indicated sampling for 2020 has been completed.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – Walter reported currently he is seeing duck hunters as well as fisherman at the landing sites.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Walter stated the MASWCD 2020 Resolution Packet are out and supervisor voting ballots should be returned to Messner prior to November 12, 2020.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated their next meeting is Friday, October 16, 2020. On the Klinski project, a payment was made to G-Cubed and the watershed will be reimbursed using Root River 1W1P funds earmarked specifically for this project.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Larson stated he recently provided a previous seeding plan for Site 3 to the IA NRCS group.

Winnebago – Walter stated he, technical staff and the contractor will be viewing the project site next week.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan stated producers continue to call for cost share assistance on implementing cover crops. Currently, there are 15 producers on a wait list.

Scanlan shared he has started the soil health sampling process. The samples are being sent to Ward Lab in NE. A second sampling will be conducted in year three.

- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with four producer in Brownsville Township.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – No report.

Scanlan shared that he will be sitting on a Technical and Educational Committee being formed by the Caledonia Ag teacher to update curriculum.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter stated buffer spot checks will be conducted yet this fall.
- **MN Land Trust** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated Meiners has been busy with survey and design work.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – No report.
- **Tree Program** – Messner shared her proposal for this year’s tree order and pricing.

Messner indicated that the 2019 Year End Financial Statement has been completed by the accountant. She supplied a written report to each of them. Messner stated if there were any questions regarding the statement to contact her.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Walter stated Wermager has been assisting with CRP status reviews and preparing conservation plans. To date we are beyond our plan’s goal.
- **Pine Creek/Whitewater 1WIP** – Walter indicated that he has been contacting individuals from our area to serve on the Policy Committee. The City of La Crescent has a representative, as well as our SWCD Board of Supervisors. A county commissioner will be appointed to serve on the committee.

Winona County would like to have a meet and greet for the Policy Committee in the near future.

Houston County Water Plan – Messner shared an infant well testing reimbursement is being requested and she has completed their FY19 Water Plan funding close out.

Old Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving Amendment 1 to the Sub-Agreement Between SE SWCD Technical Support JPB and Root River SWCD combining the engineering and technical phases; therefore, increasing the grant amount to \$158,831.41 and extending the grant expiration date to May 15, 2021.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving Amendment 2 to the Sub-Agreement Between SE SWCD Technical Support JPB and Root River SWCD. It amends the grant amount to \$51,502.95 for the construction phase of the Hoscheit project.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the FY19 State Cost Share Financial Report.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the MAWQCP Report of Work Completion.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the FY21 Local Capacity Grant \$116,434 and FY21 Buffer Law in the amount of \$17,200.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the 2021 tree order and pricing.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

BRIDGE CREEK COST SHARE PROGRAM - Available Funds \$2,744.69

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$6,867.10**

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$13,000** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share

The board acknowledged the expiration, effective 9/30/2020, of contract #05FY19LC-CWMA Gaustad, Larry in the amount of \$2,000.00.

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Gaustad, Larry	11FY19LC-CWMA	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Brush Management	10/8/2021

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving contract #11FY19LC-CWMA Gaustad, Larry in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2021) Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds **\$8,359.74**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Schmidt, Mike	13FY201W1P	\$7,190.00	\$1,546.00	Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2020

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving contract #13FY201W1P Schmidt, Mike in the amount of \$1,546.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Requests

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Green, Valiree	11FY20CC Cover Crop	\$ 768.00	\$ 768.00	6.4 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$768.00 Payment Request = \$768.00

Hendel, Karl & Matt	18FY20CC Cover Crop	\$3,360.00	\$3,360.00	28 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$3,360.00 Payment Request = \$3,360.00
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FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cost Share Payment Requests

