



**Renville County SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting
March 11, 2021 8:00 am**

Renville County Office Building

105 5th St, Olivia, MN 56277, Room 313 and virtually with GoToMeeting (see page two for virtual instructions)

Social distance and other in person CDC recommendation apply during this meeting.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person)
- III. Consent Agenda, Feb 2021 Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Operational items/Staff concerns
 2. South Fork CROW 1w1p, RFP
 3. SWCD Lease
- V. New Business:
 1. 2021 MASWCD Legislative Days March 18, 2021 10:00am-12pm
 2. April Board meeting date
- VI. Personnel Committee
 1. Kyle Richter – probation period
 2. Retroactively acceptance of Conservation Assistant resignation
- VII. Program Updates- All staff join the meeting 8:45am
 1. Cost Share Programs
 2. Staff Reports
 3. NRCS Report- Jeff Kjorness, DC
 4. Board Reports
- VIII. Other
- IX. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember
- X. Motion to adjourn

Dates to Remember

March 15th Local Workgroup Meeting 1pm, virtual and/or in-person

March 18th MASWCD Legislative Days 10am virtual

March 25th Area VI Chairs meeting, New Ulm

**Next regular Board Meeting April , 2021 at 105 5th St, Olivia, MN
56277, Room Olivia, MN**

Renville Soil & Water Conservation District
1008 West Lincoln, Olivia MN 56277
Phone: 320-523-1550 ext. 3 Fax: 320-523-2389



Virtual meeting instructions

Renville SWCD March Board Meeting
Thu, Mar 11, 2021 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/391782765>

You can also dial in using your phone.
(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
- One-touch: <tel:+18722403212,,391782765#>

Access Code: 391-782-765



Renville County SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting

March 11, 2021 8:00 am

Renville County Office Building

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AGENDA Notes

- I. Call to Order
- II. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person)
- III. Consent Agenda, Feb 2021 Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Operational items/Staff concerns, none brought to Administrator Hatlewick, prior to agenda distribution.
 2. South Fork CROW 1w1p, RFP; update on planning funding and group decisions.
 3. SWCD Lease, review future lease options in our current building.
- V. New Business:
 1. 2021 MASWCD Legislative Days March 18, 2021 10:00am-12pm, SWCD Board can attend as a local group at the SWCD office or virtually.
 2. April Board meeting date, Administrator Hatlewick has MARL on the next Board meeting date. Do we keep the date and have other staff facilitate, reschedule, or skip the April meeting?
- VI. Personnel Committee
 1. Kyle Richter – probation period; 7-month probation ends on March 10th. Performance review will be completed prior to the meeting and provided to the personnel committee. Personnel committee will provide a recommendation to the full Board.
 2. Retroactively acceptance of Conservation Assistant resignation; the Conservation Assistant resigned on 2/26/21, the Administrator excepted her resignation on the Boards behalf. A motion is needed to retract this action. We should discuss is we will hirer at this time.
- VII. Program Updates- All staff join the meeting 8:45am
 1. Cost Share Programs
 2. Staff Reports, see attached
 3. NRCS Report- Jeff Kjorness, DC, see attached
 4. Board Reports
- VIII. Other
- IX. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember
- X. Motion to adjourn

Dates to Remember

March 15th Local Workgroup Meeting 1pm, virtual and/or in-person
March 18th MASWCD Legislative Days 10am virtual
March 25th Area VI Chairs meeting, New Ulm



Board of Supervisors Meeting

Feb 11, 2021 8:00 am

Renville County Office Building

105 5th St, Olivia, MN 56277, Room 313 (lower level) and virtually with GoToMeeting (see page two for virtual instructions)

Social distance and other in person CDC recommendation apply during this meeting.

