



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

January 13, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on January 13, 2022 in the DNR garage at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Outgoing Vice Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson
Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

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

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers & Appointments:

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving Matt Feldmeier as the 2022 Chair; Jerry Welke, Vice-Chair; Glenn Kruse, Secretary; Ken Anderson, Treasurer and Cecil Graf, Reporter.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Feldmeier presided over the meeting as chair.

Graf joined the meeting.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the following Committee Appointments for 2022:

Finance Committee: Anderson & Kruse

Personnel Committee: Welke & Graf

TSA Committee [formerly JPB]: Welke

One Watershed, One Plan: Kruse

Alternate: Graf

Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P: Welke

Alternate: Feldmeier

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting Date & Time: **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Welke, 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: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the December 9, 2021 board meeting.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.

Employee Time Records & Supervisor Per Diems: Motion by Kruse, seconded by Graf, approving the Employee Time Records.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Monthly Report: Anderson requested the December 2021 report be placed on file for audit.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, 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: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried

Agency Report:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Walter reported on Larson’s behalf stating there are 40 EQIP 2022 applications submitted.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared in a recent release titled “Know and Understand Board Supervisor Election Options” it was suggested that each SWCD bring this forward for their boards to review the options and approve one. The following options were shared.
 - **Option 1** (Supervisors elected *at large* – Minnesota Statute 103C.311 subd. 1) provides for the establishment of nominating districts that determine who will be on the general election ballot for vote by the general electorate of the county. These nominating districts have historically reflected the natural resource diversity of the county. They have not been focused on the distribution of population, but on distribution of supervisors geographically across the county so board members have a better chance at being physically closer to and personally aware of the natural resource issues across the county. Under this option, all eligible voters within the county may vote for all SWCD supervisors.
 - **Option 2** (Supervisors elected *by districts* – Minnesota Statute 103C.311 subd. 2) provides discretionary authority for SWCDs (mandatory for SWCDs in the 7-county metro area), with the approval of the Board of Water and Soil Resources, to change from the current countywide election of supervisors to election by a nominating district. If an SWCD chooses to move to election by a district, the district boundaries must be drawn by the county board, in consultation with the SWCD board and then with approval by BWSR. The boundaries need to be compact, include only contiguous territory, and be substantially equal in population, and therefore reviewed after each decennial federal census. This option allows the number of supervisors to be greater than five in counties with more than five county commissioner districts, such as Dakota, Ramsey, Hennepin, and St. Louis. This option tends to reflect the distribution of the population.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving Option 1 for the SWCD.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.

- ❖ Walter stated a staff meeting was recently conducted. He and staff are working on project designs, while Scanlan and Wermager are working on grant applications.

Program Reports

- **Surface Water Assessment Grant (WinLaC Chloride Testing)** – Walter shared that he and Wermager will be sampling Pine Creek and a few locations in Winona County.
- **WCA** – Walter reported in Crooked Creek Township he is working with a landowner on a cattle crossing through a wetland area to get to needed pasture area. He stated during the winter months he also meets with the county’s Hwy. Dept. on upcoming projects for the spring and summer.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter stated he, Scanlan, Messner and Welke attended the annual MASWCD State Convention on December 14, 2021. Messner, Scanlan and Walter attended morning training sessions and Welke attended the business meeting. Gerard & Tollefsrud were not able to attend due to a fall the morning of the awards program.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan reported Crooked Creek Watershed has put together an amendment for their contract with Generation X on the pond at the Klinski site. It reflects various changes that are implemented to the project. The amendment has been signed by the engineer and the contractor will be signing and returning it. Their board will act on the amendment at their January 14, 2022 meeting. Scanlan stated the remaining work on the project will be completed at the end of next summer.

Bear Creek – No report.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

Scanlan stated overall most of his programs have been slow at the moment.

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – No report.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan stated the 319 funding has seen a few changes and funds have been redistributed. Houston County now has \$1,101.43 for technical assistance. An increase in the amount of cost share per applicant has went from 50% to 75% and the number of animal units was lifted from 500 to 1,000. All projects must be installed by June 30, 2022.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – No report.

Scanlan shared he has applied for a grant through BWSR for CWMA funding. It will be a two year grant totaling \$15,000. Scanlan stated he has also been assisting Wermager on a grant application to enhance RIM sites that are lacking native vegetation or have been taken over by introduced species.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Walter shared all the inspections for 2021 have been completed. There are a few that will need to be flagged in the spring.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – Messner reported a meeting is scheduled for January 19th. Results from the nitrate sampling have been received.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – No report.
- **Trees** – Messner stated the 2022 tree sales are going well. There are a few species that are sold out and we are not able to obtain additional trees. To date we have sold just over half of the trees that were pre-ordered.
- **Reporting** – Messner shared there are numerous reporting deadlines this time of year. eLink grant reporting is due February 1st for 13 grants and has been completed, Sales & Use Tax filing due January 31st has also been completed. Area 7 Wage Survey is started and due in March. MCIT reporting is in progress and website updates are to be completed by March 1, 2022.

Messner stated Smith Schaffer & Associated Ltd informed us during our 2020 Year End Financial Statement audit that we are to be distributing 1099 MISC forms to any landowner that has received \$600 or more in incentive or cost share payments. Messner reported this has not been done in the past. The 1099 MISC are to be to the landowners by January 31st. Currently, we are collecting the needed W-9 forms and waiting for word from the county if they will be running the 1099s or if we will need to do them ourselves. A **motion** was made by Anderson, seconded by Welke, to first pursue the county avenue before doing the 1099 MISC ourselves.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Dan Wermager

- **WCPI** – Wermager stated that this grant has reached its expiration. A few of the key milestone consisted of writing 180 conservation plans, conducting seven outreach events and contacting 761 landowners via letter. All exceeding the grant goals.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager indicated the policy committee met December 20th but there was not a quorum to conduct any business. He also shared the upcoming fiscal year may allow for funding for a half time position. This position would support an individual to do walkovers, propose projects and start construction files in-house. This position will allow Wermager to continue with a different work load.
- **HELP grant application** – Wermager stated he is working on a grant application for pollinator habitat on existing RIM easements. It is a \$40,000 grant being offered by BWSR. If the grant is awarded to us, the funds would expire in 2024.
- **Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P** – Wermager reported the planning work group, advisory committee and policy committee are meeting regularly. Recently, the policy committee approved the measurable goals for the WinLaC watershed.
- **I-90 Soil Health Tour** – Wermager shared he was approached about being one of the four stops for the I-90 Soil Health Tour. The local event will be February 8th at the Hokah Fire Station in Hokah, MN. Flyers are posted for the event and a news release published in the local newspaper. Expenses the SWCD is incurring for the event are half of the main speaker’s fee, our portion being \$500, and an evening meal. Local speaker, Myron Sylling, will also present and is waiving a speaking fee.

Wermager reported Kevin Kuehner met with staff and shared findings of a recent study on nitrates. The study shows nitrates were found in the Jordan aquifer and will pose a threat to drinking water in 30 – 40 years. The study proved May and June to be the most vulnerable months where nitrates leach into the soil.

Houston County Water Plan – No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving a Contract for Services Surface Water Assessment Grant (WinLaC Chloride Testing) in the amount of \$3,613.50 with grant expiration date of June 30, 2023.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Audit of Financial Statements for Year End 2020 – Prepared by Smith Schafer & Associates Ltd was distributed.

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)*

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share *(Grant expiration 10/31/2022)* Available Funds **\$ 63,835.86**

FY20 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Payment Requests & Re-allocation of funds

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Project Cost	Request
Hammel, Ralph	#17FY201W1P Grade Stabilization Structure	\$14,027.07	\$ 14,596.10	\$14,596.10 @ 90% = \$ 13,136.49 EQIP payment = \$3,868.14 Maximum payment = \$9,268.35 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$8,754.36 Payment Amount Approved = \$8,754.36 (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch = \$313.78; project construction = \$8,440.58)

Motion by Graf, seconded by Anderson, approving a payment request for Hammel, Ralph contract #17FY201W12P in the amount of \$8,754.36 using FY20 Root River 1W1P funds for his grade stabilization structure.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse 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 **\$ 0.00**

FY21 State Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/22)* – Available Funds **\$14,582.17**

FY22 State Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/24)* – Available Funds **\$16,720.80**

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

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - *(Grant expiration 12/31/22)* – Available Funds **\$1,100** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2023)* – Available Funds **\$15,000**

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2023)* – Available Funds **\$2,700** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation Cost Share – Available Funds **\$14,400**

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2024)* – Available Funds **\$8,700** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

Accounts Payable:***

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4490	Ron Carlsen – Rent – January 2022	\$ 1,213.19
4491	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 207.48
4492	Minnesota Revenue – 2021 Sales & Use Tax	\$ 774.00
4493	Beau Wold – Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4495	VISA – Postage = \$66.80; Vehicle Maintenance – 2017 GMC = \$181.16; SWAG Equip & Supplies = \$191.49; MACDE 2022 Membership Dues 5 @ \$25 = \$125	\$ 564.45
4496	Ralph Hammel - #17FY201W1P – Grade Stabilization Structure	\$ 8,754.36
4497	MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust – Liability Ins. = \$2,949; Workers Comp = \$4,511.00	\$ 7,460.00



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MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

February 10, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on February 10, 2022 in the lower level of Good Times Restaurant in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

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

Members Present:

Ken Anderson
Matt Feldmeier
Glenn Kruse
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

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

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the January 13, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the January 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Gary Larson, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Larson reported there are 40 EQIP 2022 applications submitted. March 5th scoring and ranking will begin.
- ❖ Larson stated there is a general CRP sign-up and it will last for approximately another month. To date there are 25 conservation plans needed. A possible contribution agreement may be available to the SWCD to assist with writing the plans.
- ❖ Larson announced Ryan Hytry is his predecessor. He started on January 31, 2022 and is working a flex schedule for the time being.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter began by stating our interim COVID 19 policy is no longer up to date. He shared that various districts in the area are following CDC guidelines. He also shared the county is following MN Department of Health guidelines which follows the CDC guidelines. Discussion followed on the topic of using annual leave or sick leave if the office is closed due to COVID 19 related circumstances. **Motion** by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving staff to use either sick leave or annual leave if the office is closed due to COVID 19 circumstances. Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.
- ❖ Walter shared a soil health event will be held February 18th from 9 – 3 pm in Spring Valley, MN. Ray Archuleta, soil scientist is the presenter. Pre-registration is requested and the event is free.
- ❖ Walter indicated the 2022 Driftless Symposium is being held remotely February 23rd and March 3rd. It will be recorded to share at a later date. Pre-registration is required and it will be free.

Program Reports

- **WCA** – Walter reported he continues to work with a landowner in Crooked Creek Township on a cattle crossing through a wetland area to get to needed pasture area. He also viewed two building sites and found that they were not located on wetland areas.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter indicated 90% of the upcoming projects are assigned and ready to go. Some projects will be part of TSA’s work load.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter shared the 2022 SWCD Election Filing Dates are May 17th – May 31st till 5:00 p.m. District 1 (La Crescent Village & Twp., Hokah Village & Twp., Mound Prairie Twp. and Union Twp.) and District 2 (Brownsville Village & Twp., Crooked Creek Twp. and Jefferson Twp.) are open for the 2022 ballot.

Walter stated the Area 7 SWCD Supervisors Remote Meeting will be March 1, 2022 from 1 – 4 pm. The discussion item is the platform for the upcoming legislative session concerning a surplus of MN state funds. SWCD Aid is being proposed for the surplus funding. It would equate to \$171,000 per year from the general fund instead of Clean Water funding. These funds will be less restrictive, have less reporting requirements and have no expiration date.

Walter indicated the 2022 Legislative Briefing & Day at the Capitol is March 9– 10, 2022. The Legislative Briefing & Networking Reception (March 9th) is at Capitol Ridge Event Center, Radisson Hotel St. Paul Downtown. There is a registration fee of \$90 per person with a sign-up deadline of March 4, 2022. Hotel accommodations - \$119.99 plus tax. **Motion** by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving registration for one staff or board supervisor. Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan indicated their next meeting is February 18th. He went on to say the watershed received a \$40,000 allocation from the county to assist with the cost of the Klinski pond project.