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Green, Valiree	10FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$192.00	\$192.00	6.4 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$192.00 Payment Request = \$192.00
Hendel, Karl & Matt	18FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$840.00	\$840.00	28 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$840.00 Payment Request = \$840.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving payment request for contracts #11FY20CC Green, Valiree \$768; #18FY20CC Hendel, Karl & Matt \$3,360; #10FY20NT Green, Valiree \$192; #18FY20NT Hendel, Karl & Matt \$840.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/15/2022) – Available Funds \$ 0

FY17 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering & Construction - (Grant expiration 5/15/2021) Available Funds \$0

FY17 RCPP Feedlot Cost Share Request

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Olinger, Brad	#02FY17RCPP Feedlot – Construction	\$202,622.63	\$151,966.97	Waste Facility Cover	5/15/2021

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the \$151,966.97 cost share request for contract #02FY17RCPP Feedlot - Construction Olinger, Brad. Contingent upon Olinger moving forward with the project and technical assessment and cost estimate signature. Also, allowing board chair to sign the contract when all needed signatures are obtained.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4277	Ron Carlsen – Rent – October	\$ 1,213.19
4278	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 227.45
4279	Valiree Green – Cover Crop & No-Till #11FY20CC & #10FY20NT	\$ 1,344.00
4280	Andy Graf – Infant Well Test Reimbursement	\$ 25.00
4281	Karl & Matt Hendel - Cover Crop & No-Till #18FY20CC & #18FY20NT	\$ 4,200.00
4282	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 499.06
4283	VISA – Postage = \$55.00; Vehicle Maintenance GMC Oil Change = \$72.48; Cover Crop Soil Health Postage = \$42.25; Office Keys 12 @ \$3.50/each & tax = \$44.89	\$ 217.26
	Total	\$ 7,725.96

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff, approving the Accounts Payable for October 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse Opposed: None Motion carried.

A plaque was presented to Roger Stenhoff for eight years of service to the Root River SWCD Board of Supervisors. He has choose not to run for a third term.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Stenhoff to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Stenhoff and Kruse


Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, November 12, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 11-12-20
Date


~~Secretary~~ Char



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1
Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

November 12, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on November 12, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the October 8, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the October 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report – No report.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared there are eight to ten projects that are staked and ready to go. Currently, these projects are waiting for the contractor's availability. There are two waste storage facility projects that are near completion and a waste facility cover that is being constructed. Two grade stabilization structures have also been completed during the past month.

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported a DNR engineer's plan is being required for a swale on a new home construction in Sheldon Township.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated construction on a waste storage facility is nearing completion.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE

Messner stated the MASWCD 2020 Resolution Supervisor Voting Ballots are due today.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated their November 2020 meeting has been cancelled.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Scanlan reported request for bids has been mailed to approximately 50 contractors and a notice for bids will be published in two local newspapers for a period of three consecutive weeks. A site showing for the Site 3 sinkhole project will be held November 30th with a bid opening at noon on December 11, 2020.

Winnebago – No report.

Staff & Program Reports:**Bob Scanlan – Program Reports**

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan reported 1,100 acres of cover crops have been planted. One applicant has cancelled their cost share contract since they will not be the tenant in 2021. Scanlan reported that the new tenant has been contacted and would like to apply for the cover crop and no-till cost share on the 50 acres for 2021.

Scanlan shared he took soil samples and submitted to Ward Lab on ten farms. Results have been received on these locations. A second sampling will be done in 2023 to do a comparison of the soil's health after three years of cover crop and no-till.

- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported he is working with a couple of producers on potential feedlot fixes. Fifty percent cost share up to \$5,250 is available for each producer to address their runoff concerns.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he continues to work with interested landowners.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Scanlan reported Meiners has been checking buffers during the past month and flagging areas where work is needed.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – No report.
- **Tree Program** – Messner shared 250 tree order forms along with a fall newsletter were mailed out. She shared we have received six orders to date totaling 15 bundles with sales at \$555.00. Messner stated she has had two inquires for special orders.
- **2021 Envirothon** – Messner indicated that the 2021 Envirothon will be virtual this coming year. She stated teams that are interested in participating will be taking a test and the top teams will do a video for oral presentation which will be considered the State competition. This coming year's competition will be limited to senior high teams only. Team registration deadline is December 1, 2020.

