



**REDWOOD  
SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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Redwood Falls, MN 56283

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**BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

*Chair*

Jeff Potter  
District I  
(507) 641-3087

*Vice Chair*

Ed Carter  
District V  
(507) 629-4843

*Secretary*

Joseph Plaetz  
District IV  
(507) 747-2803

*Treasurer*

Rick Maurer  
District III  
(507) 828-3330

*PR & I*

Brian Timm  
District II  
(507) 430-2220

**STAFF**

Scott Wold,  
*District Administrator*

Jeanne Prescott,  
*Office Manager*

Kurt Mathiowetz,  
*Water Quality Technician*

Brian Pfarr,  
*Resource Specialist*

Jennifer Hahn,  
*Conservation Planner*

**MINUTES FROM THE February 8, 2023 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Jeff Potter

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Potter - Chair  
Ed Carter - Vice Chair (via Zoom)  
Joe Plaetz - Secretary  
Rick Maurer - Treasurer  
Brian Timm - PR & I

**STAFF:** Nick Brozek, Land Use & Zoning Supervisor, Jeanne Prescott - Office Manager, Brian Pfarr, Resource Specialist, Kurt Mathiowetz, Water Quality Technician

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Groebner, Commissioner, Jeff Kjorness, District Conservationist (Via Zoom), Tanner Bruse, MN State Coordinator Pheasants Forever.

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Motion by Timm, second by Plaetz to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:**

January 11, 2023 minutes; Motion by Plaetz, second by Timm to approve minutes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

**FINANCE REPORTS:** Motion by Carter, second by Plaetz to Approve Finance Report. Motion carried.

**BILLS PAYABLE:** Motion by Plaetz, second by Timm to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried.

**GRANT TRACKER:** Informational

**MN STATE COORDINATOR PHEASANTS FOREVER,** Tanner Bruse, Farm Bill Biologist, explained about how a full time position would be funded through grants and shared between Renville County and Redwood County. Board Supervisor, Brian Timm questioned where this position would be housed, Bruse commented Olivia with coming half the time to the Redwood office to help assist with enrolling CRP/EQIP. Tanner said this would be a three year position. Board Supervisor Joe Plaetz asked if these are shared positions throughout the state. Bruse stated, yes and mentioned locations are all funded the same way. Pfarr commented that CRP is 20% down from 100 to 75. Right now there is not a big workload and showed concern of taking CREP dollars to help fund the position. Kjorness mentioned Tanner's employee position would be a hybrid and broke down how it would work. Board Supervisor, Ed Carter confirmed that the pay is \$65,000, Bruse said yes and both counties and Pheasants Forever will try to utilize state funds. Breakdown is as follows; NRCS \$29,250, State \$29,250, Local \$6,500 (SWCD funds and Chapter funds) the \$65,000 could be more depending on the expertise that the hire has. The dollar amount could be more if there is no other funding. Carter requested that Tanner give us a list of the SWCD offices that are

utilizing the Farm Bill Biologist. Supervisor, Rick Maurer asked Tanner if he sees Benefits/Advantages, Tanner said yes and gave a brief explanation on details. Board Supervisor/chair Jeff Potter stated he wanted to do some more digging and checking into information. Pfarr requested that we wait on voting on this position until Holly Hatlewick, District Administrator from Renville SWCD would be able to attend our next meeting to see what her thoughts are.

**LOCAL WORK GROUP:** Pfarr brought up having a meeting in March for the Local Work Group and Water Plan, Kjorness agreed. Redwood SWCD Supervisors suggested to move the SWCD meeting from Wednesday, March 8 Board meeting to Thursday, March 9, 2023, having the SWCD Board meeting at the 8:30 a.m. time and following at 9:30 a.m. the Local Work Group meeting. Meeting will be held in the Learning Center at the Government Center.

**EQIP FUNDING:** Pfarr reported on EQIP funding, Kjorness explained how the Structure work. Timm thought EQIP was for new projects, Pfarr commented find a problem, fix a problem.

**REPORTS:**

**RESOURCE SPECIALIST:** Pfarr reported he is working on applications.

**WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN:** Mathiowetz talked about Social Media and Archiving accounts, according to MN State Statues. Cost would be \$4,200.00 a year. (\$350 mo. Up to 12 accounts). Timm requested to revisit at the next meeting and check with County to see if they would go in with us and what our cost would be. Plaetz asked about AgBMP dollar amount and if there were any changes, Mathiowetz stated no changes. Mathiowetz shared Water Quality has a new Grant to pay for Equipment out of Soil Health Financial Assistant Piolet Program Grant.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Groebner mentioned that you can now watch the Commissioner Meeting on Redwood County website.

**RCRCA:** Carter reported on projects being worked on.

**TSA:** Maurer reported January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting in Marshall, Prescott also attended. Talked about the need TSA have to spend money, they are able to handle projects.

**DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST:** Kjorness shared Attachment 4

**LAND USE & ZONING SUPERVISOR:** Brozek introduced himself as he is sitting in on behalf of the Absence of Scott Wold. Brozek mentioned there are 5 interviewing for Wold's position.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Prescott, brought up that SWMASWCD meetings, and the importance it is to have Board members for the counties attend.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular board meeting is planned for March 9, 2023 at 8:30 A.M. **Learning Center at the Government office.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Potter adjourned the meeting.

  
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Supervisor