Bear Creek – No report.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **HELP Grant** – Scanlan stated he assisted Wermager with the preparation of the HELP grant application.

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – No report.
- **319 Feedlot** – Scanlan reported a roof structure project in Mound Prairie Township was completed and he did a site visit at another location in Mound Prairie Township.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – No report.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – No report.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – Meiners reported results from the nitrate samples were in. One residence's result was 8 ppm and four residence had results >10 ppm. Of those that tested >10 ppm two have asked to test again in the spring. Meiners stated she mailed information about the cost share being offered through this program. She also reported one residence tested high for magnesium. Meiners went on to say that a mailing targeting area daycares was also completed. The hope is that daycare providers will share the program opportunity with their day care families. Ten free nitrate test kits are available for this program.
- **MAWQCP** – Meiners shared that she is working on a mailing list for an upcoming MAWQCP event. The coordinator would like to see no more than 20 at the event with the focus being lower nitrates on fields.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – No report.
- **Trees** – Messner stated tree sales for the month of January were a little slower. Two species are sold out with no more availability from wholesalers. To date 3,525 trees are sold of the 5,150 that were ordered.
- **Area 7 Envirothon** – Messner shared the Area 7 Envirothon will be held Thursday, April 21, 2022 in Byron, MN. Acknowledgement of participation deadline is the end of February. She indicated that information for the event was mailed to the schools in Houston County.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC Chloride Testing** – Wermager shared that he and Scanlan did the first sampling on Wednesday, February 9th. Seventeen sites were tested for chloride (road salt). None of the sites tested high (230 mg/L). MPCA is interested in finding out if road salts are affecting the surface water. Wermager stated they will be sampling again in late February or early March.
- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Wermager reported waterside chats are currently being planned. A chat will be held in La Crescent in March.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager stated a planning work group meeting is set for Tuesday, February 15, 2022.
- **I-90 Soil Health Tour** – Wermager indicated 25 people were in attendance of the Tuesday, February 8th evening event. Mike Hora was the key-note speaker and Myron Sylling was also a speaker. One of the topics discussed was planting green in rye cover crop.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager reported their February 3rd meeting was cancelled due to COVID 19.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: Welke stated he and Meiners attended a meeting in Mazeppa, MN on January 26, 2022. Topics included technical staff returning to the office during the work day, COLA and other personnel business.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the 2021 Year-End Audit Engagement for \$7,000 with Smith Schaffer & Associates, Ltd.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds **\$ 63,835.86**

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 **\$ 0.00**

FY21 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$14,582.17**

FY22 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/24) – Available Funds **\$16,720.80**

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

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$1,100** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds **\$15,000**

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds **\$2,700** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$14,400**

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2024) – Available Funds **\$8,700** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$4,800**

Walter shared the district has received an ARPA allocation from the county totaling \$250,000.00. Walter stated there are a few streambank projects in Hokah Township that could benefit from this funding. The landowners are ineligible for EQIP funding.

Accounts Payable:***

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4505	Ron Carlsen – Rent – February	\$ 1,213.19
4506	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 258.00
4507	VISA – Postage = \$58.00; WinLaC Chloride Postage = \$22.45; Award Event (Retirement) = \$113.76	\$ 194.21
4508	Houston County Treasurer – Lettering Dodge RAM Truck	\$ 14.04
4509	Houston County Treasurer – Registration Renewal - 2017 GMC Sierra = \$19.50; 2020 Dodge RAM = \$19.50	\$ 39.00
4510	Office of the State Auditor – 2020 Standards & Procedures Review	\$ 124.00
4511	Lind Awards – Retirement Plaque	\$ 45.10
4512	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	\$ 255.30
4513	Faribault County SWCD – I-90 Tour Speaker Fee	\$ 500.00

	Total	\$ 2,642.84

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving the above listed accounts payable.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

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

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.


Meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, March 10, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

2-10-22

Date



Secretary



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MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

March 10, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on March 10, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

Janice Messner and Dave Walter – SWCD staff; Ryan Hytry – NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the February 10, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving the Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: No report. The February 2022 report will be submitted at the April 14, 2022 meeting.

Agency Report:

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared a soil health event was held February 18th from 9 – 3 pm in Spring Valley, MN. He and Welke attended the event. Walter stated it was a good event and the presenter, Ray Archuleta, spoke about biology of the soil. A Farmers Council meeting was held at the end of the tour.
- ❖ Walter indicated the recordings of the 2022 Driftless Symposium have not yet been released. He stated he would contact the supervisors and set up viewing dates when the recordings are available.

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry introduced himself and shared a brief career bio with the supervisors.

- ❖ Hytry stated during the week of March 14th there should be word on which 2022 EQIP applications were approved for funding.
- ❖ Hytry shared information on the Annual Civil Rights & Equal Opportunity memos.
- ❖ Hytry brought forward an Unfunded Cooperative Agreement between NRCS and Root River SWCD. The agreement states SWCD will provide 100 hours of technical assistance, 75 hours of administrative assistance and 25 hours of conservation planning. NRCS will provide seven phone lines, two computers and office supplies. Chair Feldmeier signed the agreement.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report Continuation

- ❖ Walter welcomed Hytry and stated he looked forward to a good working partnership.
- ❖ Walter stated the FY2022 Local Work Group meeting will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at the Ag Service Center starting at 2:00 p.m. Local agencies will be invited and public notice of the work group meeting will be posted.
- ❖ Walter shared that he met with Representative Greg Davids on Tuesday, March 8th and Senator Jeremy Miller on Thursday, March 10th to discuss SWCD Aid. They both stated it was not a budget year but were open to hearing about it. Sen. Miller stated he understood that stable funding was needed for SWCDs. Rep. Davids talked a bit about levy funding for SWCDs.

Program Reports

- **WCA** – Walter reported Trout Unlimited has an application in for Merle Becker to do bank shaping and habitat work that will be reviewed for WCA rules.

A trout easement is being worked on for Bob Becker in Hokah Twp.

Don Bissen, Bob Becker and DNR Fisheries are working on a fishing easement. Plans are for 2023 construction. DNR will be providing the construction and the SWCD will supply the materials.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter shared the 2022 SWCD Election Filing Dates are May 17th – May 31st till 5:00 p.m. District 1 (La Crescent Village & Twp., Hokah Village & Twp., Mound Prairie Twp. and Union Twp.) and District 2 (Brownsville Village & Twp., Crooked Creek Twp. and Jefferson Twp.) are open for the 2022 ballot.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Walter indicated Scanlan and Wermager checked the Crooked Creek Watershed structures on Monday after the March 6th rain event. Everything looked good.

Bear Creek – No report.

Winnebago – Walter reported maintenance is needed on two structures. Woody invasives are taking over grasses. A contractor with the proper equipment will be contracted to complete the maintenance.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Walter briefly reviewed the grant program.

- **319 Feedlot** – Walter reported bills for a roof structure project, recently completed in Mound Prairie Township, were submitted.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Walter reported Scanlan has been working on implementation plans.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Walter shared general information about the program.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Walter stated as spring approaches Meiners will be in contact with landowners to schedule buffer checks for 2022.
- **MAWQCP** – Walter shared an MAWQCP workshop will be held March 15th at Good Times at 11:00 a.m.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter stated landowners with current cost share contracts are being contacted to encourage the landowner to schedule their project contractor. He stated staff also provided assistance with any needed information to conduct EQIP application ranking.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – No report.
- **Trees** – Messner stated tree sales are going well. Ten orders were received in February and five thus far for March. Trees ordered through the wholesaler total 5,425 and only 725 are still available.
- **Area 7 Envirothon** – Messner shared one school in Houston County requested registration materials for the Area 7 Envirothon that will be held Thursday, April 21, 2022 in Byron, MN.

Messner indicated the 2021 Annual Report is completed and distributed in your packet.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC Chloride Testing** – Walter shared he and Wermager did a second round of sampling. They are monitoring for chloride levels (road salt) in surface water with snow melts. Thus far none of the sites have tested high (230 mg/L). Winona testing sites are registering 50-60 mg/L. Budgets are being reviewed to determine if funds are available to do another sampling in April 2022. Walter stated they would also like to do a monitoring, without samples, in June or July.
- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Walter reported the La Crescent Waterside Chat was held March 8th. It went well and ten citizens participated. The next Policy Committee meeting will be Monday, March 14th at 9 a.m. via Zoom.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Walter stated a Policy Committee meeting is set for March 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Preston. It will be an in-person meeting. One discussion item will be the possibility of reassigning the fiscal agent from Winona County SWCD to Fillmore County SWCD. Another discussion item is a possible change to the by-laws regarding sub-agreement amendments.

Houston County Water Plan – Walter reported the next meeting will be held April 7, 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Feldmeier inquired about the request he received for the SWCD to purchase, via GSA Auction, the NRCS printer housed in the Caledonia field office. Walter reported the SWCD did make the purchase for \$604.00 and stated that the machine has an approximate value of \$5,000 plus. He went on to explain the savings the SWCD will see in the purchase price of toner compared to the current machine.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS - 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)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds **\$ 63,835.86**

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 **\$ 0.00**

FY21 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$14,582.17**

FY22 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/24) – Available Funds **\$16,720.80**

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

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$1,100** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds **\$15,000**

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds **\$2,700** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$14,400**

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2024) – Available Funds **\$8,700** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$4,800**

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4514	Ron Carlsen – Rent – March	\$ 1,213.19
4515	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 230.69
4516	VISA – Postage = \$23.78; MAWQCP Postage = \$92.22; Copy Machine = \$604.00; WinLaC Chloride Postage = \$26.75; Keys = \$12.02; Office Supplies = \$374.00	\$ 1,132.77
4517	Talcott Resolution Life & Annuity Ins. Co. – Life Insurance Policy #LU1188704 Dave Walter	\$ 90.00
4518	Houston County Recorder/Abstractor – RIM Copy of Warranty Deed (Plantz)	\$ 4.00
4519	Rose Doering – I-90 Tour Meal	\$ 1,891.00
4520	Houston County Ag Society – Fair Booth	\$ 140.00
4521	Ken Anderson – Mileage – 1 st Qtr. 2022	\$ 56.16
4522	Matt Feldmeier – Mileage – 1 st Qtr. 2022	\$ 63.18
4523	Cecil Graf – Mileage – 1 st Qtr. 2022	\$ 23.40
4524	Glenn Kruse – Mileage – 1 st Qtr. 2022	\$ 46.80



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 14, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on April 14, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

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

Members Present:

Ken Anderson
Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Janice Messner, Jean Meiners and Dan Wermager – SWCD staff; Ryan Hytry – NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: An amendment was requested for the MDA Soil Health Grant Report – Connor McCormick will not be taking students on a tour of the Crooked Creek project as reported during the March 10, 2022 board meeting. **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the amendment request and the amended minutes from the March 10, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the February 2022 and March 2022 treasurer's reports be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry brought forward the Unfunded Cooperative Agreement between NRCS and Root River SWCD. The NRCS state office needed to approve the agreement prior to obtaining signatures. Chair Feldmeier signed the agreement.
- ❖ Hytry shared information on the Annual Civil Rights & Equal Opportunity memos with Supervisor Graf.
- ❖ Hytry indicated that EQIP 2022 contracts have been awarded and he is obtaining signatures from the landowners.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Meiners stated Walter and Wermager have done some sampling of streams. They are testing for chloride from road salt melt off. She shared Walter worked with a new landowner that purchased property with an existing RIM easement. She also stated that Walter is doing survey and design work.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Meiners reported Walter is currently working on three stream bank projects. One is in Hokah Township, another in Winnebago Township and the third is in Caledonia Township. He was also on-site for a culvert project in Wilmington Township.

MASWCD & MACDE – 2022 SWCD Election Filing Dates are May 17th – May 31st till 5:00 p.m. District 1 (La Crescent Village & Twp., Hokah Village & Twp., Mound Prairie Twp. and Union Twp.) and District 2 (Brownsville Village & Twp., Crooked Creek Twp. and Jefferson Twp.) are open for the 2022 ballot. Jerry Welke from District 1 stated that he will run for another term. Cecil Graf from District 2 stated that he will not be seeking re-election.