Messner informed the board that she participated in some of this year's BWSR Academy administrative sessions. The sessions were virtual and at no charge.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager shared that he has completed a second contact to all the landowners in the grant's targeted area. Five hundred and eleven landowners were contacted. Over the past two

weeks he reported that he contacted sixty landowners and set appointments to do walkovers with two of the landowners that he contacted. Wermager stated he has also been assisting with the CRP and EQIP work load.

- **Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P** – Wermager stated Winona County is the lead and we are the fiscal agent. A virtual meet and greet will be held in early December with the purpose of introducing everyone participating on the Policy Committee to each other. Welke will be representing the SWCD on the Policy Committee and Matt Feldmeier will be the alternate.
A Memorandum of Agreement was reviewed and approved by our county attorney and has been sent in.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager reported on November 23rd an in person Policy Committee will be held. They will review budget and financial reporting.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared two additional push-up ponds are going in as weather allows. One landowner recently backed out and one additional pond is scheduled to start construction in a few weeks. Wermager stated two additional pond clean outs are also slated for 2020.

Old Business

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving Amendment 3 to the Sub-Agreement Between SE SWCD Technical Support JPB and Root River SWCD P20-1006 (Hoscheit) amending the grant amount to \$112,356.20 (\$108,879.50 financial assistance; \$3,476.70 SWCD technical assistance).

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

New Business - None

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (*Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source*)

FY19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2021*) Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2022*) Available Funds **\$6,813.74**

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source*)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (*Grant expiration 12/31/21*) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (*Flat Rate per acre*)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$13,000** (*Flat Rate per acre*)

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share – (*Grant expiration 12/15/2022*) – Available Funds **\$ 0**

FY17 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering - (*Grant expiration 5/15/2021*) Available Funds **\$0**

BRIDGE CREEK COST SHARE PROGRAM - Available Funds **\$2,744.69**

Bridge Creek Amendment Request

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the amendment request for contract #28BC Olson, Clair to extend the completion date of the project from 11/30/2020 to 12/31/2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source*)

FY20 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$6,867.10**

FY20 State Cost Share Payment Request and Re-Allocation of Funds

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Troendle, Ron	02FY20CS Terraces	\$ 4,686.00	\$ 2,640.30	\$2,640.30 @ 75% = \$1,980.23 Payment Request = \$1,980.23 Slippage for Re-Allocation = \$1,534.27

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving payment for contract #02FY20CS Troendle, Ron in the amount of \$1,980.23 and re-allocation of slippage in the amount of \$1,534.27.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 State Cost Share Payment Request and Re-Allocation of Funds

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Leary, Richard	01FY20CS Terraces	\$ 4,950.00	\$ 2,925.00	\$2,925.00 @ 75% = \$2,193.75 Payment Request = \$2,193.75 Slippage for Re-Allocation = \$1,518.75

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving payment for contract #01FY20CS Leary, Richard in the amount of \$2,193.75 and re-allocation of slippage in the amount of \$1,518.75 contingent upon verification that project meets NRCS Standards and Specifications.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cancellation Request

It was noted contract #05FY20CC & #05FY20NT Gerard, Jeff in the amounts of \$6,000.00 and \$1,500.00 respectively are cancelled upon the applicant's request.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Mierau, Robert	07FY20CC Cover Crop	\$ 4,320.00	\$ 4,320.00	36 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,320.00 Payment Request = \$4,320.00
Mierau, Karsen	06FY20CC Cover Crop	\$5,328.00	\$5,328.00	44.4 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$5,328.00 Payment Request = \$5,328.00
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20CC Cover Crop	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	150 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$18,000.00 Payment Request = \$18,000.00
Koch, Bob	04FY20CC Cover Crop	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	100 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$12,000.00 Payment Request = \$12,000.00
Gerard, Jeff	01FY20CC Cover Crop	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	100 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$12,000.00 Payment Request = \$12,000.00
Kochie, Jon	10FY20CC Cover Crop	\$2,160.00	\$2,160.00	18 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$2,160.00 Payment Request = \$2,160.00
Johnson, Eric	19FY20CC Cover Crop	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	150 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$18,000.00 Payment Request = \$18,000.00

