

# 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, February 20th, 2025

5:00 PM

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

**Members present: Tim Gossman, Jason Wetzel, Eunice Beil, Kathy Tesmer, Travis Wilford.**

**Others present: Duane Bakke, Erin Hettinger, Riley Buley, Theresa Baker**

**Absent: None**

**Tim Gossman called meeting to order at 5:06 pm**

### *Agenda*

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Tesmer motioned to approve agenda, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wilford, Beil, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none, Motion carried.**
  
- II. Treasurer's Report
  1. Approve January 2025 SWCD Treasurer's report subject to audit. **Wetzel motioned to approve the January treasurer's report, seconded by Beil. Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none Motion carried**
  
  2. Approve Root River 1W1P Treasurer's report subject to audit. **Tesmer motioned to approve the January treasurer's report, seconded by Willford. Affirmative: Willford, Beil, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none Motion carried**

<b>2022-2023 - Root River 1W1P - C22-0480</b>			
<b>Payments</b>	<b>Terms</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Grant Terms</b>
\$ 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
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Grant Cash Balance</b>
\$ 1,469,595.00	\$ 1,322,636.00	1,378,364.24	\$ <b>-55,728.20</b>

<b>2024-2025 - Watershed Base Implementation ARP - C22-0143</b>			
<b>Payments</b>	<b>Terms</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Grant Terms</b>

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\$ 1,150,475.00	50%	04-23-2024	Executed 04-08-2024
\$ 920.380.00	40%		
\$ 230,095.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2026
<b>Grant Total</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Grant Cash Balance</b>
\$ 2,300,950.00	\$ 1,150,475.00	\$ 350,344.94	<b>\$ 800,130.10</b>

- III. Consent Agenda: **Tesmer motioned to approve Consent Agenda seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Gossman, Beil, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none, Motion carried.**
1. Secretary's Report – January 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.
  2. Approve Peterson Company LTD charges \$6,600 for Fillmore SWCD Audit and \$600 for RR1WIP revenue Grant. With reports delivered no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
  3. Approve 2024 Scholarship check to recipient, Layne Clemens for \$500.00.
  4. Approve payment/Sponsorship for \$100.00 for U of M Cow Calf Days.
  5. Consider 2025 Final payment to Richard Rohrer, Contract DWP-02 Nitrogen Rate Plot in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
  6. Consider Partial payment to Curt Luhman, Contract DWP-23 Nitrogen incentive usage in the amount of \$1000.00 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
  7. Consider Partial payment to Joel Luhman, Contract DWP-24 Nitrogen incentive usage in the amount of \$1000.00 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.

### IV. Reports

1. Supervisor's Activity Report: **Willford reported he attended the Annual panning, Regular, Special Mtgs.& attended the Interviews. Beil reported she attended the Special Mtg. Tesmer reported she attended Annual, Regular, Special and TSA Mtg. Gossman reported he attended Annual, Regular, Special (remotely) Mtgs, attended Interviews and Forestry Day. Wetzel reported he attended Annual, Regular Personnel Mtgs. Also attended Interviews.**
2. Staff Reports: **Submitted in Agenda Packet.**
3. Administrator's Report
  - i. **Employee retention discussion: Buley to investigate further and discuss with other districts.**
  - ii. **Update on District Funding related to the Climate Smart Application. Funding currently on hold with Federal gov. 2<sup>nd</sup> round of applications was successful**

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iii. **County Allocation:** Fillmore SWCD received what was allocated in 2024 for 2025 year.

4. NRCS Report: **Bronson sent report and provided in meeting packet.**
5. County Report: **Bakke indicated no report**

### V. Old Business

1. Legislative Day is set for 3/5/25 at 1:00 PM with Greg Davids at the Centennial Office building. Attending Riley B, Eunie B.: **Buley and Beil will be attending the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**
2. Surveys (approx.50) sent to 2024 Fillmore SWCD Contract recipients. Received 15 completed surveys. **Baker to bring surveys to next board meeting to review.**
3. **Discuss** MDA JPA for the Township Walkovers **program**: **Contract still under review.**

### VI. New Business

1. Introduce Erin Hettinger: Pheasants Forever Farm Biologist Started work 1/21/2025. In house at SWCD on Thursday's. **Hettinger was welcomed and she indicated she has been assisting with the RIM enhancement program.**
2. Approve 2025 Board Committee assignments to start 2/20/25. **Tesmer motioned to establish the @025 Board Assignments, seconded by Willford. Affirmative: Beil, Wetzel, Gossman, Tesmer, Willford. Opposed none motion carried.**
3. ~~Interest in attending 2025 Spring Area 7 SEMACDE Employee Meeting 3/26/25 Harmony, MN. Lunch by Estelle's and Niagara Cave tours.~~ **This is just for SWCD staff. Supervisors are included at the Fall meeting.**
4. Approve Nutrient Management RFP submissions contingent on BWSR CSA funding. **Tesmer motioned to approve Anez Consulting contingent on BWSR funding seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Beil, Gossman, Willford, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none motion carried.**
5. Recap Conservation Tech hiring process and consider additional interns for 2025. **Buley indicated 2 offers were presented for the Conservation Tech position. 1 offer was turned down and 1 was excepted. Anesa L will be starting March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025. Buley proposed to move forward with the Conservation Corp Intern and Post for 1 additional summer intern, Beil motioned to except the Buley's proposal with Conservation Corp intern and agreed to post for 1 additional summer intern, seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative Gossman, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer, Beil. Opposed none motion carried.**
6. **Consider overtime for staff working on the Climate Smart Alliance Grant Program.** **Tesmer Motioned to approve up to 20K for overtime to assist with the Climate Smart Alliance Grant program seconded by Beil. Affirmative, Gossman, Wetzel, Willford, Beil, Tesmer. Opposed none, motion carried.**

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7. **Consider MDH well sealing grant, \$72,000. Tesmer motioned to move forward with the MDH well sealing Grant, seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative, Beil, Willford, Gossman, Wetzel, Tesmer Beil. Opposed none, motion carried.**
8. **Consider BWSR Soil Health Practices Grant RCPP, \$180,000. Wetzel motioned to move forward with BWSR Soil Health Practices grant seconded by Beil Affirmative: Gossman, Tesmer, Willford, Beil, Wetzel Opposed none, Motion carried.**

### II. Accounts Payable

1. **Approve, January accounts payable: Beil motioned to approve January Accounts payable seconded by Wetzel, Affirmative Gossman, Willford, Tesmer, Wetzel, Beil Opposed none, motion carried.**

### III. Adjournment, Willford motioned to adjourn regular meeting at 6:25 pm seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative, Gossman, Wetzel, Beil, willford, Tesmer Opposed none: motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

#### Upcoming Events and Meetings

RR1W1P Planning meeting	Feb 3, 2025
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round of Climate Smart Applications close	Feb 14, 2025
President's Day Holiday office closed	Feb 17, 2025
Regular Board Meeting	Feb 20, 2025
RR1W1P Policy Committee	Feb 24, 2025
SWCD Legislative Day	March 4 & 5, 2025
Daylight Savings Time: Spring ahead	March 9, 2025
Regular Board Meeting	March 20, 2025

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