Southcast MN SWCD Area 7 Business & Resolutions Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 28th at the Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault, MN from 9 – 3 pm. Please bring any resolutions for consideration to our May 12th board meeting for review.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Messner shared their monthly meeting will be held Friday, April 15, 2022.

Bear Creek – Messner stated the Bear Creek inspection tour is scheduled for June 8, 2022.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – No report.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – No report.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – No report.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Meiners stated she is working on the list for public waters spring/summer spot checks.
- **MAWQCP** – Meiners shared an MAWQCP workshop was held March 15th at Good Times at 11:00 a.m. Seven people were in attendance and the majority of the individuals took an application for the program.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners indicated she has been reviewing plans with landowners and obtaining signatures.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – Messner stated the 2021 results were received and she will have a detailed report for the May 12th board meeting.

- **Trees** – Messner shared tree pick up day is set for Friday, April 22, 2022. There are some small trees and shrubs still available.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC Chloride Testing** – Wermager shared a third round of sampling was conducted March 22nd and March 23rd. Lake Winona was a little higher in comparison to other waterbodies but did not exceed the set standards.
- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Wermager reported the remainder of the Waterside Chats were held. The recent policy committee meetings and planning work group meetings are targeting Priority Issues Statements.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager indicated a Policy Committee meeting was held March 31, 2022. The FY '22 -'23 work plan and budget were approved. He stated this included \$40,000 for Dan to continue doing outreach in the watershed. The committee also approved re-assigning Fillmore County SWCD as the fiscal agent as well as the day-to-day contact for the 1W1P. A termination letter will be sent by Winona County SWCD and a new sub-agreement will be coming from Fillmore County SWCD.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager reported a meeting was held April 7, 2022. Nine projects are planned for the upcoming year. This will consist of six new push-up ponds and two pond clean outs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: No report.

TSA (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving the authorization of an additional \$0.20 cost share assistance payment for contract #10FY201W1P Emerick, Earl. This will correct the Voucher & Practice Certification form increasing the payment from \$9,694.26 to \$9,694.96 and correct the August 12, 2021 board meeting minutes.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving the 2021 Financial Statement Budget.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, agreeing to pay half of the Bear Creek Watershed Tour meal expenses up to \$100.00.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving the Root River One Watershed, One Plan Sub-Agreement with Fillmore SWCD and Root River SWCD.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Graf, approving the MAWQCP quarterly grant report.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse 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*)

FY20 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds \$ 0.00

FY21 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds \$14,582.17

FY22 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/24*) – Available Funds \$16,720.80

FY21 State Cost Share Pre-Construction Cover Request (*Flat rate \$150/acre up to 10 acres*)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
King, Luke	01FY21CS	\$300.00	\$300.00	Pre-Construction Cover	6/15/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Anderson, approving contract #01FY21CS for Luke King in the amount of \$300.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for his pre-construction cover.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 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
Traun, Valerie	02FY21CS	\$43,530.00	\$6,276.00	Grassed Waterway (412); Lined Waterway (468); Grade Stabilization Structure (410 – Rock Chute)	11/30/22

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving contract #02FY21CS for Valerie Traun in the amount of \$6,276.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for her grassed waterway with a lined waterway and grade stabilization structure (rock chute).

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 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
King, Luke	03FY21CS	\$3,660.00	\$893.00	Grassed Waterways (412)	9/10/2022

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving contract #03FY21CS for Luke King in the amount of \$893.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for his grassed waterways.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 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
King, Luke	04FY21CS	\$9,000.00	\$893.00	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	11/30/2022
Nelson, Cecil	05FY21CS	\$14,290.00	\$6,036.00	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	11/30/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Anderson, approving contract #04FY21CS for Luke King in the amount of \$893.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for his grade stabilizations structure and contract #05FY21CS for Cecil Nelson in the amount of \$6,036.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for his grade stabilization structure.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 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
Davison Properties LLC	06FY21CS	\$800.00	\$600.00	Grassed Waterway (412)	9/10/22

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving contract #06FY21CS for Davison Properties LLC in the amount of \$600.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for their grassed waterway.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 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
Bauer, Sue	07FY21CS	\$14,000.00	\$485.17	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	10/13/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving contract #07FY21CS for Sue Bauer in the amount of \$485.17 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant funds for her grade stabilization structure.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA – (*Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026*) Available Funds **\$250,000**

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving an amendment request for contract #05FY20CS from Ross Bearbower increasing the cost share funding from 75% to 90% cost share and increasing the amount authorized from \$11,157.75 to \$13,389.30. ARPA federal funding will be used for the additional \$2,231.55.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA 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
Davison Properties LLC	06FY21CS	\$800.00	\$120.00	Grassed Waterway (412)	9/10/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Anderson, approving ARPA federal funding in the amount of \$120.00 for contract #06FY21CS on Davison Properties LLC's grassed waterway project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA 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
Bauer, Sue	07FY21CS	\$14,000.00	\$2,100.00	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	10/13/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving ARPA federal funding in the amount of \$2,100.00 for contract #07FY21CS on Sue Bauer's grade stabilization structure project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse 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*)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2022*) Available Funds **\$ 63,835.86**

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving an amendment request for contract #15FY201W1P for Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC based on the new cost estimate of \$8,225.00. An additional \$502.20 will be added to the \$3,622.30 previously allocated. The funds will be from Root River FY201W1P grant.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Root River 1W1P 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
Bauer, Sue	07FY21CS	\$14,000.00	\$10,014.83	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	10/13/2022

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving FY20 Root River IWP cost share in the amount of \$10,014.83 for contract #07FY21CS on Sue Bauer's grade stabilization structure project.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.
 Opposed: None
 Motion carried.

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

Completion Dates	Project	Cost Share Amount Requested	Total Cost Estimate	Contract	Name
10/13/2022	Access Road	\$985.71	\$9,720.00	18FY20IWP	Schulte Farms Partnership LLC

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving FY20 Root River IWP cost share in the amount of \$985.71 for contract #18FY20IWP on Schulte Farms Partnership LLC's access road project.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.
 Opposed: None
 Motion carried.

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

Completion Dates	Project	Cost Share Amount Requested	Total Cost Estimate	Contract	Name
10/13/2022	Grade Stabilization Structure	\$5,506.19	\$15,032.50	19FY20IWP	Schulte Farms Partnership LLC

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving FY20 Root River IWP cost share in the amount of \$5,506.19 for contract #19FY20IWP on Schulte Farms Partnership LLC's grade stabilization structure project.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse 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)

- FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) - Available Funds \$1,100 (Flat Rate per acre)
- FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) - Available Funds \$15,000
- FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) - Available Funds \$2,700 (Flat Rate per acre)
- FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share - Available Funds \$14,400
- FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/2024) - Available Funds \$8,700 (Flat Rate per acre)
- FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share - Available Funds \$4,800

Pre-Approved FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Amendment Requests
 It was noted a pre-approved amendment request for contract #02FY20LC-CWMA Greg Boldt's brush management project was made. The pre-approval is extending the project completion date from 4/8/2022 to 6/9/2022. Though already pre-approved a motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving the amendment request.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.
 Opposed: None
 Motion carried.

It was noted a pre-approved amendment request for contract #03FY20LC-CWMA Melissa Brennan's brush management project was made. The pre-approval is extending the project completion date from 4/8/2022 to 5/12/2022. Though already pre-approved a motion was made by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving the amendment request.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.
 Opposed: None
 Motion carried.

FY21 LC Cost Share Request (Funding up to 75% of cost estimate or 90% if combined with other non-state funding source)

Completion Dates	Project	Cost Share Amount Requested	Total Cost Estimate	Contract	Name
9/10/2022	Grassed Waterways (412)	\$4,678.10	\$13,299.00	01FY21LC	Kolsrud, Reuben The Revocable Trust for

Motion Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving FY21 Local Capacity cost share funds in the amount of \$4,678.10 for contract #01FY21LC on The Revocable Trust for Reuben Kolsrud's grassed waterway projects contingent upon technical approval signature.
 Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.
 Opposed: None
 Motion carried.

FY21 LC 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
Thompson, David	02FY21LC	\$13,000.00	\$2,388.11	Grade Stabilization Structure & Diversion	11/20/2022

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving FY21 Local Capacity cost share funds in the amount of \$2,388.11 for contract #02FY21LC on David Thompson’s grade stabilization structure and diversion project.

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

FY21 LC 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
Feine, Scott	03FY21LC	\$12,195.00	\$4,003.50	Grassed Waterway & Subsurface Drain	9/10/2022

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving FY21 Local Capacity cost share funds in the amount of \$4,003.50 for contract #03FY21LC on Scott Feine’s grassed waterway and subsurface drain.

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

FY21 LC 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
Schulte Farms Partnership LLC	18FY201W1P	\$9,720.00	\$3,930.29	Access Road	10/13/2022

Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving additional funding for Schulte Farms Partnership LLC’s access road project contract #18FY201W1P from FY21 Local Capacity cost share funds in the amount of \$3,930.29.

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

ADDITIONAL COST SHARE REQUEST

Requesting Approval contingent upon landowner and technical approval signatures.

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Roth, Jerred				Grassed Waterway	9/10/2022

A request to approve cost share funding for Jerred Roth’s grassed waterway project contingent upon landowner and technical approval signatures was unanimously tabled.

ADDITIONAL COST SHARE REQUEST

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Meiners, Marlene		\$3,725.00	\$3,352.50	Sinkhole & Critical Area Planting	10/13/2022

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving ARPA federal cost share funding in the amount of \$502.88 and an additional \$2,2849.62 from FY20 Root River 1W1P cost share funding for Marlene Meiners’s sinkhole and critical area planting project contingent upon landowner and technical approval signatures.

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

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4529	Ron Carlsen – Rent – April	\$ 1,213.19
4530	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 350.72
4531	VISA – Meals Soil Health Training = \$43.87; MAWQCP – Event Expense = \$75.94; Postage = \$62.50; WinLaC Chloride - Postage = \$21.87; Trees - Postage= \$31.50; Trees – Iowa DNR = \$546.00	\$ 781.68
4532	Paul Hagen – Water Plan - Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00

4533	Quill LLC – Office supplies = 148.47; Trees 37.40	\$ 185.87
4534	Laura’s Lane Nursery LLC - Trees	\$ 10.00
4536	Petty Cash – Registration & Training = \$40.00; Sales Tax refund = \$0.40	\$ 40.40
4537	Schumacher’s Nursery & Berry Farm Inc. - Trees	\$ 3,471.75
		\$
	Total	\$ 6,453.61

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving the above listed accounts payable.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4535	Houston Engineering Inc. – WinLaC 1W1P Payment	\$ 10,493.75
	Total	\$ 10,493.75
	Houston County Treasurer – Transfer of Funds	\$ 213.12

Motion by Graf, seconded by Anderson, approving the above listed WinLaC 1W1P accounts payable and transfer of funds.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Chair Feldmeier declared the meeting adjourned. All board supervisors were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, May 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 5-12-22
Date

Glen 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

May 12, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on May 12, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

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

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the April 14, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Welke and Feldmeier

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Supervisor Kruse joined the meeting.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the April 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry stated the Bear Creek PL566 Inspection Tour is slated for June 8, 2022.

Hytry exited the meeting.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Scanlan reported Walter assisted with the soil health portion of the Area 7 Envirothon in Byron, MN. Winona Cotter High School was the first place finisher at the event.

- ❖ Messner shared information on the upcoming funeral service for former longtime district manager Ervin Barth. **Motion** by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving a \$100 limit for flowers and/or future memorial honoring Ervin Barth.
Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke. Opposed: None Motion carried.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Scanlan reported Walter spent time on site at a project site in Winnebago Township.

MASWCD & MACDE – 2022 SWCD Election Filing Dates are May 17th – May 31st till 5:00 p.m. District 1 (La Crescent Village & Twp., Hokah Village & Twp., Mound Prairie Twp. and Union Twp.) and District 2 (Brownsville Village & Twp., Crooked Creek Twp. and Jefferson Twp.) are open for the 2022 ballot. Jerry Welke from District 1 stated that he will run for another term. The seat for District 2 will be open. Supervisors discussed possible individuals to approach for candidacy to fill the seat.