Tessmer, Dave	21FY20CC Cover Crop	\$8,424.00	\$8,424.00	70.2 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$8,424.00 Payment Request = \$8,424.00
Schroeder, Jason	20FY20CC Cover Crop	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	150 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$18,000.00 Payment Request = \$18,000.00
Schroeder, Todd	12FY20CC Cover Crop	\$720.00	\$720.00	6 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$720.00 Payment Request = \$720.00
Schroeder, Todd	15FY20CC Cover Crop	\$4,920.00	\$4,920.00	41 acres @ \$40.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,920.00 Payment Request = \$4,920.00

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the payment requests for contract #07FY20CC Mireau, Robert \$4,320; #06FY20CC Mireau, Karsen \$5,328; #13FY20CC Schroeder, Dean \$18,000; #04FY20CC Koch, Bob \$12,000; #01FY20CC Gerard, Jeff \$12,000; #10FY20CC Kochie, Jon \$2,160; #19FY20CC Johnson, Eric \$18,000; #21FY20CC Tessmer, Dave \$8,424; #20FY20CC Schroeder, Jason \$18,000; #12FY20CC Schroeder, Todd \$720; #15FY20CC Schroeder, Todd \$4,920.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-Till Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Mierau, Robert	07FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00	36 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,080.00 Payment Request = \$1,080.00
Mierau, Karsen	06FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$1,332.00	\$1,332.00	44.4 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,332.00 Payment Request = \$1,332.00
Schroeder, Dean	13FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	150 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,500.00 Payment Request = \$4,500.00
Koch, Bob	04FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	100 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$3,000.00 Payment Request = \$3,000.00
Gerard, Jeff	01FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	100 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$3,000.00 Payment Request = \$3,000.00
Kochie, Jon	09FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$540.00	\$540.00	18 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$540.00 Payment Request = \$540.00
Johnson, Eric	19FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	150 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,500.00 Payment Request = \$4,500.00
Tessmer, Dave	21FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$2,106.00	\$2,106.00	70.2 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$2,106.00 Payment Request = \$2,106.00
Schroeder, Jason	20FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	150 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$4,500.00 Payment Request = \$4,500.00
Schroeder, Todd	12FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$180.00	\$180.00	6 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$180.00 Payment Request = \$180.00
Schroeder, Todd	15FY20NT Residue & Tillage Mgmt. No-Till	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00	41 acres @ \$10.00/acre x 3 years = \$1,230.00 Payment Request = \$1,230.00

