

MINUTES OF THE DUBUQUE SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
EPWORTH IA  
February 9, 2021

Call Meeting to Order: The monthly meeting of the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Melvin Wilgenbusch at 12:33 p.m. on the ZOOM platform on February 9, 2021. Those present included Staff: Theresa Weiss, Colleen Siefken, Eric Schmechel & Zach Timm; Commissioners: Melvin Wilgenbusch, Wayne Demmer, Jeff Schmitt & Mike Freiburger; Guest: Harley Pothoff, BOS.

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

21-19 Motion made by Demmer to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: Wilgenbusch called for a discussion of the January 4, 2021 meeting minutes.

21-20 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

FARMS Program Summary: Current **FARMS '21** Account information:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Balance</b>
REAPP	\$ 0.00	REAPF/NG	\$ 0.00
Cost Share	\$ 0.00		

Updating Cost Share Priorities/Average Costs: Siefken provided 2018 – 2020 state cost shared cost information and surrounding counties average costs. Board proceeded to update their Cost Share Priorities.

Previously approved motion 18-134 will be changed to read: If a terrace system is removed from a field and landowner makes application for a waterway with the previously terraced area, cost share will be denied within the area and motion will be renumbered 21-22.

21-21 Motion made by Freiburger to update the Priorities/Average Costs as discussed. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

21-22 Motion made by Schmitt to change wording to not allow cost share within area of removed terraces. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

1M/Finance:

- December & January Bank Statement & Treasurer's reports were reviewed.
- 1M Expense Voucher in the amount of \$380.23 was presented



Meeting Updates:

Freiburger recently forwarded minutes to all from recent MRWMA. CCWMA recently funded 2 cost share projects. One urban stormwater project and a grade stabilization structure.

1:45 Wilgenbusch left the meeting. Demmer took over as Chair.

Watershed Project Report: Schmechel is now also processing the floodplain permits for the county. Schmechel presented update on Truterra program and participant interest. Discussed pros/cons for extending to multi year programs. Keep in mind goal to build relationships. How about farmers already doing a great job and not much potential to increase their scores? March we will discuss budget and outreach/education. Siefken mentioned need to create policy regarding office supplies/expenses and travel/training to alleviate going back and forth with emails for approvals of such. Siefken mentioned the following bills needing approval:

Office Supplies - \$372.93 max

Quarterly Co. Office Utilities - \$45.31

Safety Vests - \$127.59

ArcView Annual Basic Maintenance Fee - \$89.04

John Wiley – Advanced Construction Site Runoff Control - \$115 registration fee

21-27 Motion made by Schmitt to approve that above expenses. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Siefken presented a proposal for a POLICY to create for future Watershed personnel travel/training and supply requests.

21-28 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the POLICY. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Updates:

None

NRCS Updates: Weiss reported the following:

- General CRP has been extended indefinitely.
- Staff is working on EQIP/CSP ranking.

CRP Conservation Plans & Revisions/Conservation Plans: 0 plans to be approved.

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

21-29 Motion made by Freiburger to adjourn. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. for the unforeseeable future on the ZOOM platform. **Note new meeting time.**

Madeline Wilgenbusch 3/9/21  
Chairperson Date

Colleen Sullivan 2/11/21  
Secretary Date