

Dubuque Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioner's Meeting
Wednesday December 17, 2025
14928 Public Safety Way, Dubuque IA 52002

Call Meeting to Order: The monthly meeting of the Dubuque Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Chairperson Wayne Demmer on Wednesday, December 17 at 7:34 pm at 14928 Public Safety Way, Dubuque IA. Those attending were commissioners Wayne Demmer, Mike Freiburger, Jeff Schmitt, Dennis Rauen and Ken Behnke; Bill Meyer, DC; and County Supervisors Harley Pothoff and Wayne Kennicker.

Adopt Agenda:

The agenda was approved as presented. Demmer entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

25-181 Motion was made by Schmitt to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting:

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meetings; soil loss complaint meeting on September 9, 2025, and monthly meetings on September 24, 2025; October 8, 2025, and November 17, 2025.

25-182 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the minutes from the previous meetings. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance:

- Backes presented a corrected TR for October 2025. Items corrected include on page 4 of the TR, SWCD acct #3388 listed NACD check #1007 for \$755.00. The correct amount was \$775.00. On the Watershed acct #3396, check #1009 cleared but was omitted from the TR. Also, checks #1007 - Trevor Fannon and #1008 – Brooke Boddicker was incorrectly listed on the TR for \$1020.84 respectively. The correct amount is \$2081.68 for checks #1007 and #1008. The higher amount was for August and September combined invoices.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the corrected October TR, bank statement, and bills presented.

25-183 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the corrected October TR presented. The motion was seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

- Backes reviewed the November TR which included the bills presented and bank statements with the commissioners.

Demmer entertained a motion to the November TR and bills presented.

25-184 Motion made by Freiburger to approve November TR and bills presented. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion carried unanimously.

- Backes presented Watershed #3396 check #1002 for \$580 to be voided due to wrong name on the check. A new payment of \$580 to Zach Smith will need to be approved.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve voiding check #1002 for \$580 and issue a new payment.

25-185 Motion made by Schmitt to approve voiding check #1002 for \$580 and issue a new payment. The motion was seconded by Rauen. Motion carried unanimously.

- The December fund transfer of NACD payroll account (3412) \$959.73 to Watershed account (3396) for NACD employee payroll for 12/5/2025.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the December NACD payroll fund transfer.

25-186 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the December NACD payroll fund transfer. Motion seconded by Behnke Motion carried unanimously.

- Backes presented a request from Alisha Sedlmeyer, NE Area Soil Health Specialist for a monetary donation for cover donuts for a Soil Health event at Peosta in March. After discussion, it was decided that a donation up to \$150.00 will be approved for the event.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve a donation up to \$150.00 will be approved for the Soil Health event.

25-187 Motion made by Freiburger to approve a donation up to \$150.00 will be approved for the Soil Health event. Motion seconded by Schmitt. Motion passed unanimously.

- Backes presented the membership for Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is up for renewal. Membership fee is \$275.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the membership renewal of \$275.00 for SWCS.

25-188 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the membership renewal of \$275.00 for SWCS. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion passed unanimously.

FARMS Update:

Backes presented various certifications and approval for State Cost Share program.

Cover Crops - 340

Name	Program	Practice ID	Total Acres	Total Cost Share	Approval Status
See attachment A					
22 applicants	WQI	Cover Crop	1902	\$38,441.60	Certification

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the Cover Crop Certifications.

25-189 Motion made by Freiburger to approve the Cover Crop Certifications. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

REAP

Applicant	Practice ID	Program	Practice	Total Acres	Total Cost Share	Approval Status
New Melleray	666	REAP P	TSI	10.5	\$1,260	Reapprove application
Jim Singsank	666	REAP P	TSI	10.7	\$1,284	Approve application
Trumm Brothers	666	REAP P	TSI	5.5	\$660	Certification

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the REAP P application for New Melleray.

25-190 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the REAP P application for New Melleray. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve REAP P application for Jim Singsank.

25-191 Motion made by Rauen to approve REAP P application for Jim Singsank. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the REAP P certification for Trumm Brothers.

25-192 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the REAP P certification for Trumm Brothers. Motion seconded by Rauen. Motion carried unanimously.

IFIP

Applicant	Practice ID	Program	Practice	Total Acres	Total Cost Share	Approval Status
Strief Farm	340	IFIP	Cover Crop	160	\$3,200	Certification
Tom Pasker	600	IFIP	Terrace	570 ft	\$4,574.25	Certification
Jason Schmitt	412	IFIP	Waterway	2.3	\$6,062.66	Certification
Dave Schlarman	412	IFIP	Waterway	.7	\$1,917	Certification

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the cover crop certification for Strief Farms.

25-193 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the cover crop certification for Strief Farms. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the terrace certification for Tom Pasker.