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the payments requests for contract #07FY20NT Mireau, Robert \$1,080; #06FY20NT Mireau, Karsen \$1,332; #13FY20NT Schroeder, Dean \$4,500; #04FY20NT Koch, Bob \$3,000; #01FY20NT Gerard, Jeff \$3,000; #09FY20NT Kochie, Jon \$540; #19FY20NT Johnson, Eric \$4,500; #21FY20NT Tessmer, Dave \$2,106; #20FY20NT Schroeder, Jason \$4,500; #12FY20NT Schroeder, Todd \$180; #15FY20NT Schroeder, Todd \$1,230.00.
 Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4284	Ron Carlsen – Rent – November	\$ 1,213.19
4285	VISA – Cover Crop Soil Sampling Postage = \$95.50; Postage = \$181.50; Tree Postage = \$165.00; Buffer Law – Field Equipment = \$160.75	\$ 602.75
4286	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 210.99
4287	Ward Laboratories, Inc. – Cover Crop Soil Health - Samplings	\$ 1,980.00
4288	Sleepy Hollow Chevrolet Buick Inc. – Vehicle Maintenance – 2020 Dodge Oil Change	\$ 41.97
4289	Bob Mireau - Cover Crop & No-Till #07FY20CC & #07FY20NT	\$ 5,400.00
4290	Karsen Mireau – Cover Crop & No-Till #06FY20CC & #06FY20NT	\$ 6,660.00
4291	Richard Leary - #01FY20CS - Terraces	\$ 2,193.75
4292	Dean Schroeder – Cover Crop & No-Till #13FY20CC & #13FY20NT	\$ 22,500.00
4293	Bob Koch – Cover Crop & No-Till #04FY20CC & #04FY20NT	\$ 15,000.00
4294	Jeff Gerard – Cover Crop & No-Till #01FY20CC & #01FY20NT	\$ 15,000.00
4295	Jon Kochie – Cover Crop & No-Till #10FY20CC & #09FY20NT	\$ 2,700.00
4296	Eric Johnson – Cover Crop & No-Till #19FY20CC & #19FY20NT	\$ 22,500.00
4297	Dave Tessmer – Cover Crop & No-Till #21FY20CC & #21FY20NT	\$ 10,530.00
4298	Jason Schroeder – Cover Crop & No-Till #20FY20CC & #20FY20NT	\$ 22,500.00
4299	Ron Troendle - #02FY20CS – Terraces	\$ 1,980.23
4300	Dan Wermager – WCPI Mileage Reimbursement = 21 miles @ \$0.575	\$ 12.08
4301	Todd Schroeder – Cover Crop & No-Till #12 & #15FY20CC & #12 & #15FY20NT	\$ 7,050.00
4302	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 796.17
4303	Lind Awards – Conservationist of the Year Plaque	\$ 37.58
4304	MN Dept. of Agriculture – Tree Sales License Renewal	\$ 250.00
4305	Blackburn Manufacturing – Buffer Field Supply – Flags	\$ 87.33
4306	Peterson Company Ltd. – 2019 Year End Audit	\$ 3,075.00
4307	Houston County Ag Society – Cover Crop Equipment Storage Rent	\$ 126.00
	Total	\$ 142,447.04

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the Accounts Payable for November 2020.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke to adjourn the meeting.

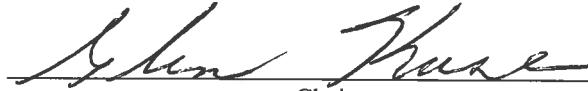
Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, December 10, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

12-11-20
Date


Chair



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 Ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/department/soil-and-water/>

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

December 10, 2020

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on December 10, 2020 in the DNR Forestry garage in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Kruse called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Members Present:

Matt Feldmeier

Cecil Graf

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Roger Stenhoff

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Gary Larson, NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the minutes from the November 12, 2020 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the Employee Time Records and Supervisors per diems.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Feldmeier requested that the November 2020 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported he has 26 applications and four RCPP for 2021 EQIP. Practices include prescribed grazing, streambank restoration, forestry, wildlife habitat management, manure storage and the regular grade stabilization structures, waterways and diversions.
- ❖ Larson shared that there will likely be a CRP sign up after the first of the year.
- ❖ Larson extended a thank you to Scanlan for heading up the Bear Creek repair project.

Dave Walter, SWCD District Manager Report

Program Reports:

- **WCA** – Walter reported he was alerted about a concern in Brownsville Township. After visiting the site he found no violation.
- **Bridge Creek** – Walter stated the fence on the manure waste storage facility was all that remained to complete this project.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter share that a Policy Committee meeting was held on November 23, 2020. During this meeting, it was decided that the Policy Committee should review projects instead of giving final approval to pay on

invoiced projects. This will allow the grant's financial representative to pay invoiced projects when the invoice is received instead of waiting until a Policy Committee meeting.

- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – Walter reported a few applications are in that will be worked on next month.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated the manure storage facility in Mayville Township is complete. He indicated that there were overruns on the project and they have been justified by the TSA sub-contractor.

A waste facility cover in Crooked Creek Township is underway. The concrete for the project is poured.

A grade stabilization structure was installed in Black Hammer Township and a rock shoot project in Sheldon Township is being constructed.

MASWCD

Kruse and Welke shared they participated in the MASWCD 2020 Annual Convention on December 8, 2020. A new president and vice president were elected and resolutions approved.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan stated their December meeting will be held at the Freeburg School.

Bee & Duck Creek – No report.

Bear Creek – Scanlan reported the bid opening for the sinkhole repair project will be held Friday, December 11th at noon.

Winnebago – Walter reported that the landowner met with the contractor on a sinkhole project located on one of the Winnebago Watershed project sites. Construction is scheduled to begin on Monday, December 14, 2020.

Staff & Program Reports:

Bob Scanlan – Program Reports

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan reported with the mild weather he is seeing some of the cover crops that were planted are starting to green up.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported a feedlot fix project in Brownsville Township has been completed.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated a project in Union Township was finished.
- **Conservationist of the Year** – Scanlan suggested since we are unable to hold an honorary recognition this year that perhaps we offer the recipient a monetary gift. The board suggested that we wait till spring to see if a recognition event could be held then.

Scanlan stated that he and Wermager attended the Soil Health Summit. He also informed the board a producer in Crooked Creek Township has applied for the MN Department of Ag No-Till Grant and was asked to provide assistance as needed with forage measuring and soil sampling. Scanlan shared that he has submitted a grant application for the CCM crew for 2021. He explained that the streambank revetment work has not had any recent requests, so he applied for maintenance assistance on the Crooked Creek Watershed structures.

Scanlan shared that he has also been working on a prescribed grazing project.

Jean Meiners – Staff & Program Reports

- **Buffer Implementation** – Walter reported Meiners is working with a landowner in Yucatan Township to re-establish a buffer.

Walter stated that Meiners has also been doing survey and design work.

Janice Messner – Staff & Program Report

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network** – No report.
- **Tree Program** – Messner shared that 20 tree orders have been received, consisting of the sale of 1,600 trees.

MACDE

Messner share she participated in the MACDE meeting held December 8, 2020. She stated Kyle Weiman of Stearns SWCD was named Outstanding Employee. She shared that many of the areas in the state were reporting an increase in landowner inquires regarding resource concerns.

Messner informed the board that she participated in a free Zoom training offered by University of MN and MASWCD.

Dan Wermager, Technician - Program Reports

- **WCPI (Watershed Coordinator Planner Initiative)** – Wermager shared that the outreach goal has been completed for the grant and walk overs have declined. He indicated a new priority area has been designated and focuses on the Riceford project area.
- **Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P** – Wermager stated a Policy Committee meeting will be held virtually on December 14, 2020.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager shared during the Policy Committee meeting they added two BMPs for 1W1P. The BMPs are Pre-Construction Cover and Prairie Stripping.

Wermager shared that he participated in a silvopasture webinar. He stated that silvopasture is a new NRCS BMP practice focusing on pasturing within trees. Wermager reported that he has been providing EQIP application assistance to the NRCS staff, checking design plans and helped lay some contour strips.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager shared that 2020 project installation went well. Ten push-up ponds were planned. Seven are completed with an additional one near completion. Six pond clean outs were planned and four were completed. He stated the committee talked about changing their meetings to every other month. This will be brought to a vote at the January 2021 meeting.

Old Business – None to report.

