

DUBUQUE SOIL & WATER  
 CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
 EPWORTH IA  
 July 18, 2022

Call Meeting to Order: The monthly meeting of the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners was called to order by Chairperson Wayne Demmer at 6:32 p.m. via Zoom and in person at the District office in Epworth, IA on July 18, 2022. Those present included Staff: Theresa Weiss, Colleen Siefken, & Zach Timm; Commissioners: Wayne Demmer, Jeff Schmitt, John Smith, Ron Lindblom & Mike Freiburger; Guest: Helen Leavenworth – Resource Team Lead, Harley Pothoff.

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

22-75 Motion was made by Freiburger to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: Demmer called for a discussion of the June 13, 2022 monthly meeting minutes.

22-76 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

FARMS Program Summary: Current **FARMS '23** Account information:

| Program  | Balance     | Program    | Balance      |
|----------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| REAPP    | \$ 7,000.60 | Cost Share | \$ 70,490.00 |
| REAPF/NG | \$ 2,326.04 |            |              |

WQI First Time Applicant Approvals:

Date Printed: July 18, 2022

**Practice Status Report**

| Practice ID | Applicant       | Practice               | Total Estimated Cost | Amount Obligated | Units Installed | Units   |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 99693       | DANIEL DECKER   | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$3,750.00           | \$1,875.00       | 75              | Acre(s) |
| 100538      | Matthew Digmann | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$1,500.00           | \$750.00         | 30              | Acre(s) |
| 99619       | DENNIS HEIMS    | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$8,000.00           | \$4,000.00       | 160             | Acre(s) |
| 100295      | JASON WOLFE     | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$6,500.00           | \$3,250.00       | 130             | Acre(s) |
| 101949      | JULIE KLEIN     | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$750.00             | \$375.00         | 15              | Acre(s) |
| 100290      | JACOB SABERS    | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$1,600.00           | \$800.00         | 32              | Acre(s) |
| 101801      | DAVID STEIGER   | No-Till                | \$434.00             | \$217.00         | 21.7            | Acre(s) |

|        |                     |                        |            |            |      |         |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------|---------|
| 100136 | TONY KLUESNER       | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$1,850.00 | \$925.00   | 37   | Acre(s) |
| 101800 | DAVID STEIGER       | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$1,085.00 | \$542.50   | 21.7 | Acre(s) |
| 100068 | ANDREW SIMON        | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$2,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | 40   | Acre(s) |
| 101688 | John Rauen          | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$1,250.00 | \$625.00   | 25   | Acre(s) |
| 99964  | John Takes          | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$2,250.00 | \$1,125.00 | 45   | Acre(s) |
| 101651 | Richard Brimeyer    | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$8,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | 160  | Acre(s) |
| 99963  | Phil Knepper        | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$8,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | 160  | Acre(s) |
| 101487 | Todd Then           | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$8,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | 160  | Acre(s) |
| 99962  | Scot Knepper        | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$3,000.00 | \$1,500.00 | 60   | Acre(s) |
| 101431 | Marvin Ambrosy      | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$5,000.00 | \$2,500.00 | 100  | Acre(s) |
| 99960  | Scott Steffensmeier | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$3,200.00 | \$1,600.00 | 64   | Acre(s) |
| 101428 | Jason Ambrosy       | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$5,000.00 | \$2,500.00 | 100  | Acre(s) |
| 99916  | DAVID<br>SCHNEIDER  | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$3,500.00 | \$1,750.00 | 70   | Acre(s) |
| 101163 | Justin Pfeiler      | Cover Crop -<br>1 Year | \$580.00   | \$290.00   | 11.6 | Acre(s) |

WQI Procedures allows CA to approve first time applicants without board approval.

Cost Share Application:

Martin Kennedy, #100310, 5.33 Ac CRP BI Filter Strips, \$1,066 cost share  
 Mary Klostermann, #100698, 20.54 Ac CRP BI Riparian Buffer, \$4,106 cost share  
 Joshua Schmitt, #100918, 1.16 Ac CRP BI Filter Strip, \$232 cost share  
 Jason Wolfe, #100141, 11.67 Ac CRP BI Filter Strip, \$2,334 cost share  
 Ronald Then, #100610, 12.92 Ac CRP BI Filter Strip, \$2,584 cost share  
 Donald Wilgenbusch, #100164, 4.25 Ac. CRP BI Contour Buffer Strip, \$850 cost share  
 Matthew Then, #100612, 1.26 Ac. CRP BI Filter Strip, \$252 cost share  
 Timothy Hodge, #97923, 10.6 Ac. Forest Stand Improvement, \$1,272 cost share  
 Brian Cose, #101864, 8.3 Ac. Forest Stand Improvement, \$996 cost share  
 Joseph Recker, #97967, 3.7 Ac Tree & Shrub Establishment, \$2,220 cost share  
 Corporation of New Melleray, #98433, 3 Ac Tree & Shrub Establishment, \$1,800 cost share

