

DUBUQUE SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
EPWORTH IA
October 4, 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 6:31 p.m. at the Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District office, Epworth, IA on October 4, 2021. Those present included Staff: Theresa Weiss, Colleen Siefken; Commissioners: Melvin Wilgenbusch, Wayne Demmer, Jeff Schmitt, Ronald Lindblom & Mike Freiburger; Assistant Commissioners: Dave Ruden; Guest: Harley Pothoff.

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

21-92 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 September 13, 2021 meeting minutes.

21-93 Motion made by Lindblom to approve the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Program	Balance	Program	Balance
REAPP	\$ 0.00	Cost Share	\$ 52,998.93
REAPF/NG	\$ 565.18		

Cost Share Applications: Wilgenbusch reviewed the following:

IFIP

Merle M Mozena Trust, #90843, Grade Stabilization Structure, \$25,000

REAP

None

21-94 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the IFIP applications. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Amendment: Wilgenbusch reviewed the following:

none

Cost Share Certifications: Wilgenbusch reviewed the following:

Steven Friedmann, #89805, \$580.72

Brian Preston, #88242, \$1,350.00

Brian Preston, #88162, \$912.33

21-95 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the cost share certifications. Motion seconded by Demmer. Motion carried unanimously.

Cost Share Maintenance Agreements: Wilgenbusch reviewed the following:

Steven Friedmann, #89805, .4 ac grass waterway
Brian Preston, #88242, 3 ac tree/shrub establishment
Brian Preston, #88162, 8.8 ac forest stand improvement

21-96 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the Maintenance Agreements. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

1M/Finance:

- September Bank Statement & Treasurer reports were reviewed.
- 1M Expense Voucher in the amount of \$1046.95.
- Additional Bills (not listed on Treasurer's report) to be approved this meeting:

SWCD Account

3199 – Mel Wilgenbusch – Travel – \$42.12
3203 – Wayne Demmer – Travel - \$11.70
3201 – Mike Freiburger – Travel - \$33.15
3202 – Jeff Schmitt – Travel - \$49.92
3200 – David Ruden – travel - \$27.69
3204 – Ron Lindblom – travel - \$32.37

Watershed Account

1005 – Eric Schmechel – Facebook Boosts - \$10.00
1006 – Dubuque county Road Department – Postage - \$53.62
1007 – Dubuque county Road Department – Utilities – 39.38

21-97 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the September Treasurer Report and payment of additional bills. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

21-98 Motion made by Demmer to approve the 1M Expense Voucher. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence Received:

- CDI Connections Newsletter (September)

Meeting Updates:

-Freiburger/Lindblom attended CCWMA Plaza 20 walkthrough of proposed 16 ac park development. It was noted that there are many invasive plants to be overcome. \$1M price estimate on development. Many acres drain through the area, future flooding issues??

Watershed Project Updates:

Eric had sent the Loras video to all to view and reply with comments to him. Working on developing ideas for buffer initiative program. Waldo's have submitted 9 conservation plans for review. Weiss has commented back to them with additional needs before she can sign 52 form.

Personnel Updates:

Need for technical employees was discussed. Staff has gone from 3 full time technicians to 1 shared CET now. Letters have been written expressing our concerns to Susan Kozak and Shawn Dettman. Shawn's reply has been that we don't show the workload to justify technician. Susan says that we are on the list, needs an opening to occur and we need to show higher workload.

Board decided to contact John Whitaker for guidance. Based upon Whitakers guidance, board would like to conduct a Zoom meeting with Schmechel, BOS, Deron Muerhing, Kozak, Dettman & NRCS rep, etc to discuss issues. Suggested to hold of until after harvest.

NRCS Updates: Weiss reported the following:

- Local Work Group has decided on Johns Creek, Middle Fork Little Maquoketa River & North fork Little Maquoketa River as top three HUCS to put emphasis on. Top three resource concerns will be Concentrated Erosion – both classic gully erosion and ephemeral gully, and Wind and Water Erosion – sheet and Rill erosion.
- 505 Acres of Continuous CRP contracts were approved by FSA in September. 339.18 Acres of General CRP contracts were approved in September. Breakdown of total acres per practice was shared with Board.
- October 1st was the first EQIP application deadline for FY '22

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

21-99 Motion made by Demmer to adjourn. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, **November 8, 2021** at **6:30 p.m.** at the District office.

Melvin Wilgenbusch 11/08/21
 Chairperson Date

William Duffner 10/8/21
 Secretary Date