New Business

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an Approval Authorization for Dave Walter on cost share applications and amendment requests with the condition of discussing each authorization with the board chair or vice chair prior to the authorization. Signing authority expires December 31, 2021.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving the 2021 MACDE Annual Membership dues of \$25.00 per staff member.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the 2021 Envirothon dues of \$175.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an authorization signature by Kruse then Messner, if Kruse is not available, on the WCPI Financial Report upon its completion.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM (*Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source*)

FY18-19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (RCPP) (*Grant expiration 10/31/2021*) Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2022*) Available Funds **\$6,813.74**

Funding Source Changes

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke, approving the following funding source changes:

Contract #10FY20 W1P Emerick, Earl moving \$11,529.65 from FY19 RCPP1W1P to FY201W1P.

Contract #13FY201W1P Schmidt, Mike moving \$1,546.00 from FY201W1P to FY19 RCPP1W1P.

Contract #13FY17LC Nelson, Tim moving \$4,800.42 from FY201W1P to FY19 RCPP1W1P.

Contract #01FY18LCM Betz, Mitch moving \$4,253.64 from FY201W1P to FY19 RCPP1W1P.

Contract #10FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP moving \$836.28 from FY201W1P to FY19 RCPP1W1P.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY18-19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an amendment request for contract #01FY18LCM Betz, Mitch increasing the cost estimate from \$10,100 to \$10,900 and increase cost share from \$4,253.64 to \$4,346.95 for the project.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY18-19 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Implementation Cost Share Payment Requests and Re-allocation of Slippage

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Schmidt, Mike	13FY201W1P Grade Stabilization Structure	\$7,190.00	\$7,190.00	\$7,190.00 x 90% = \$6,471.00 EQIP = \$4,925.00 Payment Request = \$1,546.00
Betz, Mitch	01FY18LCM Grade Stabilization Structure	\$10,590.00	\$10,588.13	\$10,588.13 x 90% = \$9,529.32 EQIP = \$4,925.87 Payment Request = \$4,346.95
Nelson, Tim	13FY17LC Grade Stabilization Structure	\$22,800.00	\$21,869.02	\$21,869.02 x 90% = \$19,682.12 EQIP = \$14,881.70 Payment Request = \$4,800.42 Slippage for Re-allocation = \$1,110.58
Dahl Creek Farms LLP	10FY17LC Grade Stabilization Structure	\$9,212.45	\$9,145.97	\$9,145.97 x 90% = \$8,231.38 EQIP = \$7,395.10 Payment Request = \$836.28 Slippage for Re-allocation = \$104.63

Motion by Graf, seconded by Feldmeier, approving payment for contract #13FY201W1P Schmidt, Mike \$1,546.00; #01FY18LCM Betz, Mitch \$4,346.95; #13FY17LC Nelson Tim \$4,800.42 and re-allocating slippage of \$1,110.58; #10FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP \$836.28 and re-allocating slippage of \$104.63.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY18-19 & FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share Amendment Requests

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf approving amendment requests for contract #10FY201W1P Emerick, Earl, #12FY201W1P Moldenhauer, Steve, #11FY201W1P Hongerholt, Randy, #11FY17LC Dahl Creek Farms LLP extending the completion date of their projects from 12/31/2020 to 6/10/2021 and for contract #04RCPP1W1P Swenson, Craig extending the project completion date from 12/31/2020 to 6/10/2021 contingent upon obtaining technical representative's signature.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share Cancellation Request

Messner indicated that a cancellation request was received for contracts #01RCPP1W1P, #02RCPP1W1P and #03RCPP1W1P Hammel, Ralph. Walter stated Gary Larson, NRCS, had contacted Hammel after the cancellation request was submitted about not cancelling his projects. Walter indicated that Hammel is planning to move forward with his projects. The Board mutually agreed to table Hammel's cancellation requests.

