

MINUTES OF THE DUBUQUE SOIL AND WATER
 CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
 EPWORTH IA
 July 12, 2021

Call Meeting to Order: The monthly meeting of the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Wayne Demmer at 6:34 p.m. at the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District office, Epworth, IA on July 12, 2021. Those present included Staff: Theresa Weiss, Colleen Siefken, & Eric Schmechel; Commissioners: Wayne Demmer, Jeff Schmitt & Mike Freiburger; Assistant Commissioner: Dave Ruden; On the phone: Melvin Wilgenbusch & Zach Timm.

Adopt Agenda: Being the additions of CDI resolution votes, the agenda was approved as presented:

21-60 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: Demmer called for a discussion of the June 14, 2021 meeting minutes.

21-61 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Program	Balance	Program	Balance
REAPP	\$ 67,361.11	REAPF/NG	\$ 2,657.68
Cost Share	\$ 7,964.91		

Cost Share Applications: Demmer reviewed the following:

IFIP

Thomas Schieltz, #93518 Grade Stabilization Structure, cost share amt \$20,143.00

REAP

John Ludescher, #91389, 14.3 ac Forest Stand Improvement, cost share amt \$1,716.00

Thomas Lucas, #90622, 3.8 ac Tree/Shrub Establishment, cost share amt \$2,280.00

Thomas Hanten, #89537, 18.8 ac Forest Stand Improvement, cost share amt \$2,256.00

Charles Westphal, #90625, 5 ac Tree/Shrub Establishment, cost share amt \$3,000.00

James Lynn, #91813, 18.7 ac Forest Stand Improvement, cost share amt. \$2,244.00 (James has agreed to accept 8 acres of Forest Stand Improvement funding, as that is what is remaining in the account. We will apply for supplemental to try to fund the remaining acres.)

WQI – Per DSC, CA's are allowed to approve these for funding. Funded on 7/9/12.

93364	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	BAHL, JOSEPH	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,618.00	\$809.00
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93377	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	BAHL, RICHARD	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
91345	5/20/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	BREHM, KENNETH	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,700.00	\$850.00
92063	6/11/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	BRIMEYER, MARK	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$6,500.00	\$3,250.00
92811	6/24/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	COOK, AMY	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
93367	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	DUPONT, JULIE	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$4,100.00	\$2,050.00
92411	6/17/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	FUNKE, BEN	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$5,600.00	\$2,800.00
91998	6/10/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	GAUL, ERIC	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
91794	6/3/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	HOSCH, ADAM	No-Till	\$3,200.00	\$1,600.00
92000	6/10/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	KLEIN, BRADLEY	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$500.00	\$250.00
93445	7/8/2021	WQI	KLUESNER, DUANE	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,250.00	\$625.00
91926	6/9/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	KLUESNER, PAUL	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$2,283.50	\$1,141.75
91725	6/1/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	KNEPPER, CHARLES	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$5,750.00	\$2,875.00
92599	6/22/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	KNEPPER, CHARLES	No-Till	\$3,200.00	\$1,600.00
93375	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	KRONLAGE, BRIAN	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
91708	6/1/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	LEMKE, ANGELA	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$865.00	\$432.50
91648	5/27/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	MCCARTHY, ROBERT	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$6,500.00	\$3,250.00
91923	6/9/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	MURPHY, JAMES	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
93373	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	PAPE, ORAN	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$7,500.00	\$3,750.00
92664	6/22/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	PINS, PAUL	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,500.00	\$750.00

91393	5/20/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	RINIKER, ADAM	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$2,200.00	\$1,100.00
91928	6/9/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	RINIKER, JUDITH	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
91927	6/9/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	RINIKER, MATTHEW	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$6,550.00	\$3,275.00
93363	7/7/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	SABERS, JACOB	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$1,550.00	\$775.00
92222	6/15/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	SCHIELTZ, JEFF	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$5,500.00	\$2,750.00
91627	5/27/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	SCHUELLER, DENNIS	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$2,800.00	\$1,400.00
92650	6/22/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	SCHWERS, SPENCER	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
92234	6/15/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	STEFFENSMEIER, JASON	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
91272	5/18/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	UNGS, SCOTT	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$4,400.00	\$2,200.00
92773	6/24/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	WEBER, RONALD	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
92402	6/17/2021	Water Quality Initiative - Statewide	WOLFE, LORAS	Cover Crop - 1 Year	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00

21-62 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the IFIP/REAP applications. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Certifications: Demmer reviewed the following:

- Thomas Griep, #89234, \$2,193.75 cost share
- Calvin Coohy, #83055, \$3,825.00 cost share
- Ernie Feldermann, #89271, \$2,739.97 cost share
- Corp of New Melleray, #88179, \$1,800 cost share

21-63 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the cost share certifications. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Schmitt mistakenly signed the Certification Forms.

Cost Share Maintenance Agreements: Demmer reviewed the following:

- Ernie Feldermann, #89271, 1.05 ac grassed waterways
- Calvin Coohy, #83055, 5.5 ac Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Corp of New Melleray, #88179, 3 ac Tree/Shrub Establishment

Thomas Griep, #89234, 5 ac Tree/Shrub Establishment

21-64 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the Maintenance Agreements. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Demmer left the meeting, Wilgenbusch took over as Chairperson.