Minutes

- I. Call to Order 8:00am
- II. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person) none
- III. Consent Agenda, Jan 2021 Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: **Kelly, Kokesch (MSC)**
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Operational items/Staff concerns
- V. New Business:
 1. 2020 Audit, approve Peterson engagement letter , **Kevin, Kathryn (MSC)**
 2. 2021 Local Work Group Meeting , Board would prefer it be held in March
- VI. Personnel Committee
 1. PTO Form, motion to update the handbook to add "or", so either electronic leave or paper can be acceptable forms of request. **Kokesch, Jepson (MSC)**
- VII. Program Updates- All staff join the meeting 8:45am
 1. Cost Share Programs
 - a. Kurth Dairy App 21-01, approved contract for funding **Kelly, Jepson (MSC)**
 - b. Staff Reports, see written reports

Ethan Dahl

Buffer Law

- Updated BuffCAT and all of our Validation of Compliance Records
- Buffer E-link reporting using RUSLE2
- Worked with Paul (BWSR) on different compliance questions and compliance standings
- Discovery Farms webinar on Tile Drainage effects

Agricultural Inspector

- Began County Ag Inspector Directed Training provided by the MDA for all new inspectors

MAWQCP

- Signed partnership agreement with Benny's Meat Market in Hector.
- Mailed out an application and information to Susan Slieter for her interest in the program.

Other

- Writing survey articles and assembling the different prizes for the winners.
- Video filming, recording, and video edits and uploads to our YouTube channel: SNIRT video, Tillage video, and Dust Bowl educational and demonstration video.



- Collected and mailed all our county volunteers precipitation data sheets to the state climatology office.

Kyle Richter

CREP:

- '20 CRP1 are slowly starting to come in. I helped NRCS and FSA with the process to make it go quicker
- '19 CREP easements, 3 left to be recorded. 1 is are the attorneys waiting for a final title policy, 1 is going to need an extension due to a death, and the last 1 may be cancelled due to the landowner's mortgage
- '21 CREP signup is from April 12-April 30. Only 10 million dollars are available for payments in the 54 CREP eligible counties. Predominantly looking for CP2 WHPA practices, and CP21 (Buffers) practices.

WCA:

- Possible RFP available for wetland restorations. Will be finding more out the end of the month
- Issues to NOD for two solar projects
- Submitted 2020 WCA Report

ELINK:

- Finished up all elink reporting for the numerous grants for the 2nd half of 2020

Morton Task Force:

- Involved in the process of helping downstream flooding issues in Morton
- Started delineating the sub watersheds in the area to determine areas where BMPs are needed

1W1P:

- Started getting involved in the 1W1P process

Training:

- Working on courses for Conservation Planning Certificate through AgLearn and MNC3

Kyle- talk about funding procedure state cost share. The Board wants us to stay with our same inhouse funding technique.

Holly Hatlewick

1W1P

- Working on plan Goals, and implementation schedule
- Preparing for 2/3/21 Policy Meeting, that Renville SWCD Hosted

Other

- County line sign, working on agreement with Kandiyohi SWCD for HWY 71
- Completed Elink reporting and reconciled grants as of 12/31/20
- Working with Dan Brauer on shed roof timeline and permits
- Worked on SWCD Hawk Creek Watershed newsletter, to be released in late Feb or early March



- MARL, January 20th -22nd, still virtual
- Working on learning the new time tracking
- Participated in the MDA Organic Conference
- Assisting with Morton Task Force discussions
- Meeting with Limbo Creek petitioners , Renville County and DNR , Kyle and I presented on BMP's that could benefit the area

2. NRCS Report- Jeff Kjorness, DC, see attached

3. Board Reports

- a. Kathryn, suggested we post on our local access, Soil Health meeting, 2/3 1w1p meeting
- b. Kevin, no report
- c. Dean, Hawk Creek Board meeting Heidi from Hawk did a good job updating the new Board, and 2/3 1w1p Policy meeting
- d. Richard, no report
- e. David Hamre, no report at this time

VIII. Other

1. MAWQCP update- Ethan, provided an update
2. MASWCD Leg Days, Jepson, Kokesch & Kelly plans to attend, other will notify administrator Hatlewick prior to the March 12th registration deadline.
3. Supervisor WebClock training