WINNEBAGO WATERSHED OPERATION & MAINTENANCE COST SHARE

Winnebago Watershed Operation & Maintenance Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving and amendment request for contract #01 WinMtn Koch, Robert to extend the project completion date from 12/31/2020 to 6/10/2021.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY19 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/21) – Available Funds \$ 0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$13,000 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual	Request
Bauer, Steve	01FY20LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	20 acres x \$100/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Request = \$2,000.00

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke approving payment for contract #01FY20LC-CWMA Bauer, Steve in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER FEEDLOT MANAGEMENT COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/15/2022) – Available Funds \$ 60,853.25

FY17 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering - (Grant expiration 5/15/2021) Available Funds \$0

FY17 Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management Cost Share Engineering Amendment Request

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving an amendment request for contract #01 FY17RCPP Feedlot-Engineering Olinger, Brad to extend the project completion date from 12/31/2020 to 4/8/2021.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

BRIDGE CREEK COST SHARE PROGRAM - Available Funds \$2,744.69

COVER CROP DEMO COST SHARE PROGRAM

FY20 Cover Crop Demo - Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$ 6,000.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY20 Cover Crop Demo – No-till Cover Crop Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$1,500.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

FY20 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$9,920.12

Committee Reports

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA COMMITTEE: No report.

*****Accounts Payable:*****

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4308	Ron Carlsen – Rent – December	\$ 1,213.19
4309	VISA – Postage = \$25.14; MASWCD Annual Convention Registration = \$120.00; Soil Health	\$ 195.14

	Summit – WCPI = \$50.00	
4310	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 249.71
4311	Mike Schmidt - #13FY201W1P Grade Stab Structure = \$1,546.00; Push-Up Pond = \$600.00	\$ 2,146.00
4312	Talcott Resolution Life & Annuity Ins. Co. – Life Insurance Policy #LU1188704 Walter, Dave	\$ 90.00
4313	Houston County Recorder/Abstractor – Copy Warranty Deed Guyer - RIM	\$ 6.00
4314	Steve Bauer - #01FY20LC-CWMA – Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00
4315	Crooked Creek Watershed District – 1W1P – Capital Improvement Project (G-Cubed Reimbursement)	\$ 10,200.00
4316	ECM Publishers, Inc. – Invitation to Bid Bear Creek – 3 wk run	\$ 175.50
4317	Tim Nelson - #13FY17LC – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 4,800.42
4318	Mitch Betz - #01FY18LCM – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 4,346.95
4319	MCIT – Worker’s Comp Audit 2020 – Additional Amount Due	\$ 143.00
4320	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 518.95
4321	Matt Feldmeier – Mileage - 72 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$41.40	\$ 41.40
4322	Cecil Graf – Mileage – 80 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$46.00	\$ 46.00
4323	Glenn Kruse – Mileage – 80 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$ 46.00	\$ 46.00
4324	Roger Stenhoff – Mileage – 32 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$18.40	\$ 18.40
4325	Jerry Welke – Mileage – 90 miles @ \$0.575/mi = \$34.50	\$ 51.75
4326	Paul Hagen – Push-Up Pond no pipe	\$ 600.00
4327	Dahl Creek Farms LLP - #10FY17LC – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 836.28
4328	Petty Cash – Cover Crop Field Supply = \$5.34; Vehicle Maintenance Cash Wash = \$10.00; Cover Crop Postage = \$9.70	\$ 25.04
4329	Matt Schultz – Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4330	Goodhue County SWCD – 2021 Envirothon Dues	\$ 175.00
4331	Dan Cibulka, MACDE Treasurer – MACDE 2021 Membership Dues	\$ 125.00
	Total	\$ 28,449.73
Transfer of Funds	Houston County Treasurer – Cash to Investment 10033589 Designated Reserve	\$ 7,144.00

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Graf, approving the Accounts Payable for December 2020 and request to transfer funds from Cash-General Fund to Designated Reserve fund.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Committee Report

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Staff voluntarily exited the meeting. Employee evaluations were reviewed with the board. Staff returned to the meeting.

Motion by Feldmeier, seconded by Welke to adjourn the meeting.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Graf and Welke Opposed: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Regular Board Meeting - Thursday, January 14, 2021, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

1-14-21
Date

Glenn Kruse
Chair