Southeast MN SWCD Area 7 Business & Resolutions Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 28th at the Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault, MN from 9 – 3 pm. Feldmeier called for resolutions and none were presented.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan shared their monthly meeting will be held Friday, May 20, 2022. They will be discussing their annual inspection tour and information that an NRCS Engineer has brought to light in an Operation & Maintenance Plan dated 1966-67. It states NRCS inspections will not be necessary unless the Watershed requests them to be present.

Bear Creek – Feldmeier stated the inspection tour will be held June 8th at 9:00 a.m. The tour will start at Site 9 located at 22376 County 4, Spring Grove, MN and end at Big Canoe Church with a meeting and lunch. Anderson shared that he will not be able to participate in this year’s tour and asked that someone attend in his place. There was no further discussion.

Later in the meeting Messner questioned Scanlan regarding his findings on a recent Site 9 visit. Scanlan shared some potential leaching through the dam near the pipe was visible. A thorough inspection will be performed on the tour.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan shared that he is finishing up spring inspections.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he is working with those that are contracted with upcoming contracts that will be expiring. One landowner is not able to meet project installation date and is requesting to cancel her contract. A new applicant is interested in the available funding. Scanlan said this will be voted on later in today’s meeting.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan shared general information about the purpose of the program. Supervisors shared other possible side-by-side comparison study ideas.
- **2022 Conservationist of the Year** – Scanlan reviewed a nomination brought to him last year. The individual nominated is in District 4 (Caledonia Township & Village, Eaton Village, Mayville Township, Winnebago Township) where a nominee will be selected for 2022. The supervisors asked Scanlan to contact the nominee to see if they would be willing to be the 2022 Conservationist of the Year.
- **HELP Grant Application** – Scanlan shared the HELP Grant he and Wermager submitted is being awarded to the SWCD.

Meiners and Walter joined the meeting.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Meiners stated she and Walter have been out flagging buffers and doing inspections.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – Meiners shared there is a meeting coming up. Discussion on the amount of cost share available for a well was discussed. Meiners stated there has not been any interest in the cost share allotted for Houston County and felt that it should be made available to a county that may have interest.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners indicated a few projects are currently in the seeding process and a few others should be starting within the next week to two weeks.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – Messner shared there was an 85% participation rate for Houston County in the 2021 nitrate testing. There were five samples that were <10 ppm and three samples in the 9 – 9.99 range. Messner stated the high nitrate results were not found in specific areas but various areas throughout the county. She shared a commonality that was noticed is they all currently have livestock or are located near livestock producers. The other commonality is all the wells are older wells and not recorded on the MN Well Index. Discussion followed on aquifers and the amount of time it takes for producer behaviors to reach the aquifers.
- **Trees** – Messner shared the 2022 tree sales went well. A total of 5,675 trees were ordered and of those 75 are still available. To date not all the shipping invoices have been received, but there is a projected profit of \$2,500 for the year.

Wermager joined the meeting.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC Chloride Testing** – No report.
- **WinLaC 1W1P** – No report.
- **Root River 1W1P** – No report.
- **CRP Contribution Agreement** – Wermager shared he is working on CRP contracts.
- **HELP Grant** – Wermager stated funding for this grant should be received in June 2022.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager reported one push-up pond has recently been constructed. Seed and mulch need to be completed before payment.

Wermager exited the meeting.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Walter indicated it has been busy again. He is involved with a stream habitat project in Winnebago Township and a second stream habitat project on West Beaver Creek in Caledonia Township. Walter stated these projects are being funded through Trout Unlimited.

Walter reported he's been out on the Hwy. 5 project site and visited a few building sites and found each building site is not in a wetland area. Walter and Feldmeier also shared a concern brought to their attention in Houston Township regarding water flowing from one landowner's property on to the other landowner's property.

Scanlan raised a question regarding an article published in the latest edition of the Caledonia Argus. Walter stated he received a phone call from the City of Brownsville regarding bluff protection and possible easements. Walter shared that he was unaware of any easements unless there was an easement through MN Land Trust or another organization.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Walter reported he has promoted Jean Meiners to lead technician and explained her responsibilities. He shared that he had consulted with staff for their input prior to promoting Meiners.

TSA (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Messner stated the approved cost share for contract #20FY201W1P Marlene Meiners did obtain the necessary signatures and is now contracted.

Messner indicated the approved cost share for contract #01FY21LC Kolsrud, Reuben The Revocable Trust for is still pending for technical approval signature. Meiners stated that a Trust document is needed in the FSA office before NRCS can move forward in awarding their EQIP application. Discussion continued about the project and funding opportunities. **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving funding at 90% cost share up to \$11,969.10 from FY20 Root River 1W1P funding source and assigning the contract number as #20FY201W1P for The Revocable Trust for Reuben Kolsrud contract. With an installation date by 9/10/22 for the grassed waterways project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving the FY2022 Conservation Delivery Grant financial report.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, adopting the Root River SWCD Public Data Policy.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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 \$ 0.00

FY21 State Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/22)* – Available Funds \$ 0.00

FY22 State Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/24)* – Available Funds \$16,720.80

FY20 State Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving an amendment request for Ross Bearbower contract #05FY20CS extending the completion date from 6/1/2022 to 9/10/2022.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Pre-Approved FY22 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
Morken Farms, LLC	01FY22CS	\$11,244.20	\$3,144.78	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	11/30/22

It was noted that contract #01FY22CS Morken Farms, LLC grade stabilization structure project with \$3,144.78 funding from FY22 State Cost Share was pre-approved on 4/20/2022.

FY22 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
Skustad, Mark	02FY22CS	\$7,411.80	\$1,578.62	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	12/31/22
Scheck, Eric	03FY22CS	\$6,102.00	\$1,223.80	Grassed Waterways (412)	9/10/22
Wold Sundown Valley Farms Inc.	04FY22CS	\$5,752.50	\$2,828.25	Grassed Waterways (412)	9/10/22

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving contract #02FY22CS Skustad, Mark \$1,578.62 for a grade stabilization structure; contract #03FY22CS Scheck, Eric \$1,223.82 for grassed waterways and contact #04FY22CS Wold Sundown Valley Farms Inc. \$2,828.25 for grassed waterways. All using FY22 State Cost Share as the funding source.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)*

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - *(Grant expiration 12/31/22)* – Available Funds **\$1,100** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2023)* – Available Funds **\$ 4,678.10**

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2023)* – Available Funds **\$2,700** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$14,400**

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – *(Grant expiration 12/31/2024)* – Available Funds **\$8,700** *(Flat Rate per acre)*

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$4,800**

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cancellation Request

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving a cancellation request for contract #03FY20LC-CWMA Brennen, Melissa in the amount of \$900.00 for a brush management project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Request *(Flat Rate per acre)*

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Runnigen, David	08FY20LC-CWMA	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Brush Management (314)	11/30/22

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving contract #08FY20LC-CWMA Runnigen, David in the amount of \$2,000.00 for a brush management project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)*

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share *(Grant expiration 10/31/2022)* Available Funds **\$ 32,008.01**

ARPA – *(Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026)* Available Funds **\$245,045.57**

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4538	Ron Carlsen – Rent – May	\$ 1,213.19

4539	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 425.20
4540	VISA – Finance Charge = \$2.89; Field Equipment = \$17.59; Buffer Field Equipment = \$51.92; Fire Extinguisher = \$ 51.26	\$ 123.66
4541	Quill LLC – First Aid Kit	\$ 21.36
4542	River Valley Media Group – Advertising – Local Work Group meeting	\$ 52.30
4543	Mary Busch – Water Plan – Infant Well Testing Reimbursement	\$ 51.95
	Total	\$ 1,887.66

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the above listed accounts payable.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving meeting adjournment.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke.

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, June 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 6-9-22
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

June 9, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on June 9, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Vice Chair Welke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Cecil Graf

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Ken Anderson

Others:

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

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Kruse, seconded by Graf, approving the minutes from the May 12, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving the Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Supervisor Per Diems

Anderson, Ken – 2 nd Qtr. 2 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 250.00
Feldmeier, Matt – 2 nd Qtr. 3 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 375.00
Graf, Cecil – 2 nd Qtr. 2 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 250.00
Kruse, Glenn – 2 nd Qtr. 3 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 375.00
Welke, Jerry – 2 nd Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 500.00

Voting affirmative: Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Kruse requested the May 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Walter reported Hytry has been contracting approved EQIP applications. He is also conducting contract reviews and is attending conservation planning training.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter shared he presented at Friends of the Root River Science Sundays field day with Tim Miller of Fish & Wildlife Service. The event was held at the Hokah Fire Station, Hokah, MN in May. The presentation contents was about Restoring the Two Year Flood Event on the Mississippi River.

- ❖ Walter reported the annual cost share spot checks for 2022 are completed.
- ❖ Walter stated he assisted with BMP construction, put together conservation cover plans with Wermager, looked into technical assistance for a landowner in Sheldon Twp. interested in doing a feedlot improvement project, and assisted with RIM easement rules and regulations inquiries.

Watershed Update:

Bear Creek – Walter indicated the annual Bear Creek Inspection Tour was held Wednesday, June 8, 2022. The NRCS area engineer was in attendance. Walter reported there were no new issues and shared some erosion by the pipe on the Site 3 structure is visible. Design plans for this repair will be done by Iowa engineers. At Site 8 there is work needed but the landowner is not willing to sign the cost share application for 100% cost share funding contract for the necessary work. On Site 17 brush management is needed and cost share funds are already allocated for this work. Site 13 has a small amount of erosion occurring. Walter stated he would contact the landowner to see if he would like to do the needed maintenance. At Site 3 there is some seepage occurring on the down side of the berm and the pond is holding water which it should not. Walter stated he will be in contact with the landowner and offer 100% cost share maintenance funding for the repairs needed at the site.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Walter indicated he is working with Fish & Wildlife Service in Hokah Twp. to locate a suitable fill for a dike repair.

Chair Feldmeier joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m. and Vice Chair Welke turned the meeting over to Feldmeier.

MASWCD & MACDE – Southeast MN SWCD Area 7 Business & Resolutions Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 28th at the Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault, MN from 9 – 3 pm.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan shared their monthly meeting will be held Friday, June 17, 2022. Following a short business meeting the annual inspection tour will be conducted. Scanlan reported he and Wermager performed herbicide and seeding maintenance on the R-2 site. Scanlan stated there is also a possible sinkhole forming on the S-1b site.

Winnebago – Walter reported while performing spot checks he encountered some needed brush management work on the DNR site and the Burke site. A local contractor will be contracted to perform the needed maintenance on these two sites.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan shared the remaining work on this grant consists of soil health testing which will be performed in year three of the contracted projects.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he is working with those that are contracted with upcoming contracts that will be expiring. One landowner is not able to meet project installation date and is requesting to cancel his contract. A new applicant is interested in the available funding. Scanlan said this will be voted on later in today's meeting.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan shared on May 20, 2022 a second scissoring cutting was performed. The first cutting took place in October 2021. He found the grasses planted in the no-till did just as good as it did in the conventional tillage. An infiltration comparison was also performed. It was visible that the no-till area absorbed water faster than the conventional tillage area where run-off was likely.
- **2022 Conservationist of the Year** – Scanlan reported Tom & Brenda Olinger have accepted the nomination of the 2022 Conservationist of the Year for Houston County.
- **CCM Grant Application** – Scanlan shared he received word that our application was not funded for 2022. We need to focus on water quality for this application in the future.

- **NFWF Cover Crop Grant Application** – Scanlan stated that our application was not funded. He went on to say that he is interested in partnering with the one grant recipient from Minnesota, the Soil Health Coalition. Scanlan has reached out to them regarding assisting with grant work in Houston County.
- **MACDE Education Grant** – Scanlan shared that we were awarded this grant. Funds will assist with a self-guided cover crop tour this fall and help defray expenses for the I-90 Soil Health Tour this fall.
- **MN Land Trust** – Scanlan indicated he spoke with a landowner interested in the MN Land Trust program and referred them to their office.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Meiners stated she has sent letters to some landowners indicating she will be checking buffers on their property.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – Meiners shared a meeting was held May 31st. Cost share funding for Houston County that has not been allocated and was offered to help those who were needing additional funding. She also shared a few free nitrate water test kits will be made available in our office for anyone that would be interested.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners indicated five landowners have installed grassed waterway projects over the past two months. Currently, two landowners have started grade stabilization structure projects and another grassed waterway project will likely start within the month.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – Messner shared the current grant will be expiring June 30, 2022. A new contract will be coming to continue with this program.