1M/Finance:

- June Bank Statement & Treasurer reports were reviewed.
- Additional Bills (not listed on Treasurer's report) to be approved this meeting:
 - 3180 – Plane Art Designs – watershed t-shirts - \$1,753.50
 - 3181 – John Wiley – Sampling Supplies/Beacon - \$90.93
 - 3182 – Mel Wilgenbusch – Travel - \$42.12
 - 3183 – Dave Ruden – Travel - \$10.53
 - 3184 – Mike Freiburger – Travel - \$17.16
 - 3185 – Wayne Demmer – Travel \$12.09
 - 3186 – Ron Lindblom – Travel - \$12.48
 - 3187 – Jeff Schmitt – Travel - \$16.38
 - 3188 – void
 - 3189 – Eric Schmechel – paper - \$66.98
- \$1,095.31 1M Expense Voucher
- Preparing for Annual Audit

21-65 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the June Treasurer Report and payment of additional bills. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried.

21-66 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the 1M Expense Voucher. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence Received:

- FY 22 Cost Share Allocation received. September 1st is date for supplemental funding requests.
- WQI Funding of 1st Time Applications has been approved.
- FARMS Audit – no reply from DSC
- CDI Connections Newsletter (June)
- CDI Resolutions – Commissioners voted on the resolutions.
- Plymouth SWCD has submitted a letter of opposition to the CDI bylaws change to be considered at Commissioner Annual Conference to be held August 23rd. They do not agree with the change to consider an SWCD (and all their commissioners) as 1 member, instead of the current status of 5 individual members. No action to be taken by Dubuque SWCD.
- NACD Grant #2 has been completed. Final report has been submitted and accepted.

Guest Dubuque League of Women Voters (LWV) – Sue Wilson & Tammy Pinski presented to board regarding what the LWV does and their desire to meet with local boards to see what each is involved in. Their intent is to recruit from their ranks members to attend local board meetings. If they can

assist the SWCD with any type of outreach we are encouraged to contact them. They also have a watershed game which may be of interest to us.

Watershed Project Report:

- Shirts has been received, caps are on order, signs are on hold as Iowa Prison Industries is contracting with Wisconsin to do their printing and they haven't started back up due to COVID.
- City of Peosta recently passed a Stormwater Ordinance.
- Schmechel and Timm are discussing proposed minor changes in the Truterra program involving nitrate sampling for FY 22.
- Discussed paying to boost facebook pages.
- Field Day at Smith Farm. 20922 Asbury Road, 5-7 pm on August 25th. Iowa Corn Grower's Association is sponsoring and Cattlemen's Association is grilling. Flier is being developed.
- WI NRCS CIG Grant – board agreed to support development of application by Sand Creek.
- SWCS annual conference and membership – Timm and Wiley would like to attend at a cost of \$200 per non-member and \$150 per member. There also is a membership request.
- Loras College Videos to reach both urban/rural population. \$5,000 - \$10,000 estimated cost to develop two videos. One shorter video and one 5-8 minute video on What Does Clean Water mean to you. Feature interviews with farmers, supervisors, city of Dubuque, local outdoor clubs, river museum, truterra, etc.
- JEO Consultants has been hired to work on the Northern Dubuque County Watersheds plan regarding the \$650,000 NRCS WFPO grant.
- CCWMA has about \$100,000 remaining to be obligated from original \$1.4 million. Have 2 projects in line for those funds.
- Request to purchase Infiltration Ring/Sweep Net & Penitrometer to be purchased added by board.
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21-67 Motion made by Schmitt to sign the pledge agreement for the CIG Grant Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

21-68 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the request to attend SWCS Conference and will pay the dues membership for Wiley. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

21-69 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the Infiltration Ring/Sweep Net and Penitrometer. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

21-70 Motion made by Freiburger to obligate up to \$7,500 for video production. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Updates:

Freiburger had forwarded to commissioners most recent Maquoketa River WMA meeting minutes and May sampling results.

Personnel Updates:

FY 22 Health Insurance Rates for Watershed employees are \$53.31 per month for single plan and \$125.36 per month for a family plan SWCD cost is \$708.23 per single plan and \$1,665.50 per family plan.

Personnel Committee completed employee reviews. Watershed employees will receive a 3% raise effective August 1st. Schmechel will also maintain the \$500 reimbursement he currently receives monthly as additional salary after August 1st. Sweeney will receive a \$0.50 per hour raise effective August 1st.

21-71 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the proposed employee wage increases. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

NRCS Updates: Weiss reported the following:

- CRP has been opened back up. Lots of changes to the program.
- 1 CSP contract funded.

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

21-72 Motion made by Freiburger to adjourn. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, **August 9, 2021** at **6:30 p.m.** at the District office.

Melvin Wilgenbusch 08/09/21
Chairperson Date

William Siffers 7/14/21
Secretary Date