22-77 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the applications. Motion seconded by Freiburger.  
 Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Amendment:

Eugene Tinker, #94164, amend completion date from 6/1/22 to 12/15/22  
 Marcus Murphy, #90844, amend completion date from 8/31/22 to 3/31/23

22-78 Motion made by Smith to approve the amendments. Motion seconded by Lindblom. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Certifications:

David & Alan Turnis, #97235, \$1,600 cost share  
Corporation of New Melleray, #93760, \$8,040 cost share

22-79 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the Certifications. Motion seconded by Lindblom. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Maintenance Agreements:

Corporation of New Melleray, #93760, 13.4 Ac Tree & Shrub Establishment

22-80 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the Maintenance Agreements. Motion seconded by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Watershed Project Update:

Field Day – August 27<sup>th</sup> at Eric Miller's 1-4. Corn Grower's sponsoring lunch.  
Meeting with potential Social Media/Outreach consultant scheduled for week of July 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Checking with Eric to see if he would like Board members to attend.  
SILT program being developed.  
Watershed employee reviews completed by Lindblom, Freiburger, Ruden and Siefken. All employees have developed well into their positions (18 months now) and are planning for future development and involvement.

Finance:

June Bank Statement & Treasurer reports were reviewed.  
Annual Audit Prep – Siefken asked for 2 volunteers to assist with the Annual Audit. Schmitt and Lindblom agreed to assist.  
1M Expense – Commissioners signed travel vouchers and initialed eligible 1M bills. Siefken had attached to the TR the final 1M report showing a -\$44.87 balance.  
Commissioner mileage being increased from \$0.39 to \$0.50/mile effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

22-81 Motion made by Smith to approve the June Treasurer Report and all bills listed on the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

22-82 Motion made by Lindblom for Schmitt and himself to assist with annual audit. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

22-83 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the 1M Expense. Motion seconded by Lindblom. Motion carried unanimously.

CDI Resolutions: Board discussed resolutions and voted upon them. Demmer will be attending Annual Conference. Proxy cards were signed and presented to Demmer.

District Initiative Agreement for NACD Grant Round Five: Siefken reviewed agreement between SWCD & IDALS.

22-84 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the agreement. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

\$1,000 Father Norman White Memorial Scholarship: Winner is Carley Kintzle. Carley will be accepting her award at our August commissioners meeting.

Correspondence Received:

CDI Connections Newsletter (June)  
June '22 Kozak Update

Meeting Updates: Employee Reviews it was mentioned that Truterra program will be reevaluated for potential revamp on the county level. IAS isn't as involved as desired. Might be advantageous to get private license and work with other companies??

Personnel Updates:

Watershed employee reviews were conducted with the assistance of Ruden, Lindblom, Freiburger and Siefken. Schmechel is happy with performance of all staff.

Wage increase was discussed. Pothoff stated non-union county staff received 5%. Discussion followed.

IRS has occurred a mid-year mileage increase. Board determined not to change mileage rate.

21-85 Motion made by Freiburger to provide a 6% increase, due to high inflation rate. Motion seconded by Lindblom. It will be noted to staff that this increase was due to reviews and economic conditions and shouldn't be considered a normal increase. Motion carried unanimously.

Lindblom questioned the SWCD future involvement with the SILT program in light of the recent action by the Board of Supervisors to provide funding of the program. Funding was just approved, staff needs to be advertised for and hired by SILT and Schmechel has been involved with discussions up to this point. SWCD/Schmechel will continue to be key partners of the effort and roles will be developed. Local foods is a key component of SILT.

NRCS Updates: Leavenworth reported the following:

Helen introduced herself

New ASTC- FO in Area 3 – Anand Hase

CRP Signup 57 & 58 planning is wrapping up. Ongoing CRP Status Reviews are being completed.

Compliance Status Reviews have been completed. Letters have gone out.

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

22-86 Motion made by Schmitt to adjourn. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, August 8, 2022** at **6:30 p.m.** at the district office.

|                     |               |                         |                |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Wayne Demmer</u> | <u>8/8/22</u> | <u>Colleen Sufferin</u> | <u>7/19/22</u> |
| Chairperson         | Date          | Secretary               | Date           |