Dan Wermager

- **CRP Contribution Agreement** – Wermager shared 20 of the 21 CRP plans are completed and signed. The remaining plan is completed and is pending signature.
- **4th Grade Farm Safety Day** – Wermager stated on May 24, 2022 he presented about dangerous plants at the 4th Grade Farm Safety Day held at the Houston County Fairgrounds.
- **I-90 Soil Health Tour** – Wermager indicated the SWCD will be hosts for one leg of the I-90 Soil Health Tour this fall. Civic engagement funds from the MACDE Education Grant will be used to assist with expenses.
- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Wermager reported a Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 13th. Currently, time is being dedicated to plan writing and reviewing many details of the plan. Good progress is being made.
- **Root River 1W1P** – Wermager stated he and Walter recently attended a planning work group meeting. They are looking to designated funds in the work plan for cover crops. A payment rate of \$34/acre for a single specie planting and \$43/acre for a multi specie planting was discussed with a 50 acre cap per applicant. This will need to be brought to the Policy Committee for approval at their June 27, 2022 meeting. Walter also shared a 5 Year Assessment will need to be performed in the near future. There was discussion about contracting to have the assessment done.
- **HELP Grant** – Wermager indicated the work plan has been approved and the board will be acting on the contract later in today's meeting. Wermager gave a brief summation of the grant objectives.



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

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

MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

July 14, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on July 14, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson
Matt Feldmeier
Cecil Graf
Glenn Kruse
Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Janice Messner, Bob Scanlan and Jean Meiners – SWCD staff; Ryan Hytry – NRCS.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the June 9, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

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

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the June 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry reported he has been working on CRP Conservation Plans for the general sign-up. All general sign-up plans must be signed by July 29, 2022.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Scanlan shared Walter's workload is currently consisting of RIM spot checks, AIS and helping Wermager with the HELP grant.

Bob Scanlan, Assistant Manager Report

- ❖ Scanlan informed the board supervisors of the Tennessee Warning requirements which is in the Minnesota Statutes 13.04 Subdivision 2. He stated staff would work on putting together a provision for our cost share contracts.

			(Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch - \$950.00; project construction = \$3,118.75)
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Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving payment in the amount of \$3,973.75 from FY20 Root River 1W1P Cost Share funding and re-allocation of \$150.75 to FY20 Root River 1W1P Cost Share funding on contract #15FY201W1P for 412 grassed waterways.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Bear Creek Maintenance Cost Share Request

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
03 Bear Crk Maintenance	\$1,776.10	\$1,776.10	Critical Area Planting (342)	9/10/22

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving contract #03 Bear Crk Maintenance in the amount of \$1,776.10 from the Bear Creek Maintenance funds for a 342 Critical Area Planting project with a completion rate of 9/10/2022.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse 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 **\$ 0.00**

FY21 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$ 0.00**

FY22 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/24) – Available Funds **\$9,169.15**

FY21 State Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Expense	Request
#01FY21CS Pre-Construction Cover	\$300.00	\$300.00	2 acres @ \$150/acre = \$300.00

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving payment in the amount of \$300.00 from FY21 State Cost Share funding source for a pre-construction cover project on contract #01FY21CS.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA – (Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds **\$245,045.57**

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4562	Contract #03FY22CS - Grassed Waterways	\$ 1,537.71
4564	Ron Carlsen – Rent – July	\$ 1,213.19
4565	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 697.44
4566	VISA – MACDE Education Grant Expenses = \$480.85; WinLaC Chloride – Postage = \$41.51; WinLaC Chloride – Shipping Material = \$1.92; Cover Crop Demo – Soil Health Postage = \$9.45; Vehicle Maintenance - GMC - Brakes, fuel line, oil, tire rotation = \$1,218.62	\$ 1,752.35
4567	Caledonia Implement Company – Crimper repair	\$ 157.50
4568	Quill LLC – Office supplies	\$ 181.88
4569	Contract #15FY201W1P – Grassed Waterways	\$ 3,973.75
4572	Ward Laboratories, Inc. – Cover Crop Demo – Soil Samples	\$ 49.50
4573	Contract 3 (Hayable Buffer) – Final Payment – Hayable Buffer Program 14 acres @ \$250/acre	\$ 3,500.00
4574	Contract 2 (Hayable Buffer) – Final Payment – Hayable Buffer Program 21.4 acres @ \$250/acre	\$ 5,350.00
4575	Contract 1 (Hayable Buffer) – Final Payment – Hayable Buffer Program 0.6 acres @ \$250/acre	\$ 150.00
4576	Contract #01FY21CS – Pre-Construction Cover	\$ 300.00
4577	Contract #09FY20LC-CWMA – Brush Management	\$ 2,000.00



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MINUTES OF THE ROOT RIVER SWCD

August 11, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on August 11, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

Bob Scanlan and Jean Meiners – SWCD staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the July 14, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson reported the July 2022 report will be made available at the September 8, 2022 board meeting.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report – No report.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Scanlan shared Walter is working with the National Fish & Wildlife Service to replace a dike on the Root River in Hokah, MN. Tim Miller of the National Fish & Wildlife Service is working with Houston County Zoning to obtain the needed permits. An engineer is being sought to sign off on the design plans.
- ❖ Scanlan stated the Tennessee law language, with the assistance of BWSR, has been added to the cost share application/contract forms.

Program Report

- WCA – No report.

MASWCD & MACDE – Scanlan reported the Fall MASWCD meeting will be held September 27, 2022. The business meeting will take place at the Hokah Fire Station and Tim Miller, National Fish & Wildlife Service will be providing a boat island tour on the Mississippi River docking at Wildcat Landing in Brownsville, MN. The Cattlemen’s Association will be making grilled steak sandwiches.

Watershed Updates:

Bridge Creek – Scanlan shared a Bridge Creek Watershed Open House location will be John Deere Drive & Bridge Creek Crossing on September 8th. Kevin Kuehner will be doing a presentation on study results of farm field runoff and how it impacts water quality in Bridge Creek watershed.

Crooked Creek – Scanlan shared their monthly meeting will be held Friday, August 19, 2022. They will be discussing their 2023 budget. The Kliniski pond construction will reconvene in the next few weeks. They will also be reviewing their “Incentive Payment Policy”.

Scanlan reported the Crooked Creek structures were inspected after a four inch rainfall event, in less than 24 hours, August 6, 2022. No damage was observed.

Bear Creek – Scanlan stated a brush management maintenance project was recently completed on Site 17.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan shared soil health testing will be conducted in the fall of 2023.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated he has a lot of interested landowners in the program.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan indicated two forage scissor cuttings have been done this spring and a third will be done within the next two weeks along with infiltration testing. He stated data will be compiled for a field day event.
- **MACDE Education Grant** – Scanlan stated remaining grant funds will help defray costs of a soil health self-guided tour and a one day field day event.
- **2022 Houston County Fair** – Scanlan indicated the SWCD will have a booth at the Houston County Fair. Free nitrate testing will be offered along with educational information on various programs including aquatic invasive species (AIS).

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – Meiners shared magnets and informational folders will be available in the SWCD fair booth.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners reported one grade stabilization project in Mayville Township is delayed due to bodily injury of the contractor. In Spring Grove Township two grassed waterways were completed totaling 2,400 feet. Bills have not been submitted for this project to date. In Houston ‘E’ Township a landowner will be installing two grassed waterways with tile and is also working on a livestock structure. In Money Creek Township a streambank restoration project with fish habitat and enhancement is slated to be completed this fall.

Janice Messner

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

Cost Share Payment Request & Re-Allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
07FY21CS Grade Stabilization Structure	\$14,000.00	\$14,091.88	<p>\$13,371.00 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$12,033.90 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$12,600.00 Payment Amounts for Approval = \$12,033.90 FY20 State Cost Share = \$9,920.12 FY201WIP Cost Share = \$108.13 ARPA = \$2,005.65 <i>Slippage for Re-Allocation - ARPA = \$94.35 & FY21 State Cost Share = \$485.17</i></p> <p>(Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch = \$450.00; project construction = \$11,583.90)</p>

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving a payment request for contract # 07FY21CS totaling \$12,033.90. Funding source and amounts are \$9,920.12 FY20 State Cost Share, \$108.13 FY20 Root River 1WIP Cost Share and \$2,005.65 ARPA for a grade stabilization structure. Also approving the re-allocation of slippage funds for FY21 State Cost Share = \$485.17 and ARPA = \$94.35.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Funding Source Changes

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the following funding source changes:

- Contract #05FY20 moving \$1,237.63 from FY21 State Cost Share to FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share
- Contract #18FY201WIP moving \$3,369.59 from FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share to FY21 State Cost Share
- Contract #19FY201WIP moving \$5,506.19 from FY201WIP to FY21 State Cost Share = \$728.63 and FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share = \$4,777.56
- Contract #20FY201WIP moving \$2,849.62 from FY201WIP to FY22 State Cost Share = \$2,739.75 & ARPA = \$109.87

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds \$0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds \$ 0.00

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds \$0.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds \$11,600.00

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2024) – Available Funds \$1,320.00 (Flat Rate per acre)

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds \$4,800.00

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request	Total Cost Estimate
07FY20LC-CWMA Brush Management	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	10 acres @ \$200.00/acre = \$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving a \$2,000.00 payment from FY20 Local Capacity CWMA funding for contract # 07FY20LC-CWMA on a brush management project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation Cost Share (2020)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
03-20CM CWMA	10 acres @ \$200/acre	\$2,000.00	Brush Management (314)	8/11/23

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving contract #03-20CM CWMA in the amount of \$2,000.00 from FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation Cost Share (2020) for a 314 Brush Management project to be completed by August 11, 2023.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share Request (Flat Rate per acre)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
04FY22LC-CC	14.66666 acres @ \$30/acre for 3 yrs.	\$1,320.00	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving contract #04FY22LC-CC in the amount of \$1,320.00 from FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share for a 340 cover crop project to be completed by November 1st of years 2022, 2023 and 2024. Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2022) Available Funds \$39,962.57

FY22/23 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2024) Available Funds \$134,000.00

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

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
22FY201W1P	\$61,671.78	\$55,504.60 FY201W1P = \$39,962.57 & ARPA = \$ 15,542.03	Streambank & Shoreline Protection (580)	10/31/2022

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving contract #22FY201W1P in the amount of \$55,504.60 from funding sources FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share = \$39,962.57 and ARPA = \$15,542.03 for a Streambank & Shoreline Protection (580) project to be completed by 10/31/2022. The approval is contingent upon landowner and technical assistance provider's signatures.

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

FY22/23 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Request (Flat Rate per acre)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
01FY22/23RR1W1P	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24
02FY22/23RR1W1P	15.33333 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$1,605.40	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24
03FY22/23RR1W1P	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving contract #01FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$5,235.00, contract #02FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$1,605.40 and contract #03FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$5,235.00 from FY22/23 Root River 1W1P Cost Share funds for a 340 cover crop project to be completed by November 1st of years 2022, 2023 and 2024.

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

Bear Creek Maintenance Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
02 Bear Crk Maintenance Brush Management	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	7 acres @ \$300.00/acre = \$2,100.00

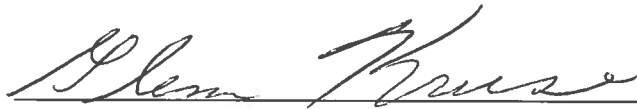
Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving a \$2,100.00 payment request for contract #02 Bear Crk Maintenance from Bear Creek Maintenance funding on a brush management project.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, September 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 9-8-22
Date


Secretary

Program Report

- **WCA** – Walter stated two DNR streambank projects were recently completed. One is located in the West Beaver area and the second is in Winnebago Township. Preparation with the National Fish & Wildlife Service for a dike repair on the Root River in Hokah, MN is underway.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter reported the Fall SE MN SWCD Area 7 meeting will be held September 27, 2022. The business meeting will take place at the Hokah Fire Station and Tim Miller, National Fish & Wildlife Service will be providing a boat island tour on the Mississippi River docking at Wildcat Landing in Brownsville, MN. The Cattlemen's Association will be making grilled steak sandwiches.

