Renville Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present: Jim Hebrink, Kathryn Kelly, Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch
Staff Present: Holly Hatlewick left meeting at 8:15am & Cody Dale

I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kokesch at 7 A.M.
II. Public Address to the Board (2 minutes per person): Dispensed, no citizens present
III. Consent Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: Approved the meeting minutes from August 8, 2019 regular meeting, bills, and treasurer's report. With the addition of two Other Items: BWSR Grant Reconciliation and RIM Repair 65-11-98-01 **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**
IV. Reports of officers, board, and committees:
    1. Kathryn Kelly: Attended Minnesota Soil Health Coalition Kickoff event, 1W1P Kickoff events, participated in Aug 23rd Board Staff Retreat, and BWSR Buffer Committee meetings
    2. Dean Schroeder: Not present
    3. Jim Hebrink: Nothing to report
    4. Mark Koenig: Participated in SWCD Board Staff Retreat Aug 23rd, working on planning Nov Area VI meeting that will be hosted by Renville.
    5. Kevin Kokesch: Participated in SWCD Board Staff Retreat Aug 23rd
V. Unfinished Business:
    1. Staff Grievance: Dispensed, no grievances brought forward for this month
    2. 2018 SWCD Financial Audit- Auditor findings have not come back yet; the Audit is due 10/1/19. Motion that once the findings letter comes, the Board delegates Chair Kokesch to sign and approve without calling a Special Board Meeting. **(Hebrink, Koenig) MSC**
VI. New Business:
    1. Board Contact list- Board reviewed the contact info
VII. Program Updates
    1. Cost-Share Program Updates- Hatlewick gave an update on Buffer Cost Share and the Skalbeck Streambank, contracts have not yet commenced.
        a.
    2. Staff Reports-
        a. Holly Hatlewick
            - Presented on Soil Health and Rainfall Simulator all 3 days of 2019 Farm Fest Aug 6-8
            - Worked the Renville County Fair SWCD booth Aug 9th
            - Evaluating and collecting information of SWCD operational space
            - Worked with consultant to plan and facilitate SWCD Board Staff Retreat Aug 22& 23rd
            - Attended the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Leadership course Aug 13 & 14th

- Assisted with and presented at the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition Kickoff event Aug 16
- Audit prep, worked with Auditor on 2018 Audit, waiting on Auditors findings letter. Completed Audit Due 10/1/19
- BWSR grant verification with Julie Krebs and Jeremy Maul, no significant findings or concerns
- Planned, facilitated, and presented at the Area Technical Training Team (ATTT) Cover Crop Logistics Course in Lamberton Aug 27 & 28
- Working with Hawk Creek on planning logistics of our Sept 20th Cover Crop Field Day at Maynard
- 1W1P Kick-off event planning, Advisory Committee work, Steering Committee work.

b. Melissa Edmondson
- Set up MASWCD Area V and VI Farm Fest & SWCD Fair Booths
- Prepared 2018 Audit info
- Worked the Renville Co Fair
- Created press releases for: Soil Health Coalition Kickoff, Life in the Pits, Women Conserving the Land Workshop, 1W1P Kickoff
- Created an Area VI Host Meeting Checklist
- Assisted Jennifer Hahn with the Rainfall Simulator at Ryberg's Field Day
- Attended the Tire Derived Aggregate Meeting on August 15
- Set up and assisted with Soil Health Coalition Kickoff on August 16
- Assisted with the Pesticide Container Recycling Day on August 21
- Attended the MCIT Data Practices Training on August 21
- Attended the Staff and Supervisor Training on August 22 & 23
- Attended the Buffer Committee and Ag Inspector Meeting on August 26
- Assisted with Area Technical Training Team materials
- Worked with contractors on the shed project

c. Michael Sandager

<u>Buffer Law</u>
- Inspections in Wang, Ericson, Crooks, Winfield, and Emmet
  - 507 inspections completed
  - ~90 percent compliant in inspected Townships
- Cost-Share
  - 89 contracts have received cost-share dollars
  - Total of $69,631 paid out OR 241.8 acres
  - 24 contracts being processed

<u>Agricultural Inspector</u>
- Buffer Committee and Ag Inspector Meeting – Aug 26
- Pesticide Container Recycling day - Aug 21
- Wild Parsnip Scouting and Education – Emmet & Flora
- Control on several CRP for thistle

<u>Outreach/Education</u>
- Renville Co Fair – Aug 7
- Farm Fest – Aug 5

<u>Other</u>

- Staff and Supervisor Training - Aug 22 & 23

d. Karen Wermers

CRP

- Created CPO's for ~100 contracts
- Created seed plans and maps for CRP
- Assisting with cost-share and management questions

CREP

- 32 out of 34 easements from 2018 are recorded
- 15 new CREP easements
- Putting new CREP easement folders together
- Assisted Cody and Tom Wenzel out at Reinhold Runke's CREP
- Updating easement tracking spreadsheets

OTHER

- 1W1P Kick-off – Renville Sept 6
- U of M Life in the Pits – Sept 11
- U of M Women Conserving the Land – Sept 12
- Staff Retreat Sept 17

e. Cody Dale

RIM/CREP

- CREP Construction oversight
- Easement inspections
- Easement repairs
- New CREP projects

Wetland Conservation Act

- Boundary type application CSAH 16

Other

- 1W1P meeting
- 1W1P kickoff event

4. NRCS Report

VIII. Resolutions or Board actions to be taken:

1. None at this time

IX. Other:

1. BWSR Grant Reconciliation- Approved Financial reports for DRAP I & DRAP II & 2017 Local Capacity **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**
2. RIM repair 65-11-98-01, approve contract 65-11-98-01 for $19,358.50 **(Hebrink, Kelly) MSC**

   Motion to authorize and delegate Administrator Hatlewick to obligate and full administer the $75,000 RIM repair grant, in an effort to streamline project installation **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**

X. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember-

XI. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11 A.M. (**Koenig, Hebrink**) MSC

K. S. K

CHAIRMAN