

Fillmore Soil & Water Conservation District

912 Houston St., Box 45, Preston, Minnesota 55965

Phone: 507-887-0240, Fax: 507-765-4415

www.fillmoreswcd.org

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 19, 2024

5:00 PM

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

Members present: Eunice Biel, Travis Willford, Kathy Tesmer, Jason Wetzel.

Others Present: Duane Bakke, David Copeland, Theresa Bake, Riley Buley

Absent: Tim Gossman

Travis Willford called meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Tesmer motioned to approve agenda with the changes made to the agenda. seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Tesmer, Willford. Opposed None, Motioned Carried.**

- II. Treasurer's Report
 1. Approve November 2024 SWCD Treasurer's report subject to audit. **R. Buley indicated there would be a lot of the tracked Grants closing end of 2024. Tesmer motioned to approve November treasurer's report, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Wetzel, Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.**

 2. Approve Root River 1W1P Treasurer's report subject to audit: **Board requested that bills for the RR1W1P needed to be submitted 1 to 2 months after completion of work. Tesmer motioned to approve November treasurer's report, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Wetzel, Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.**

2022-2023 - Root River 1W1P - C22-0480			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 734,798.00	50%	05-26-2022	Executed 05-20-2022
\$ 587,838.00	40%	09-09-2024	
\$ 146,959.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2024
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 1,469,595.00	\$ 1,322,636.00	\$1,363,990.91	\$ -41,354.90

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2024-2025 - Watershed Base Implementation ARP – C22-0143			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 1,150,475.00	50%	04-23-2024	Executed 04-08-2024
\$ 920,380.00	40%		
\$ 230,095.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2026
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 2,300,950.00	\$ 1,150,475.00	\$ 26,9271.81	\$ 1,123,547.20

III. Consent Agenda: Tesmer motioned to approve Consent agenda with changes made and added. Moving item #42 to new business. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Beil, Willford Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.

1. Secretary’s Report – November 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.
2. Approve Contract DWP-25, Hyde Park Holsteins in the amount of \$2,000 partial payment, Nitrogen Side Dress incentive, Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
3. Consider final payment of \$1,000 to Justin Brown, Contract DWP-07, Nitrogen Incentives utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
4. Consider final payment of \$1,000 to Keith Brown, Contract DWP-08, Nitrogen Incentives utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
5. Consider partial Payment of \$1,000 to Amber Feine Rasmussen, Contract DWP-13 Nitrogen Incentive utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
6. Consider partial Payment of \$1,000 to Thesing Farms LLC Contract DWP-27 Nitrogen -Pre plant Incentive utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
7. Consider partial Payment of \$2,000 to Theising Farms LLC Contract DWP-28 Nitrogen -side Dress Incentive utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
8. Consider partial payment of \$5,000 to Dan Miller Contract RR1W1P22-04. 125 acres 2024 Cover Crop payment utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
9. Consider partial payment of \$3,136.00 to Isaac Miller Contract RR1W1P22-05.78.4 acres 2024 Cover Crop payment utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
10. Consider partial payment of \$2,658.00 to Elijah Miller Contract RR1W1P22-07. 66.45 acres 2024 Cover Crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
11. Consider final payment of \$6,263.60 to Roll-N-Valley Farm Contract RR1W1P 24-2. 156.59 acres. Single Species Cover Crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
12. Consider final payment of \$14,989.20 to Dustin Tart, contract RR1W1P 24-5, 374.73 acres. Single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the Root Rive 1W1P Grant.
13. Consider final payment of \$1,916.00 to David Swenson, contract RR1W1P 24-6, 47.6 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.

