



**REDWOOD  
SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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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*

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District IV  
(507) 747-2803

*Treasurer*

Rick Maurer  
District III  
(507) 828-3330

*PR & I*

Brian Timm  
District II  
(507) 430-2220

**STAFF**

Nick Brozek,  
*District Administrator*

Jeanne Prescott,  
*Office Manager*

Kurt Mathiowetz,  
*Water Quality Technician*

Brian Pfarr,  
*Resource Specialist*

Ben Bauer,  
*Conservation Specialist*

**MINUTES FROM THE September 13, 2023 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 8:37 a.m. by Chair Jeff Potter.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeff Potter - Chair  
Ed Carter - Vice Chair  
Brian Timm - PR & I  
Rick Maurer - Treasurer

**STAFF:** Nick Brozek- District Administrator, Jeanne Prescott - Office Manager, Kurt Mathiowetz-Water Quality Specialist, Brian Pfarr- Resource Specialist, Ben Bauer-Conservation Specialist

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Kjorness- District Conservationist, Josh Pommier- MN Private Lands Manager Pheasants Forever, Inc.

**ADOPT AGENDA:** Carter mentioned to add discussing process of bill paying. Motion by Carter, second by Timm to adopt the agenda with the addition to discuss process on SWCD bill paying. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:**

August 9, 2023 minutes; Motion by Carter, second by Maurer to approve minutes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

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

**BILLS PAYABLE:** Carter mentioned that it was brought to his attention that there was a delay with SWCD checks being paid by the County Office. Brozek commented that the county has a process they go through on paying bills. The SWCD board asked Brozek to check into this as see if the SWCD bills can be paid sooner as they have already been approved by the SWCD Board. Brozek pointed out the \$5004.04 expense to the Board that this was a well needed desk, etc. for the office. Motion by Carter, second by Maurer to approve payment of the bills and checking into bill paying. Motion carried.

**GRANT TRACKER:** Informational

**REDWOOD-COTTONWOOD RIVERS CONTROL AREA JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT:** Motion by Maurer, seconded by Timm to the change that was made in the Joint Powers Agreement. Motion passed.

**OUTSTANDING CONSERVATIONIST 2023:** Mathiowetz visited about the possible nominees for this award. Redwood SWCD has selected Ryan Benedict as the Outstanding Conservationist 2023 nominee. Numerous projects and working so much with the Redwood SWCD makes him a perfect fit for the nomination. Mathiowetz will be interviewing Benedict and doing the write up that is due September 22, 2023 to the MASWCD committee. Motion by Timm, seconded by Carter to select Ryan Benedict as Redwood SWCD Nominee for the 2023 Outstanding Conservationist. Motion passed.

**MN. STATE COORDINATOR PHEASANTS FOREVER FARM BILL POSITION;** Josh Pommier, MN Private Lands Manager Pheasants Forever, Inc. came to re-present the Farm Bill position. Kjorness with NRCS was also at the meeting to share what this position would bring to the Renville County and how it would work for both offices. The Redwood SWCD Board members asked lots of pertinent questions and decided they want to discuss it further to see if it would be a good fit for the Redwood SWCD office.

**PETERSON COMPANY LTD;** The SWCD Board approved the Draft of the Financial Statements report and an Audit letter was signed. Brozek mentioned a few things about the Draft statement and letter that he checked into. Motion by Carter, seconded by Maurer. Motion passed.

**REPORTS:**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER:** Commissioner Groebner unavailable.

**TSA:** Prescott reported on items that were discussed at the TSA meeting September 6, 2023 on behalf of Maurer. Discussed the Soil Health money coming in and some ideas that were discussed.

**RCRCA:** Carter reported on 319 funds. Carter mentioned Pfarr has been waiting on the Army Core to respond on 319. Brozek mention SWCD was given a 1 month extension until September 29, 2023.

**DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST:** Kjorness reported on his Attachment 4.

**RESOURCE SPECIALIST:** Pfarr talked about construction project; 4 are done at this time and had a total of 32. Mentioned Women's Day possibly for November 29, 2023 working on details.

**WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN:** Mathiowetz reported on this year's 2023 Outstanding Conservationist. Ryan Benedict from Lamberton was selected due to working close with Redwood SWCD to obtain many projects in the past years. (RIM/CREP, Flowage Easement (the first one in the state), Soil Health, Live Stock, Cover Crop, WASCOD, Pollinator, Flood Land, Buffer Strips, Grade Stab to name a few.) making him a perfect candidate. Mathiowetz will be interviewing and writing up a paper on him to submit to MASWCD for the December Annual Convention. Mathiowetz also mentioned he has been writing Grants for Cover Crops and mentioned that Prescott has been working in eLINK entering names and he adds Soil Loss and sediment information.

**CONSERVATION SPECIALIST:** Bauer reported he's been out checking management on Easement land. Sending out letters for updating addresses/phone numbers etc. sent out 382 and received 292 back out of 600 Easements. Goal is to be able to do mass easement emailing's and mailings for reminders of programs etc.

**DISTRICT ADMINISTATOR:** Brozek reported throughout the meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Maurer suggested that the October 11<sup>th</sup> SWCD Board meeting be at 7:30 a.m. due to farming will be started and this would allow all Board members to be able to attend. It was unanimous to have the meeting earlier so everyone can attend due to harvest. Maurer also mentioned that he feels it would be beneficial if the SWCD Staff would go to conventions throughout the year and have a booth set up, this would give them opportunity to talk to new landowners to try to get more interest in our SWCD programs, all Board members present agreed.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular meeting is planned for October 11, 2023 at 7:30 a.m. USDA Service Center Conference Room (SWCD Building)

**ADJOURNMENT:** Potter adjourned the meeting at 10:29.

  
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SUPERVISOR