IX. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember

1. Remind Board to complete the anti-harassment course and data practices, they should have gotten an email on it.

X. Motion to adjourn **Kevin, Kathryn (MSC)** 9:22am

Dates to Remember

MN Soil Health Coalition Virtual Meetings, 17 & 24, 2021

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88355507688?pwd=UGFBaHVQM2oyWjNxVXU4YkRjZWNTUT09>

MN Soil Health Coalition Annual Planning Meetings, Feb 25, 2021

**Next regular Board Meeting March 11, 2021 at 105 5th St, Olivia,
MN 56277, Room 117 Olivia, MN**

Renville County SWCD Staff Reports

March 2021



Holly Hatlewick

1W1P

- Working on plan Goals, implementation schedule, plan narrative
- Preparing for 3/3/21 Policy Meeting, that Renville SWCD Hosted, with Kyle facilitating

Other

- Working with Dan Brauer on shed roof timeline and permits, possible start in March
- Worked on SWCD Hawk Creek Watershed newsletter, to be released early March
- MARL, several Peer Circle virtual meetings, and Regional Team meetings. Prepped for a highbred regional meeting in March. Due, to the virtual format, we are looking at a schedule change and adding dates for summer of 2021 and winter of 2022.
- Meeting with Limbo Creek petitioners, Renville County and DNR, discussions continue
- Preparing for local workgroup meeting, completed staff assessment of conservation goals for the future and for March 15th meeting discussion.
- Working with customer with on 2021 cover crop cost share program

Ethan Dahl

Buffer Law

- Nutrient Cycling webinar training
- Agricultural Drainage training webinar

Agricultural Inspector

- New County Ag Inspector online training modules
- District 4 County Ag Inspector Meeting
- County Ag Inspector Directed Training provided by the MDA for all new inspectors

MAWQCP

- Signed application with Jeffrey Lingl
- Signed application with Thomas Lorang
- Application mailed out to Dean Schroeder

Other

- Instagram created, gaining popularity with 50 followers as of 3/1/2021
- Major overhaul for the website
- MN Soil Health Coalition training on small grains and herbicide timing
- Video filming, recording, and video edits and uploads to our YouTube channel: Soiled Undies and began works on the Legislature video

Kyle Richter

CREP:

-’20 CRP1 are still a work in progress. FSA being in and out is not helping
-’19 CREP easements, 3 left to be recorded. 1 is are the attorneys waiting for a final title policy, 2 extensions have been requested. They should be in the home stretch in the next month
-’21 CREP sign up is from April 12-April 30. Only 26 million dollars are available for payments in the 54 CREP eligible counties. Predominantly looking for CP2 WHPA practices, and CP21 (Buffers) practices. Have Webinar March 15 to learn more about the sign up.

WCA:

- Wetland Road Bank RFP started on Feb. 22 and goes until April 7
- Have had meetings with a handful of landowners on this and put out a press release and information on the radio. Planning to have at least 5 applications.

NWF:

- Grant opportunity

1W1P:

- Holly and I completed thorough review of implementation document
- South Fork of Crow 1W1P update- Planning to be more involved in this going forward- Started meeting again in February

State Cost Share:

- Starting to get designs from TSA on projects we surveyed last fall
- Planning to survey more sites once the snows off

Training:

- Working on courses for Conservation Planning Certificate through AgLearn and MNC3

Other:

- Newsletter going out next week
- Survey is due on the April 5 and we will be launching Coffee and Conservation Livestream on April 6

Olivia Field Office NRCS Report

March 11, 2021

Jeff Kjorness, DC

EQIP

Field Office continue to work through eligibility and ranking of applications. Due to a software glitch the application deadline has been extended until the software can be fixed.

CSP

The deadline for 2021 CSP applications is March 26, 2021

CRP

With the start of a new administration. USDA has decided to extend the General CRP sign up. No application deadline has been released.

MISC

Due to Covid-19 field offices will remain at level 0 which is doors locked to customer and will not be allowed into the building. Telework is highly recommended and required for federal employees in offices with more than 2 employees.

Brett Carlson, Soil Conservationist has completed the requirements as a Certified Conservation Planner. Congratulations Brett!!!