

MINUTES OF THE DUBUQUE SOIL AND WATER
 CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
 EPWORTH IA
 JULY 14, 2020

Call Meeting to Order: The monthly meeting of the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Melvin Wilgenbusch at 1:03 p.m. on a Teleconference Call on July 14, 2020. Those present included Staff: Theresa Weiss & Colleen Siefken; Commissioners: Melvin Wilgenbusch, Dave Ruden, Wayne Demmer, Jeff Schmitt & Mike Freiburger.

Adopt Agenda: Being no additions or changes, the agenda was approved as presented:

20-58 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: Wilgenbusch called for a discussion of the June 9, June 22 & July 9, 2020 meeting minutes.

20-59 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Ruden. Motion carried unanimously.

FARMS Program Summary: Current **FARMS '20** Account information as per 7/6/20:

Program	Balance	Program	Balance
REAPP	\$ 0.00	REAPF/NG	\$ 318.75
Cost Share	\$ 0.00		

FY '21 Cost Share/WQI Updates:

Cost Share Allocation - \$63,154.00
 REAP P Allocation - \$6,983.91
 REAP FP Allocation - \$2,304.37
 Authorized to fund 1st time WQI applicants as of 7/8/20.

Cost Share Applications:

IFIP

Luke Casey, #85167, 1 grade stabilization structure, \$16,595.50 cost share

REAP

Joseph Ertl Declaration of Trust, #81571, 5 acre Tree/Shrub Planting, \$3,750
 David Rauen, #81608, 3 acre Tree/Shrub Planting, \$2,250
 Matthew Tobin, #81951, 19 acres Forest Stand Improvement, \$2,280
 Matthew Tobin, #81950, 5 acres Tree/Shrub Planting, \$3,750
 Calvin Coohy, #83055, 5.5 acres Tree/Shrub Planting, \$3,825

WQI

15 WQI applications were approved by the CA on 7/10/20. See attached list.

20-60 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the Casey application. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

20-61 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the REAP applications. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

84 WQI Cover Crop applications have been mailed/mailed to producers and are in various stages of being returned to the office.

Cost Share Amendments: 5 applications previously approved for Cover crop funding through the Cost Share program need to be moved to the WQI fund:

Daniel Steffen, #83996, move funding from Cost Share to WQI
Stanley Friedmann, #83680, move funding from Cost Share to WQI
Gretchen Tucker, #83756, move funding from Cost Share to WQI
Matthew Knepper, #83757, move funding from Cost Share to WQI
Randal Riniker, #83949, move funding from Cost Share to WQI
Kenneth Runde, #78573, amend completion date from 8/1/20 to 10/1/20

20-62 Motion made by Ruden to approve the above amendments. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Certifications:

Harry Althaus, #69628, \$25,000 cost share
Matthew Then, #80534, \$3,942.33 cost share
Ronald Miller, #79962, \$1,826.25 cost share
Corporation of New Melleray, #79459, \$11,623.23 cost share

20-63 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the above Certifications. Motion seconded by Demmer. Ruden abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Cost Share Maintenance Agreements:

Harry Althaus, #69628, 1 grade stabilization structure
Matthew Then, #80534, 2.2 ac grass waterways
Ronald Miller, #79962, 15.5 ac forest stand improvement
Corporation of New Melleray, 22 acres Tree Planting

20-64 Motion made by Demmer to approve the above Maintenance Agreements. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Ruden abstained. Motion carried.

1M/Finance:

- June Bank Statement was emailed for commissioner review.
- June Treasurer's Report was emailed for commissioner review.
- 1M Expense Voucher in the amount of \$1,269.54

20-65 Motion made by Ruden to approve the June Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

20-66 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the 1M Expense Voucher. Motion seconded by Ruden. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence Received:

- Maquoketa River WMA Summer Update and Water Sampling. Funding request for water sampling in the amount of \$378.00. Freiburger discussed the 6/23/20 water sampling results. Call Mike should you like to further discuss the results.
- CDI Resolutions – roll call was taken to approve or disapprove each resolution and VOTE TO ARCHIVE. Siefken tallied responses.
- CDI Connections June Issue. Annual Commissioners Conference has been changed to a ZOOM meeting to be held on August 10th at 9:00 a.m. More information to come.
- Unfunded Cooperative Work Agreement with NRCS – no changes allowed – note partner employee's personal insurance first responsible for accident damage and Section 1619 regarding protecting information.
- District Initiative Amendment to extend NACD completion date with IDALS to December 31, 2020
- \$1,000 PF New Employee/Request for Funding

20-67 Motion made by Freiburger to sign the Unfunded Cooperative Work Agreement. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

20-68 Motion made by Ruden to sign the Amendment with IDALS. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

20-69 Motion made by Ruden to delay decision on PF funding until next meeting. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried.

Meeting Updates:

- Freiburger discussed most recent water sampling results from Maquoketa River WMA . Water sampling test results have been received. Mike provided those results to board members and invited them to ask any questions they might have of him. Also, we have received a request for funds to assist with water sampling again this year. No action taken on the request.
- Eric continues to work with Attorney General's Office and Board of Supervisors regarding new 28E Agreement. Latest proposal has County and City perhaps administering their own cost share programs. Eric will be sending board a clarification of current discussions. Conservation Agronomist position description has been written and provided to all board members.

Personnel Updates:

- Schemechel Benefit package for FY'21 was reviewed.
- Siefken needs to look more into IRS guidelines for mileage reimbursement to see what all that includes. Is it meant to also include vehicle wear and tear?

20-70 Motion made by Schmitt to approve Schmechel's Benefit package. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

NRCS Updates: Weiss reported the following:

- EQIP – 19 contracts have been signed.
- 3 CSP contracts have been preapproved.
- CRP contracts (approximately 100) to be completed for September commissioner meeting. Staff has begun field checks.
- Kurt Simon is retiring the end of the month.
- District Conservationist and Resource Team Lead has been advertised for the Epworth office.

CRP Conservation Plans & Revisions/Conservation Plans: 19 EQIP Conservation plans have been reviewed.

20-71 Motion made by Ruden to approve the plans. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to discuss, Wilgenbusch requested a motion to adjourn.

20-72 Motion made by Demmer to adjourn. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Office, Epworth, Iowa.

<u>Melvin Wilgenbusch</u>	<u>8/11/20</u>	<u>Colleen Jeffrey</u>	<u>7/15/20</u>
Chairperson	Date	Secretary	Date