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14. Consider final payment of \$1,000 to Nagel Rolling Acres, contract RR1W1P 24-7, 25 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the Root River 1W1P Grant.
15. Consider final payment of \$3,400.00 to Steven McCallson, contract RR1W1P 24-9 85 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
16. Consider final payment of \$3,600.00 to Devan Schmidt, contract RR1W1P 24-13, 90 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
17. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-15 amendment from \$26,011.20 to \$2,201.60. Decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
18. Consider final payment of \$2,201.60 to Chad Curtis, contract RR1W1P 24-15, 55.04 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
19. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-17 amendment from \$6,382.00 to \$1,582.00. Decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
20. Consider final payment to Damon Gragert, contract RR1W1P 24-17, 39.55 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
21. Consider partial payment of \$5,643.60 to Alex McCabe, Contract RR1W1P 24-18, 141.09 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P grant.
22. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-20 amendment from \$15,600.00 to \$13,200.00. decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
23. Consider final payment of \$13,200.00 to James Vagts, Contract RR1W1P 24-20 264.00 acres multiple species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
24. Consider partial payment of \$4,244.00 to Matthew Miner, contract RR1W1P24-21, 106.100 acres single species cover crop utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
- ~~25. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-22 amendment from \$9225.00 to \$2,585.00 decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.~~
- ~~26. Consider final payment of \$2,585.00 to Robert Biel, contract RR1W1P 24-22, 51.700 acres multiple species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.~~
27. Contract RR1W1P 24-28 will be cancelled in its entirety, due to landowner Kyle Mulhern not completing the practice, Cover crop single species due to weather.
28. Consider final payment of \$6,400.00 to Dwayne Ostrem, contract RR1W1P 24-29 160 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
29. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-30 amendment from \$27,000 to \$24,150.00. Decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
30. Consider partial payment of \$8,050.00 to Gerald Peter, contract RR1W1P 24.30 161 acres multi species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
31. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-32 amendment from \$5,949.50 to \$500.00. Decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
32. Consider final payment of \$500.00 to Michael Rohrer, contract RR1W1P24-32, 10 acres multi species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
33. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-33 amendment from \$7,200.00 to \$1,400.00. Decrease due to reduced acres originally stated.
34. Consider final payment of \$1,400.00 to Neal Mulhern, contract RR1W1P24-33 35 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.

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35. Consider Final payment of \$3,981.09 to Brian Fingerson, contract RR1W1PWBIF 22-01 grade stabilization utilizing finds from the RR1W1P WBIF Grant.
36. Consider final Payment of \$1745.00 to Grover Farm Corp, Contract RR1W1P22-01 50 acres cover crop payment, utilizing funds from 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
37. Approve Contract RR1W1P24-19 amendment from \$5073.60 to \$1021.60. decrease due to reduced acres ordinally stated.
38. Consider final payment of \$1,021.60 to Doug McCabe, Contract RR1W1P24-19 25.54 acres single species cover crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P Grant.
39. Consider Final payment of \$4,600.00 to Richard Hansen, contract RR1W1P 23-3, 115 acres single species Cover Crop, utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P grant.
40. Approve amendment of extension date on Contract RR1W1P20-07 to Francis White from 12/31/2024 to 12/31/2025. Due to delays in construction of dry soil conditions.
41. Approve amendment of extension date on Contract FY 24-01 to Dick Engrave from 12/31/2024 to 12/31/2025. Due to crop and Contractor delays.
42. ~~Notice of Intent from City of Canton, Amending their Wellhead protection plan.~~

IV. Reports

1. Supervisor Activity Report: **Willford reported he attended Personnel meeting & Regular Board meeting. Wetzel reported he attended the MASWCD State Convention & Regular meeting. Beil reported she attended the MASWCD State convention for 1 day & regular board meeting. Tesmer reported she attended the RR1W1P meeting, MASWCD Sate Convention and the regular board meeting. Gossman absent.**
2. Staff Reports: **submitted in agenda packet.**
3. Administrator's Report: **Buley reported next round for Climate Smart Alliance program will begin in January 2025. Soil Ground water protection with Olmsted County will be expanding the program to 8 or 9 more counties.**
 - a. Building updates: **Back parking area on hold until Spring**
4. NRCS Report: Report: **Submitted in Agenda packet.**
5. County Report: **Commissioner Bakke provided an update on the Shoreland and indicated DNR was pushing for an update then indicated Lea recommended more time to investigate the overall project.**