BWSR Academy will be held October 25 – 27, 2022 at Cragun's Conference Center in Brainerd, MN. Registration fee is \$55.00 per day. **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving two staff to attend BWSR Academy. This includes registration fees, lodging and meals.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graff, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Walter shared the MASWCD Annual Convention is scheduled for December 12 – 14, 2022 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington, MN.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Walter shared Scanlan and Wermager have been doing maintenance work on the R-2 site and it is looking good. Maintenance work will continue on the R-4 and R-1 sites.

Bear Creek – Walter stated the landowner is performing maintenance work in the pool area of Site 3.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:**Bob Scanlan**

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan's written report referenced infiltration tests having been completed and he will be putting together some data reports.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan's written report states he is working with several land owners on CWMA and cover crops.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – No report.
- **MACDE Education Grant** – Scanlan's written report indicates funds were used to purchase Solvita soil health test kits and the remainder of the grant funds will be used for a self-guided soil health tour this fall.

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported a grassed waterway project was completed in Spring Grove Twp. and a second grassed waterway project was completed in Money Creek Twp. An access road project has started in Mayville Twp. Pipe is being installed on a grade stabilization structure project also located in Mayville Twp. A grade stabilization structure with a grassed waterway is being built in Winnebago Twp., a grassed waterway with a rock chute has started construction in Yucatan Twp. and a push-up pond is being installed in Hokah Twp. In Houston 'E' Twp. a landowner is starting on the installation of two grassed waterways with tile.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Kruse, approving meeting adjournment.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, October 13, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

10-13-22
Date

Glenn 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

October 13, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on October 13, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

Dave Walter and Janice Messner – SWCD staff; Ryan Hytry – NRCS staff.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: **Motion** by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving the minutes from the September 8, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Feldmeier and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

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

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Feldmeier and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the September 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry reported NRCS staff has been busy with construction. Three grade stabilization structure are still scheduled for fall construction. Hytry stated he is performing CRP status reviews on contracts that can be renewed in 2024.

Supervisor Kruse joined the meeting.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter indicated Feldmeier and Welke accepted the invitation to attend the Root River Field to Stream Partnership Landowner Appreciation Cookout held September 8, 2022. Feldmeier reported there was a good turnout. Two Houston County landowners also participated.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Walter stated he will need to visit a site in La Crescent Township to remove fill from a wetland used as a parking area. He reported the National Fish & Wildlife Service dike repair on the Root River in Hokah, MN is finished. Walter indicated a streambank project on Campbell Creek in Money Creek Township is nearing completion. Seeding and mulching remain on the project. Walter also reported on a few details of a tiled waterway project in Houston ‘E’ Township. He stated BWSR also visited the landowner’s RIM easement site regarding landowner concerns. Further discussion of the concerns are under BWSR advisement.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter reported we received positive feedback on the Fall SE MN SWCD Area 7 meeting held September 27, 2022 at the Hokah Fire Station. Presentation topics included invasive carp and re-establishing the Brownsville islands for wildlife habitat. The presentations were followed with grilled steak sandwiches by the Cattlemen’s Association and a boat island tour on the Mississippi River of the Brownsville islands.

Walter shared the MASWCD Annual Convention is scheduled for December 12 – 14, 2022 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington, MN.

Walter stated the 2022 MASWCD Resolutions are out. Supervisors are to submit their ballots to Messner prior to November 1, 2022.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Walter shared construction will reconvene within the next couple of weeks to complete the Klinski project. He stated Scanlan and he burned debris from maintenance on the Klinski site.

Bear Creek – Walter stated the maintenance work in the pool area of Site 3 is completed. A question was raised about maintenance needs on Site 9. He responded that rip rapping will be involved.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:**Bob Scanlan**

- **Soil Health Tour** - Scanlan’s written report states this year’s soil health tour is up and running. The tour is a “self-guided” tour. Walter shared the location of the stops on the tour. The MACDE Education Grant is being used for a portion of the expenses incurred.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan’s written report states he is working with several land owners on CWMA and cover crops.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan’s written report indicates scissor cuttings, Solvita soil health testing, stem counts and infiltration testing has been performed on a landowner’s farm for a grant they received.
- **Interview** – Walter reported Scanlan completed an interview with Cali Torrell from Goff Public who is featuring a story about the “Klinski Pond” that will appear in next month’s MASWCD newsletter.
- **Cover Crops** – Scanlan’s written report states, “Corn silage harvest is complete, soybeans are being harvest and corn for grain is beginning to be taken out. Cover crop seedings are also in full swing as the fall season continues. We will be performing spot checks to evaluate germination rates in the next couple of weeks.”

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – No report.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.

- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported a critical area planting, Bear Creek maintenance project, was completed in Spring Grove Twp. A grade stabilization structure with a grassed waterway was built in Winnebago Twp. Two separate projects, an access road and a grade stabilization structure, were completed in Mayville Twp. A grassed waterway with a rock chute was completed in Yucatan Twp. and a grade stabilization structure with a diversion was completed in Money Creek Twp.

Construction has started on a grade stabilization structure in Black Hammer Twp. with a second structure to follow on the neighboring landowner’s property. Walter stated a grade stabilization project in Yucatan Twp. will also begin within the next week. Survey for a grassed waterway was done in Money Creek Twp. and design work is underway for two grade stabilization structures with waterways for a landowner in Sheldon Twp.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – No report.
- **Sixth Grade Environmental Day** – Messner reported this year’s event went well. Two new presenters were well received. Both of the presenters brought interesting visuals and tangibles. It was a warm day for the 193 students. There was great teamwork with the staff through set-up, the event and takedown.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Walter stated the plan is in the 60 day review stage with agencies. The plan should be ready for execution mid-2023 and implementation funding in the fall.
- **Root River 1W1P** –Walter along with Kruse shared a 5 Year Assessment is needing to be performed and was discussed at the Policy Committee meeting on September 26, 2022. It is likely an outside consulting firm will be writing the assessment. Request for proposals are being put out.
- **HELP Grant** – Walter indicated Wermager will be meeting with two addition landowners in the near future.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported that Wermager was able to be in the field for a waterway project in Money Creek Twp. and is also assisting with the two grade stabilization structure projects earlier reported in Black Hammer Twp.

Houston County Water Plan – Walter reported Wermager has recently contacted landowners that have projects scheduled for 2022 construction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Feldmeier stated he will contact the Houston County Human Resources Director to see how things are progressing with the review of the district’s personnel policy.

TSA7 (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: Walter stated a personnel committee meeting is scheduled for next week.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving the updated Root River SWCD Cost Share Policy.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY22 State Cost Share & ARPA Amendment Request

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving an amendment request on contract #20FY201W1P to extend the installation date from 10/13/22 to 6/1/2023.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA – (Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds \$229,608.02

BEAR CREEK MAINTENANCE COST SHARE (Funding up to 100% of cost estimate)

Bear Creek Maintenance Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving contract #03 Bear Crk Maintenance amendment request to increase the cost share funding from \$1,776.10 to \$1,906.10.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Bear Creek Maintenance Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
03 Bear Crk Maintenance	\$1,906.10	\$1,906.10	\$1,906.10 @ 100% = \$1,906.10 Payment Amount for Approval = \$1,906.10 from Bear Creek Maintenance Funds

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving a payment request in the amount of \$1,906.10 for contract 03 Bear Crk Maintenance using Bear Creek Maintenance funds as the funding source.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse 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)

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) Available Funds **\$5,381.10**

FY22/23 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (Grant expiration 10/31/2024) Available Funds **\$112,501.60**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
05FY20CS	\$14,877.00	\$14,995.00	\$14,995.00 @ 90% = \$13,495.50 Payment Amount for Approval = \$13,389.30 Funding Sources: FY20 Root River 1W1P = \$11,157.75 & ARPA = \$2,231.55

It was mutually agreed upon to table the payment request for contract 05FY20CS until technical and administrative approvals have been obtained.

FY22/23 Root River 1W1P PRE-APPROVED Cost Share Request (Flat Rate per acre)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Popplewell, Mike 07FY22/23RR1W1P	23 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,408.10	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24
Witt, Ken 08FY22/23RR1W1P	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24

It was noted contract #07FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$2,408.10 was pre-approved on 9/29/2022 and contract #08FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$5,235.00 were pre-approved on 9/28/2023. These contracts are for a 340 cover crop project to be completed by November 1st of years 2022, 2023 and 2024. The FY22/23 Root River 1W1P funding source was used for both contracts.

A discussion on Water Plan push-up pond incentive payments occurred. It was suggested ARPA funds could supplement the incentive payments. Fifty percent cost share was suggested.

It was requested the candidate running for District 2 supervisor opening be invited to the November and December board meetings.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving meeting adjournment.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

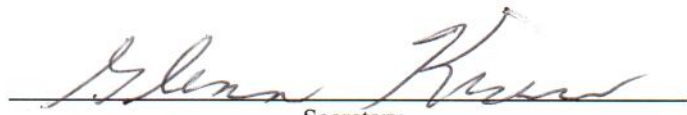
Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, November 10, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 11-10-22
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

November 10, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on November 10, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

Chair Feldmeier called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

Members Present:

Ken Anderson

Matt Feldmeier

Glenn Kruse

Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Cecil Graf

Others:

Dave Walter, Bob Scanlan, Jean Meiners and Janice Messner – SWCD staff; Ryan Hytry – NRCS staff; Adam Beilke, BWSR and Joe Driscoll.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions followed.

Minutes: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the October 13, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the Employee Time Records.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the October 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Adam Beilke, BWSR Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Beilke announced a second grant funding opportunity is being made available for the HELP grant. It will be available to new applicants as well as districts that have previously received funding. Beilke indicated there may be a training available for board supervisors this winter. It will be geared more towards new board supervisors.

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter indicated the past month has consisted of construction and cover crop assistance for the technical staff.

Program Report

- WCA – Walter stated he visited a building site in Looney Valley. A wetland will need to be crossed to access the home. A supervisor inquired if there were any updates on the tiled waterway project in Houston 'E' Township and the

RIM easement concerns he reported on in October. Walter indicated the landowner recently had surgery and steps will be taken to correct the RIM easement concerns.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter shared the MASWCD Annual Convention is scheduled for December 12 – 14, 2022 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington, MN.

Agency Report:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Hytry reported 22 EQIP funded projects were constructed. EQIP application deadline for 2023 funding is November 18, 2022. Thus far there are 14 applications. Knowledge of obligated contracts should be made known on April 28, 2023.

Hytry exited the meeting.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Scanlan shared the next meeting will be held November 18th. On the Klinski project an amendment is being requested to extend the completion date as the contractor has been unable to find available rip rap to complete the project. Scanlan stated he and Wermager are currently clearing brush on the R-4 structure.

Bear Creek – It was reported that there was no update on the needed maintenance on Site 9.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration** – Scanlan reported that he is doing the fall cover crop inspections.
- **Local Capacity CWMA** – Scanlan stated landowners with a 314 Brush Management contract are generally mowing this fall and will follow with a herbicide application in the spring.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan indicated there is one more year of testing on this grant.
- **MACDE Education Grant** – Scanlan stated a self-guided cover crop tour replaced the traditional group tour this year. There are four stops on the self-guided tour.
- **Drone Flight** – Scanlan reported a colleague from Mower County brought a drone to Houston County and did a flyover of the Olinger farm and other projects that were completed this year.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – No report.
- **Fall Newsletter** – Messner reported the fall newsletter with our 2023 tree order form was mailed November 9th. She thanked staff for submitting news articles for the newsletter.

Scanlan presented a power point from the drone flight.

Program & Staff Reports:

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Meiners stated buffer inspections were started this week.
- **MAWQCP** – Meiners reported one landowner called expressing interest in the program.

- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners indicated many construction projects were being completed for the season and bills are being gathered. She also reported technical staff are laying out requested contour strips and have started surveying projects for next year's construction season.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Walter stated the plan is in the 60 day review stage with agencies.
- **Root River 1W1P** –Walter indicated a 5 Year Assessment is needing to be performed. The Committee is requesting proposals from outside consulting firms to write the assessment.
- **HELP Grant** – Walter indicated Wermager has discussed plans with various landowners and funds should be exhausted.
- **BMP Projects** – Walter reported Wermager is assisting with two grade stabilization structure projects in Black Hammer Twp. and another in Sheldon Twp.

Houston County Water Plan – No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: No report.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Walter announced Scanlan has been offered a position with the MN Department of Ag. He will be making his decision within the next week.

TSA7 (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: Walter stated the personnel committee met and discussed health insurance premium increases. TSA7 is also interested in purchasing a new truck.

OLD BUSINESS

Personnel Policy updates – management staff reported they received word that the county attorney would not be reviewing our personnel policy. The county attorney suggested hiring a private lawyer with expertise in this area to review the policy. Staff stated the majority of the updates consisted of changing “County” to “District” and adding safety leave in conjunction with sick leave which was suggested by MCIT. After submitting our policy to MCIT for review they suggested our county attorney review the policy. Discussion followed and supervisors requested that the personnel policy be sent out to them with ample time to review.

FY22/23 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Request (Flat Rate per acre or funding up to 90% of cost estimate)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Drenkhahn Farms LLC 06FY22/23RR1W1P	\$18,000.00	\$16,200.00	Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	12/31/2022
Drenkhahn Farms LLC 09FY22/23RR1W1P	\$1,630.00	\$1,467.00	Grassed Waterway (412)	12/31/2022

It was noted contract 06FY22/23RR1W1P and 09FY22/23RR1W1P did receive technical approval.

Anderson exited the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving Addendum 2 to the FY21 Regional Safe Drinking Water for Private Well Users Sub-Agreement.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving registration, lodging and meal expenses for staff or supervisors attending the MASWCD Annual Convention.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving the purchase of a recognition/appreciation plaque for retiring supervisor Graf.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

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

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (*Flat Rate per acre*)

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – (*Grant expiration 12/31/2023*) – Available Funds **\$ 1,237.63**

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (*Grant expiration 12/31/2023*) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (*Flat Rate per acre*)

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$1,900.00**

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share – (*Grant expiration 12/31/2024*) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (*Flat Rate per acre*)

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$4,800.00**

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation Cost Share (2020)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Doering, Jr., Dennis 08-20CM CWMA	13.5 acres @ \$100/acre	\$1,350.00	Brush Management (314)	11/10/23

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving contract 08-20CM CWMA in the amount of \$1,350.00 for a 314 brush management project. Funding source is FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
07FY21LC-CC	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,700.00	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs. = \$2,700.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,700.00

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving payment on contract 07FY21LC-CC in the amount of \$2,700.00 for a 340 cover crop project. Funding source is FY21 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
01FY22LC-CC Cover Crop	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,700.00	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs. = \$2,700.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,700.00
04FY22LC-CC Cover Crop	14.66666 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$1,320.00	14.66666 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs. = \$1,320.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$1,320.00
02FY22LC-CC Cover Crop	22 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$1,980.00	22 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs. = \$1,980.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$1,980.00
03FY22LC-CC Cover Crop	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,700.00	30 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs. = \$2,700.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,700.00

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving payment on contract 01FY22LC-CC in the amount of \$2,700.00; contract 04FY22LC-CC in the amount of \$1,320.00; contract 02FY22LC-CC in the amount of \$1,980.00 and contract 03FY22LC-CC in the amount of \$2,700.00 for their 340 cover crop projects. Funding source for each contract is FY22 Local Capacity Cover Crop Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse 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*)

FY21 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/22*) – Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY22 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/24*) – Available Funds **\$813.07**

FY23 State Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/24*) – Available Funds **\$16,720.80**

FY21 State Cost Share Payment Request & Slippage for re-allocation

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
03FY21LC Grassed Waterway & Subsurface Drain	\$12,195.00	\$11,830.06	\$11,468.01 Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$10,321.21 Less EQIP = \$6,957.39 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$4,003.50 Payment Amount for Approval = \$3,363.82 Slippage for re-allocation = \$639.68 (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & Mulch with crimping less EQIP = \$166.86; project construction less EQIP = \$3,196.96) Funding source FY21 State Cost Share

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving payment from FY21 State Cost Share on contract 03FY21LC in the amount of \$3,363.82 for a 412 grassed waterway with a 606 subsurface drain project. The motion also includes approving the re-allocation of \$639.68 to funding source FY21 State Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving a funding source change on contract 18FY201W1P. Moving \$2,792.00 from FY21 State Cost Share to FY20 Root River 1W1P.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving an amendment request on contract 04FY21CS amending the contract expiration date from 11/30/2022 to 12/31/2022 and to amend the cost estimate from \$9,969.00 to \$13,937.34. An additional \$3,571.51 cost share funds are being allocated using FY21 State Cost Share in the amount of \$3,431.68 and \$139.83 from FY20 Root River 1W1P Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

ARPA – (*Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026*) Available Funds **\$229,608.02**

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 12/31/2023*) Available Funds **\$4,143.47**

FY22/23 1W1P Root River Watershed-Base Cost Share (*Grant expiration 10/31/2024*) Available Funds **\$87,191.50**

FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
05FY20CS	\$14,877.00	\$14,995.00	\$14,995.00 @ 90% = \$13,495.50 Payment Amount for Approval = \$13,389.30 Funding Sources: FY20 Root River 1W1P = \$11,157.75 & ARPA = \$2,231.55

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving payment on contract 05FY20 for a 410 grade stabilization structure using \$11,157.75 from FY20 Root River 1W1P and \$2,231.55 ARPA funding.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

PRE-APPROVED FY20 1W1P Root River Watershed Cost Share Amendment Request

It was noted an amendment request to extend the contract installation date on contract 01FY201W1P-CIP from 10/31/2022 to 12/31/2022 was pre-approved on October 31, 2022.

PRE-APPROVED FY22/23 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Request (Flat Rate per acre or funding up to 90% of cost estimate)

Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Dates
Glasspoole, John 10FY22/23RR1W1P	25 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,617.50	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24
Rosendahl, Chad 11FY22/23RR1W1P	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	Cover Crop (340)	11/1/22, 11/1/23, 11/1/24

It was noted that contract 10FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$2,617.50 was pre-approved on 10/17/2022 and contract 11FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$5,235.00 was pre-approved on 10/19/2022. These contracts are for a 340 cover crop project to be completed by November 1st of years 2022, 2023 and 2024. Funding source for both the contracts is FY22/23 Root River 1W1P.

FY22/23 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
01FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$5,235.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$5,235.00
02FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	15.33333 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$1,605.40	15.33333 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$1,605.40 Payment Amount for Approval = \$1,605.40
03FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$5,235.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$5,235.00
04FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$5,235.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$5,235.00
11FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$5,235.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$5,235.00
08FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$5,235.00	50 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$5,235.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$5,235.00
05FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	40 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$4,188.00	40 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$4,188.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$4,188.00
10FY22/23RR1W1P Cover Crop	25 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,617.50	25 acres @ \$34.90/acre for 3 yrs. = \$2,617.50 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,617.50

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Welke, approving contract 02FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$1,605.40; contract 01FY22/23RR1W1P, contract 03FY22/23RR1W1P, contract 04FY22/23RR1W1P, contract 11FY22/23RR1W1P, contract 04FY22/23RR1W1P, contract 08FY22/23RR1W1P each in the amount of \$5,235.00; contract 05FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$4,188.00 and contract 10FY22/23RR1W1P in the amount of \$2,617.50 for their 340 cover crop projects. Funding source for each contract is FY22/23 Root River 1W1P.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
4613	Contract #05FY20CS – Grade Stabilization Structure – FY20 Root River 1W1P = \$11,157.75; ARPA = \$2,231.55	\$ 13,389.30
4614	Ron Carlsen – Rent – November	\$ 1,287.00
4615	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 468.52
4616	VISA – Office Supply = \$187.00; Vehicle Maintenance 2017 GMC Starter = \$578.72; Con of Year - Lg print = \$30.81; Trees Postage = \$30.00; Postage = \$30.00	\$
4617	Contract #01FY22LC-CC – Cover Crop	\$ 2,700.00
4618	Contract #08FY22/23RR1W1P – Cover Crop	\$ 5,235.00
4619	Contract #05FY22/23RR1W1P – Cover Crop	\$ 4,188.00
4620	Contract #07FY21LC-CC – Cover Crop	\$ 2,700.00
4621	Fishel, John – Water Plan – Pond Clean Out	\$ 400.00
4622	Contract #01FY22/23RR1W1P – Cover Crop	\$ 5,235.00

4623	MN Dept. of Agriculture – Trees – License Renewal	\$ 250.00
4624	Contract #04FY2223RR1 WIP – Cover Crop	\$ 5,235.00
4625	Contract #03FY22/23RR1 WIP – Cover Crop	\$ 5,235.00
4626	Contract #04FY21LC-CC = \$1,320.00 & Contract #02FY22/23RR1 WIP = \$1,605.40 – Cover Crop	\$ 2,925.40
4627	Contract #11FY2223RR1 WIP – Cover Crop	\$ 5,235.00
4628	Dan Wermager – FY22 Local Capacity Mileage Reimbursement = 20 miles @ \$0.625	\$ 12.50
4629	Contract #02FY22LC-CC – Cover Crop	\$ 1,980.00
4630	Contract #03FY22LC-CC – Cover Crop	\$ 2,700.00
4631	Contract #10FY22/23RR1 WIP – Cover Crop	\$ 2,617.50
4632	Contract #03FY21LC – Grassed Waterway with Subsurface Drain	\$ 3,363.82
	Total	\$ 66,013.57

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving the above listed accounts payable.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

A discussion on Water Plan push-up pond incentive payments occurred. Walter stated he will be addressing the Houston County Water Plan Committee on this matter at their December 1, 2022 meeting.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving the meeting adjournment.

Voting affirmative: Feldmeier, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

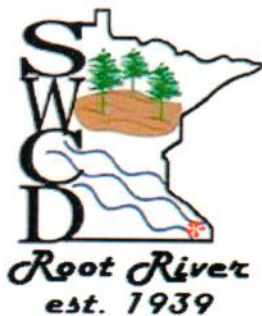
The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, December 8, 2022, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved:

12 - 8 - 22
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

December 8, 2022

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on December 8, 2022 at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota for its regular meeting.

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

Members Present:

Ken Anderson
 Matt Feldmeier
 Cecil Graf
 Glenn Kruse
 Jerry Welke

Members Not Present:

Others:

Dave Walter, Bob Scanlan, Dan Wermager, Jean Meiners and Janice Messner – SWCD staff and Joe Driscoll.

Those present took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Feldmeier presented a plaque of appreciation to retiring board supervisor Graf.

Minutes: Motion by Welke, seconded by Kruse, approving the minutes from the November 10, 2022 board meeting.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Employee Time Records: Motion by Anderson, seconded by Graf, approving the Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Supervisor Per Diems

Anderson, Ken – 4 th Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 500.00
Feldmeier, Matt – 4 th Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 500.00
Graf, Cecil – 4 th Qtr. 1 mtg. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 125.00
Kruse, Glenn – 4 th Qtr. 4 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 500.00
Welke, Jerry – 4 th Qtr. 5 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 625.00

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Monthly Report: Anderson requested the November 2022 treasurer's report be placed on file for audit.

Agency Reports:

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Board Conservationist Report

- ❖ Walter reported Hytry has been inputting EQIP applications during the past month

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- ❖ Walter stated the past month has consisted of reviewing project bills/payments, preparing and conducting staff evaluations and assisting with buffer site inspections.

Program Report

- **WCA** – Walter reported he performed a plat review near Rushford, MN and is working with a landowner who is building a new home along Addleman Drive, Houston, MN. They will need to cross a wetland to access the home.

MASWCD & MACDE – Walter shared the MASWCD Annual Convention is scheduled for December 12 – 14, 2022 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington, MN.

