



**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
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

Nick Brozek,
District Administrator

Jeanne Prescott,
Office Manager

Kurt Mathiowetz,
Water Quality Technician

Brian Pfarr,
Resource Specialist

Ben Bauer,
Conservation Specialist

MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 20, 2024 MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order March 20, 2024 at 8.06 a.m. by Vice Chair Ed Carter.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Carter – Vice Chair
Joe Plaetz – Secretary
Rick Maurer- Treasurer
Brain Timm – PR & I

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Kjorness, District Conservationist

ADOPT AGENDA: Motion by Plaetz, seconded by Timm to accept the Agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

February 14, 2024 minutes; Plaetz commented date of next board meeting should be April. Motion by Plaetz, seconded by Timm to approve minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FINANCE REPORTS: Motion by Timm, seconded by Plaetz to approve Finance Report. Motion carried.

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

GRANT TRACKER: Carter questioned Brozek on Plum Creek money, Brozek explained. *Informational.*

PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE: Brozek mentioned he talked with the County Administrator. County Administrator said this position has to be reported to the state and cannot have rotating persons. Timm questioned about the meeting topics, Maurer asked how many meetings, Carter stated 11 meetings and typically what the topics consist of and the meetings are an hour give or take. Brozek stated they are the last Tuesday of the month. There was discussion and Carter commented that he will continue to be on the Planning Commission due to the fact no one was saying they would replace him. Maurer did comment that if someone takes on his TSA position he would take Carter's place as the Planning Commission Representative.

DISTRICT COST SHARE FUNDING: Pfarr explained Bill Richards 319 project in the amount of \$5,779.20 Soil Boring cost, it was a clerical error, and he also mentioned Scott Kohler CS \$5,673.17/ DCS \$19,769.71 = \$25,442.88 WASCB. Motion by Plaetz to pay Richards and approve Kohler, seconded by Timm. Motion Passed.

PHEASANTS FOREVER POSITION: Brozek reported the person interviewed took a different job, as of now no other leads. Josh with Pheasants Forever will not be the contact anymore, it will be Gemma Kleinschmidt. There was discussion and questions. *Informational.*

2024 ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR: Brozek reported that the donation amount for the 2024 fair has been increased from \$700 to \$2,000 due to cost increase and the dues have not increased for the last four years. Brozek mention the Conservation Aid Grant is where we could take the funds. Maurer commented that it is educational for the 5th and 6th grades and its good learning for kids. Motion by Maurer to pay the \$2,000 out of Conservation Aid money, seconded by Plaetz. Motion passed.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES: Brozek talked about grants and how they worked, he applied for a grant for State Well Testing for \$60,000. Good discussion. Informational.

REPORTS:

COUNTY COMMISSIONER: None

RCRCA: Carter reported on projects, road retentions, and 1W1P.

TSA: Prescott reported TSA is looking for ideas on where to have the next SWPTSA meeting June 24th. They are looking for something interesting on projects to visit and what location to have this meeting at. Also brought up the concern that not enough supervisors are coming to the meetings, they are the ones that vote.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST: Kjorness welcomed Grayson DeLay the new Soil conservationist to the Redwood team. Kjorness also talked about the Pheasants Forever positions in Brown and Redwood County, EQIP and CSP. See attachment 4 in the Supervisors packet prepared for the meeting.

CONSERVATION SPECIALIST: Bauer handed out payment rates and commented the rates went up for RIM & CREP payments, also mentioned 1 signup for CREP period.

WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN: Mathiowetz updated AgBMP funds which is now \$89,889.00. Mathiowetz mentioned that Andrew VanNurden wants to purchase a strip till machine with AgBMP funds, which is a good water quality practice. Strip till machine is \$28,000 but, the request is for \$40,000 because of fertilizer rate control VanNurden wants to add to the machine. Other producers interested in AgBMP funds are Bryan Hagert and Steve MacHolda. Mathiowetz wants to wait to see if VanNurden will go through with the strip till purchase. Mathiowetz is also working with the state to increase Redwood Counties AgBMP funding money. Possible allocations are being completed by June of this year.

RESOURCE SPECIALIST: Pfarr mentioned projects, no EQIP funding, talked about Pell Creek being done in 2024, mentioned Plum Creek and that we are getting money back, we can get an extension for this and we are still waiting for the \$170,000 from 319 funds to be returned. Pfarr will be attending a Carbon Intensity meeting in Owatonna March 26, 2024.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR: Brozek stated it is an ongoing matter with the County Attorney and the SWCD Agreements. County Attorney wants to view SWCD contract/agreements because the County is responsible for the insurance. Brozek suggests we compromise and let them view the private contracts but, no state contracts. No comments at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting is planned for Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at the USDA conference room.

ADJOURNMENT: Carter adjourned the meeting at 9:23 a.m.



SUPERVISOR