V. Old Business

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VI. New Business

1. Approve 2025 COLA increase for District employees. **Tesmer approved the 2025 Cola increase seconded by Beil Affirmative: Wetzel, Willford, Beil and Tesmer Opposed none motioned carried.**
2. Discuss Fillmore SWCD staff to design and order New 2025 Plat books. **Discussed and T. Baker will present further information once all collected.**
3. Approve Resolution Delegating Fillmore County WCA authority back to Fillmore County. **Tesmer approved Resolution to give sole authority to Fillmore County seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Tesmer and Wetzel. Opposed none motion cared.**
4. Discuss posting of Conservation Tech position with a soil health focus. **Personnel Committee, Willford & Gossman met & approved to post job with U of M, Iowa State, UWL, FCJ and Indeed. With interviews to start mid-January Affirmative: Wetzel, Tesmer, Beil Opposed none motioned carried.**
5. Consider step increase for employee #23043 to grade 12 step 5 effective 11/14/24. **Willford motioned to approve Grade 12 & Step 5 increase for employee #23043 seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative Wetzel, Beil, Willford, Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.**
6. Consider modification to employee medical stipend to reflect increases in HAS single employer contribution. **Tesmer motioned to approve medical stipend seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative Willford, Beil, Wetzel and Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.**
7. Discuss need for running boards for 2023/2024 Silverado Trucks. **Tesmer motioned to approve textured running boards for the 2023/2024 Silverado Trucks with cost not to exceed \$900.00 per vehicle. seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative, Willford, Beil, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none motioned carried.**
8. Planning Mtg, Annual Luncheon / Mtg and Board Mtg will be held Jan 16th held at the Branding Iron 12:00. **Board approved to have the 3 meetings held on January 16 with Regular board meeting to be moved to 9:00 am with posting of change of time in FCJ, Facebook and Website. Affirmative, Willford, Beil, Wetzel, Tesmer Opposed none motioned caried.**
9. Accept resignation of Hunter Slifka from full time **employment and movement to Intermittent employment.** **Tesmer excepted H. Slifka resignation from Fulltime employment to Intermittent employment. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative, Willford, Beil, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none motioned carried.**
10. Consider Intermittent employment of Hunter Slifka to assist on the technical aspects of the Climate Smart Alliance Program. **Tesmer motioned that Slifka will work no more than**

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20 hours per week. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative, Willford, Beil, Tesmer, Wetzel.

Opposed none motioned carried.

11. Consider sole-source contract with Kanati Land Management to provide district with technical assistance on soil health projects. **Tesmer motioned to have Kanati Land Management assist with NRCS TA sign off and assist with training new Conservation Tech once hired. seconded by Beil. Affirmative, Willford, Wetzel, Beil Tesmer. Opposed none motion carried.**
12. Consider early-out for District employees on Christmas Eve day. **Tesmer motioned to allow ½ day release on Christmas Eve and ½ day release New Year’s Eve to Fillmore SWCD employees. Seconded by Beil. Affirmative Willford, Wetzel, Beil, Tesmer Opposed none motion carried.**
13. **Approve 2025 Budget. Tesmer motioned to approve the 2025 Budget, seconded by Wetzel, Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Wetzel, Tesmer. Opposed none motioned carried.**
14. **Notice of Intent from City of Canton, Amending their Wellhead protection plan.**

II. Accounts Payable

1. Approve November’s accounts payable. **Tesmer motioned to approve November’s accounts payable seconded by Beil, Affirmative: Wetzel, Willford, Beil, Tesmer. Opposed none motion carried.**
- 2.

Dave Copeland left meeting at 6:30

III. Adjournment: **Wetzel motioned to adjourn 6:45 pm seconded by Tesmer affirmative: Willford, Beil, Wetzel Tesmer.**

Upcoming Events and Meetings

MASWCD Conference	Dec. 2-4, 2024
Christmas Eve	Dec. 24, 2024
Christmas Day Office closed	Dec. 25, 2024
New Year’s Eve	Dec. 31, 2024
New Years Day Office Closed	Jan. 1st 2025
Regular Board Meeting 9:00 am	Jan. 16, 2025
Annual Planning/Luncheon	Jan. 16, 2025

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