

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



**MINUTES FROM THE MAY 14, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
located at GoToMeeting.com**

Board Members Present: Koenig, Kelly, Schroeder, Kokesch, Jepson
Staff Present: Holly Hatlewick
Other Present: Jeremy Maul BWSR, Commissioner Schmidt

- I. Public Address to the Board (2 minutes per person): Dispensed, no citizens present
- II. Consent Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: Approved the meeting minutes from April 9, 2020 regular meeting and bills. **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**
- III. Old Business:
 1. Operational items/staff concerns: no staff concerns at this time. Jeremy Maul said the clean water cuts update is now projecting 10% at this time they aren't proposing any cuts to SWCD Local Capacity.
 2. Soil Health Bus Tour: Authorize Hatlewick to allocate refundable funds and deposits on their behalf related to planning and exciting the bus tour. **(Schroeder, Koenig) MSC**
 3. CRP duties/Pheasants Forever Biologist: Discussed the position and SWCD local match and possible partnership. Kathryn Kelly move to support a two-year agreement for a Pheasants Forever Biologist position in Renville County. **(Kelly, Schroeder) MSC**
- IV. New Business:
 1. Supervisor Per Diem: Hatlewick discussed the current procedure for quarterly reimbursement. Koenig suggested we set a reduced per diem for virtual meetings to \$25 per meeting. Discussion was to leave the current Per Diem Policy and leave reimbursement requests at the discretion of the individual Board Member.
 2. CROW 1W1P: Motion to approve resolution 2020-1, intent to plan. **(Jepson, Koenig) MSC**
 3. 2018 Local Capacity BWSR Reconciliation: Discussed and financial report presented. Approved findings and financial report. **(Koenig, Schroeder) MSC**
- V. Personnel Committee:
 1. Conservation Outreach Tech Update: Position has been offered to and accepted by Ethan Dahl, with a start date of 6/1/20. Personnel Committee had been prior delegated to make an offer to a qualified candidate. Motion to approve hirer and official offer. **(Kelly, Jepson) MSC**
- VI. Program Updates
 1. Cost Share Programs, no update, several projects in the work, but nothing needing Board Action
 2. Staff Reports:
 - a. Cody:

Supervisors: Chair/District 2 **Kevin Kokesch**, Vice Chair/District 3 **Dean Schroeder**
Treasurer/District 5 **Vacant**, District 4 **Kathryn Kelly**, District 1 **Mark Koenig**,
Staff: District Administrator **Holly Hatlewick**, WCA/Water Plan Coordinator **Cody Dale**, Administrative Assistant **Melissa Edmondson**

RIM/CREP

- 6 funded CREP offers for March batch period.

Renville	10.8
Renville	121.34
Renville	64.89
Renville	34.51
Renville	75.54
Renville	105.26
Renville	46.3

- 3 CREP applications submitted in May, estimate around 3-5 more.
- Funds to update pollinator habitat on 35 acres of existing RIM
- Danube wetland restoration to begin end of May
- CREP construction plans currently being reviewed by contractors for bids.
- 2019 CREP receiving title insurance and consents to record easements
- Two 2019 CREP projects recently recorded
- New CREP proposals
- RIM sales, meetings with new owners and updating ownership information.

Wetland Conservation Act

- 1 county wetland determination
- Local road bank easement sign-up. Working with interested parties.

Cost-Share Projects

- Malecek waterway project accepted by contractor for summer 2020 construction.

Other

- 2 ag water applications sent for review.
- Re-placed soil thermometers.

b. Holly:

- Teleworked most of April due to COVID-19
- USDA Soil Health Bus tour planning
- Participated in MOSH Soil Health Symposium
- COVID Plan of Operations and planning
- Submitted RSDP grant application, this is a joint application with the Hawk Creek Watershed
- Advertised, interviewed for Conservation Outreach Technical position, hope to fill in May 2020
- 2018 Local Capacity Grant reconcile, Melissa assisted with gather support materials
- Hosted Area V & VI Manager GoToMeeting, on the Soil Health Bus tour

c. Melissa:

- Prepared 2018 SWCD Local Capacity documents for BWSR eLink reconciliation
- Emailed the board packet, drafted meeting minutes
- Buffer inspections
- FFCRA leave

3. Board Reports

Koenig: Receiving scholarship application has six applications to date. Mark would like Kokesch to read the applications and provide his recommendation. All about

equal in quality. Discussed, dividing the funds into the four, instead of awarding to one individual.

Schroeder: 1W1P meetings have been cancelled.

Schmidt: Talked about Buffer violation and possible sending out notices of non-compliances to the four direct violations. Board decided to have each commissioner contact the local constituent.

Kelly: May 4th BWSR, MASWCD, NRCS Conference Call. May 5th interviews for SWCD Conservation Outreach Tech. BWSR Board Meeting for May has been cancelled, possibly meet in July.

Kokesch: Personnel committee meeting with Kelly and Hatlewick. Several COVID discussion with Hatlewick.

Jepson: Nothing to report

Jeremy Maul: Discussed legislature adjourns end of the month. BWSR staff will be working from home mostly through July 2020. BC work areas will be changing but won't impact Renville SWCD.

VII. Other: Kelly said the Board would like to thank all the staff for their flexibility, patience, and resiliency as the SWCD conducts business during this pandemic. This sentiment was shared by the entire Board.

VIII. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember discussed the possibility that the Area VI meeting for June maybe cancelled.

IX. Motion to adjourn at 8:57 A.M. **(Koenig, Schroder) MSC**

CHAIRMAN



Renville County Soil and Water Conservation District

Meeting Date: _____

Motion

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Name of Board Member	Affirmative	Opposed	Abstained	Absent
Richard Jepson				
Kathryn Kelly				
Mark Koenig				
Kevin Kokesch				
Dean Schroeder				
Totals				

Motion

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

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