25-194 Motion made by Rauen to approve the terrace certification for Tom Pasker. Motion seconded by Freiburger. Motion carried unanimously.

Demmer entertained a motion to approve the waterway certifications for Jason Schmitt and Dave Schlarmann.

25-195 Motion made by Schmitt to approve the waterway certifications for Jason Schmitt and Dave Schlarmann. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

Watershed:

Update was given at the Annual 28E Watershed meeting held prior to the commissioners' meeting.

NRCS:

- Meyer mentioned there will be changes to cost share programs beginning January 2026. There will be an update on ranking applications. Meyer clarified that the \$700 million-dollar Regenerative Ag funding is not new money. It is from existing programs.

New Business:

- Approval of Slough Bill applications will be tabled until next month.
- Backes informed the commissioners of \$300 funding for scholarships from the Community Foundation of Dubuque and Morrison Brothers. After a brief discussion of the scholarship, it was determined to table the discussion until next month.
- Freiburger suggested SCWD develop a newsletter with soil loss information and other educational articles. A good discussion was held by the group. It was decided to table the idea for next month.

Old Business:

- An update was given on SWCD fundraising event – Trivia Night held on March 28 at Dyersville Commercial club.

There was no further action to discuss.

Demmer entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

25-196 Motion made by Schmitt to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Behnke. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Wayne Demmer 1/21/26
Chairperson Date

Hele Backes 1-21-26
Secretary Date

Application Number	Waiting B	oard Certification	Report	Date Printed : December 17, 2025		
	Applicant	Practice	Primary Amount Installed	Primary Practice Units	Cost Share Amount	
	Program					
126137	SF512 - Statewide	BURLAGE, THOMAS	Cover Crop - 1 Year	75	Acre(s)	\$1,500.00
126161	SF512 - Statewide	GAUL, BRIAN J	Cover Crop - 1 Year	75	Acre(s)	\$1,500.00
126163	SF512 - Statewide	GAUL, JAMES	Cover Crop - 1 Year	75	Acre(s)	\$1,500.00
126172	SF512 - Statewide	HOEFLER, DOUGLAS	Cover Crop - 1 Year	105	Acre(s)	\$2,100.00
126228	SF512 - Statewide	ROLWES, DALE	Cover Crop - 1 Year	151.8	Acre(s)	\$3,036.00
126231	SF512 - Statewide	SCHMITT, JEFFREY C	Cover Crop - 1 Year	160	Acre(s)	\$3,200.00
126242	SF512 - Statewide	SCHMITT, JOSEPH	Cover Crop - 1 Year	40	Acre(s)	\$800.00
126597	SF512 - Statewide	KASS, DONALD	Cover Crop - 1 Year	34	Acre(s)	\$680.00
126804	SF512 - Statewide	HARTBECKE CATTLE COMPANY INC	Cover Crop - 1 Year	30	Acre(s)	\$600.00
127319	SF512 - Statewide	Sroka, Timothy	Cover Crop - 1 Year	160	Acre(s)	\$3,200.00
127479	SF512 - Statewide	GAUL, ERIC	Cover Crop - 1 Year	50	Acre(s)	\$1,000.00
127979	SF512 - Statewide	SCHUELLER, PETER	Cover Crop - 1 Year	160	Acre(s)	\$3,200.00
127980	SF512 - Statewide	KLEIN, MARK	Cover Crop - 1 Year	158	Acre(s)	\$3,160.00
128639	SF512 - Statewide	BONERT AND KENNEDY FARMS, L.L.C.	Cover Crop - 1 Year	100	Acre(s)	\$2,000.00
128662	SF512 - Statewide	KLEIN, ERIC	Cover Crop - 1 Year	151	Acre(s)	\$3,020.00
129151	SF512 - Statewide	SCHUELLER, DALE	Cover Crop - 1 Year	60	Acre(s)	\$1,200.00
131622	SF512 - Statewide	Honts, Dawn	Cover Crop - 1 Year	105	Acre(s)	\$2,100.00
132245	SF512 - Statewide	KLUESNER, MICHAEL	Cover Crop - 1 Year	65	Acre(s)	\$1,300.00
132253	SF512 - Statewide	HEISLER, AMBROSE	Cover Crop - 1 Year	36.59	Acre(s)	\$731.80
132259	SF512 - Statewide	HELGERSON, NICK	Cover Crop - 1 Year	69.19	Acre(s)	\$1,383.80
132395	SF512 - Statewide	Peters, Kristy	Cover Crop - 1 Year	25	Acre(s)	\$750.00
133518	SF512 - Statewide	Schueller, Mitchell	Cover Crop - 1 Year	16	Acre(s)	\$480.00
			Totals	1902	Acre(s)	\$38441.60

Attachment A

17-Dec-25