Watershed Updates:

Crooked Creek – Meiners shared the previous accountant will not be able to prepare their 2021 Financial Statements. They are searching for a replacement to assist them. On the Klinski project, seeding and mulching has not been completed. Crooked Creek’s contract amendment has an installation due date of December 31, 2022.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the 2023 Contract for Services Between Root River SWCD and Crooked Creek Watershed District in the amount of \$19,000.00 (\$15,000 Administrative Services; \$2,000 Engineer/Design Work \$2,000.00; Construction Oversight \$2,000.00).

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Bear Creek – No report.

Winnebago – No report.

Program & Staff Reports:

Jean Meiners

- **Buffer Law** – Meiners stated she followed up on two reported complaints along the Pine Creek. It was determined both were in fact in compliance. Meiners also shared her and Walter wrapped up the required 2022 spot checks.
- **MAWQCP** – No report.
- **MDH Safe Drinking Water** – No report.
- **BMP Projects** – Meiners indicated many of the previously completed construction projects submitted their bills for review and payment.

Janice Messner

- **Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring** – Messner shared information provided on the arsenic and manganese testing results for Houston County’s ten selected volunteers. She stated the 2022 nitrate testing results will be available in spring 2023.
- **Trees** – Messner reported tree sales have started. During November 1,150 trees were sold and for the month of December to date 600 trees. The balsam fir are no longer available.

Dan Wermager

- **WinLaC 1W1P** – Wermager stated the 60 day state agency review period has concluded and comments are being reviewed.

- **Root River IWIP** –Wermager indicated the deadline to submit proposals for the 5 Year Assessment has concluded. One proposal in the amount of \$27,000 was received from Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI).
- **HELP Grant** – Wermager reported he is working with the City of La Crescent to develop plans for pollinator plots they’re interested in installing.
- **I-90 Soil Health Tour** – Wermager shared the tour date for Houston County is February 9, 2023. The event will be held at the Hokah Fire Hall, Hokah, MN. A time has not been determined. The speakers for the event are Andy Linder and Dean Spanhein.

Houston County Water Plan – Wermager reported four of the planned six push-up ponds for 2022 were installed and four of nine pond clean outs were completed. He stated the completion percentage was down in comparison to 2021.

Walter shared updated dollar figures for the installation of push-up ponds. Walter stated he recommended the Water Plan Committee increase their incentive payment and offered additional ARPA funding that was issued to the Root River SWCD. Wermager indicated the general consensus of the Committee was to add an additional \$200 incentive payment using the offered ARPA funding from Root River SWCD. This will go in effect for 2023 projects.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Walter announced Scanlan has accepted a position with the MN Department of Ag. His last day is Friday, December 16th. Walter reported there are no plans to back fill the vacating position. Wermager will be handling the CWMA, cover crop and soil health work load and Meiners will be working with the Crooked Creek Watershed Committee.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: Walter shared revised budget figures with the board supervisors. He indicated with Scanlan taking a position with MN Dept. of Ag it is resulting in a \$91,000 budget savings. He stated he met with the county commissioners to review our budget request which included a \$15,000 increase in county allocation. Walter said the review seemed to have gone well.

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Walter stated staff evaluations have been conducted. He also shared the Root River SWCD will be housing a replacement Farm Bill Biologist. Walter indicated they are back filling the previously vacated position and is involved with the interview process.

TSA7 (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: Walter stated he was involved in staff evaluations for Jason Rochester and Pete Fryer. The other item of discussion has been the budget.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

ARPA – (Funding obligation expiration 12/31/2024; spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds **\$229,608.02**

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

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share - (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$0.00** (Flat Rate per acre)

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share – (Grant expiration 12/31/2023) – Available Funds **\$ 1,237.63**

FY21 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2020) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$550.00**

FY22 Local Capacity County Appropriation (2021) Cost Share – Available Funds **\$4,800.00**

FY20 Local Capacity CWMA Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
08FY20LC-CWMA Brush Management	10 acres @ \$30.00/acre for 3 yrs.	\$2,000.00	10 acres @ \$200.00/acre = \$2,000.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,000.00

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

FY21 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/22) – Available Funds **\$0.00**

FY22 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/24) – Available Funds **\$813.07**

FY23 State Cost Share (Grant expiration 12/31/24) – Available Funds **\$16,720.80**

FY21 State Cost Share Payment Request & Re-allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
04FY21CS Grade Stabilization Structure	\$13,937.34	\$13,675.89	\$13,100.00 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$11,790.00 Less EQIP = \$7,205.36 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$5,336.61 Payment Amount for Approval = \$4,584.64 (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch less EQIP = \$751.26; project construction less EQIP = \$3,833.38) Funding source FY21 State Cost Share Slippage for re-allocation = \$751.97 (\$612.14 FY21 State Cost Share & \$139.83 FY201W1P)

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving a payment request for contract #04FY21CS in the amount of \$4,584.64 (funding source FY21 State Cost Share) and re-allocation of slippage totaling \$751.97 (funding sources FY21 State Cost Share \$612.14 & FY20 Root River 1W1P \$139.83) for a grade stabilization structure project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 State Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving an amendment request on contract #03FY21CS increasing the cost estimate for the grassed waterway projects to \$6,000.00 and allocating an additional \$1,414.80 in cost share (funding sources FY20 Root River 1W1P \$802.66 and FY21 State Cost Share \$612.14) bringing the total cost share amount up to \$2,999.00. This amendment increases the acreage from .75 acres to 1.5 acres of clearing & grubbing, increases the acreage for seeding, fertilizing, mulching from the amended 1.1 acre to 1.5 acres, and it is adding mobilization to the cost estimate. In addition to these changes a correction on the reasoning of Amendment 1 is needed.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 State Cost Share Payment Request & Re-allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
03FY21CS Grassed Waterways	\$6,000.00	\$5,582.11	\$4,852.50 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$4,367.25 Less EQIP = \$2,254.04 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$2,999.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$2,113.21 (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch less EQIP = \$499.05; project construction less EQIP = \$1,614.16) Funding source FY21 State Cost Share Slippage for re-allocation = \$885.79 (\$83.13 FY21 State Cost Share & \$802.66 FY201W1P)

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving a payment request for contract #03FY21CS in the amount of \$2,113.21 (funding source FY21 State Cost Share) and re-allocation of slippage totaling \$885.79 (funding sources FY21 State Cost Share \$83.13 & FY20 Root River 1W1P \$802.26) for the grassed waterway projects.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 State Cost Share Amendment Request

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving an amendment request on contract #02FY21CS increasing the cost share an additional \$734.53 (funding sources FY21 State Cost Share \$83.13 and FY20 Root River 1W1P \$651.40) to \$7,010.53 for the grassed waterway & lined waterway with a rock chute (Grade Stabilization Structure).

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 State Cost Share Payment Request

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
02FY21CS Grassed Waterway & Lined Waterway with a Grade Stabilization Structure (Rock Chute)	\$43,530.00	\$44,233.83	\$42,617.50 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$38,355.75 Less EQIP = \$31,345.22 Cost Share Allocated to Project = \$7,010.53 Payment Amount for Approval = \$7,010.53 (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & Mulch with crimping less EQIP = \$326.70; project construction less EQIP = \$31,018.52) Funding source FY21 State Cost Share = \$ 6,359.13 & FY201WIP = \$651.40

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving a payment request for contract #02FY21CS in the amount of \$7,010.53 (funding sources FY21 State Cost Share \$6,359.13 and FY20 Root River 1WIP \$651.40) for the grassed waterway, lined waterway with a Grand Stabilization Structure (Rock Chute).

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Funding Source Changes

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the following listed funding source changes.

- Contract #04FY22CS moving \$2,828.25 from FY22 State Cost Share to FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share.
- Contract #19FY201WIP moving \$4,777.56 from FY21 Local Capacity & \$728.63 FY22 State Cost Share to FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share.
- Contract #05FY22CS moving \$545.20 from FY22 State Cost Share to FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share
- Contract #02FY21LC moving \$2,388.11 from FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share to FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share and \$2,779.20 from FY22 State Cost Share to FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share
- Contract #05FY21 moving \$6,036.00 from FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share to FY22 State Cost Share
- Contract #18FY201WIP moving \$2,792.00 from FY20 Root River 1WIP to FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share \$1,699.98 and \$1,092.02 to FY22 State Cost Share.
- Contract #06FY22/23RR1WIP moving \$3,478.68 from FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share to FY20 Root River 1WIP & moving \$12,739.32 from FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share to FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY20 Root River 1WIP Cost Share Payment Request & Re-allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
06FY22/23RR1WIP Grade Stabilization Structure	\$18,500.00	\$18,415.13	\$18,020.00 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$16,218.00 Cost Share Allocated to Project state funds = \$16,650.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$16,218.00 (FY20 Root River 1WIP Cost Share \$3,478.68 FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share \$12,739.32) (Root River SWCD maximum pay for seed, fert & mulch = \$162.00; project construction = \$16,056) Slippage for re-allocation FY22/23 Root River 1WIP Cost Share = \$432.00

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving a payment request for contract #06FY22/23RR1WIP in the amount of \$16,218.00(funding sources FY20 Root River 1WIP \$3,478.68 and FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share \$12,739.32) and re-allocation of slippage totaling \$432.00 (funding source FY22/23 Root River 1WIP) for the grade stabilization structure project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share Payment Request & Re-allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
18FY201WIP Access Road	\$9,720.00	\$6,720.93	\$6,720.93 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$6,048.84 Less EQIP = \$4,828.32 Cost Share Allocated to Project state funds = \$4,916.00 Payment Amount for Approval = \$1,220.52 (Funding Source FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share = \$1,220.52) Slippage for re-allocation FY21 Local Capacity Cost Share = \$1,040.16 & FY22 State Cost Share = \$2,655.32

Funding Source Change

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the following listed funding source change.

- Contract #02FY21LC moving \$4,693.10 from FY22/23 Root River IWIP Cost Share to FY22 State Cost Share

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

FY22 State Cost Share Payment Request & Re-allocation of Funds

Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Project Receipts	Request
02FY21LC Grade Stabilization Structure & Diversion	\$16,088.00	\$16,719.15	\$15,688.00 (Eligible expenses) @ 90% = \$14,119.20 Less EQIP = \$9,426.10 Cost Share Allocated to Project state funds = \$5,167.31 Payment Amount for Approval = \$4,693.10 (Funding Source FY22 State Cost Share = \$4,693.10) Slippage for re-allocation = \$474.21 FY22/23 Root River IWIP Cost Share

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving a payment request for contract #02FY21LC in the amount of \$4,693.10 (funding source FY22 State Cost Share) and re-allocation of slippage totaling \$474.21 (funding source FY22/23 Root River IWIP Cost Share) for the grade stabilization structure and diversion project.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Program & Staff Report:

Bob Scanlan

- **Cover Crop Demonstration Grant** – Scanlan reported follow-up soil testing will be needed next year on all locations that previously allowed the soil testing. The second testing will provide results to do a comparison from year one to year three using the no-till method and planting cover crops.
- **Local Capacity County Match CWMA** – Scanlan stated all the required inspections for 2022 have been completed.
- **MDA Soil Health Program** – Scanlan indicated 2023 will be the final year of this grant.
- **MACDE Education Grant** – Scanlan shared these funds will be directed to defraying costs of hosting the I-90 Soil Health Tour in 2023.

The board supervisors thanked Scanlan for his service to the Root River SWCD and opening new opportunities for the office.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Welke, approving updates to the Personnel Policy.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Welke, seconded by Graf, approving the addition of \$200.00 in ARPA funds increasing incentive payments for a Push-Up Pond with a pipe to \$1,700.00 and \$1,000.00 for a Push-Up Pond without a pipe.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the FY20 Local Capacity Financial Report.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruse, approving the FY21 State Cost Share Financial Report.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Kruse, seconded by Anderson, approving the above listed WinLaC 1W1P accounts payable and transfer of funds contingent on Policy Committee Approval.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Staff (Messner, Meiners, Scanlan and Wermager) voluntarily exited the meeting while staff evaluations were reviewed.

Messner rejoined the meeting after staff evaluation reviews were completed.

Motion by Graf, seconded by Welke, approving meeting adjournment.

Voting affirmative: Anderson, Graf, Kruse and Welke

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, January 12, 2023, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Approved: 1-12-2023
Date

Kenneth Anderson
Secretary