



Renville County SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting

**April 9, 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.**

**Virtual, Richard Jepson (zoom), Mark Koenig (phone)**

**In the room- Kelly, Kokesch, Schroeder, Commissioner Hamre**

**Staff: Hatlewick, Richter, Dahl**

## Minutes

- I. Call to Order 8:00am
- II. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person)
- III. Consent Agenda, March 2021 Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report, **Kelly, Kokesch (MSC)**
- IV. Old Business:
  1. Operational items/Staff concerns,
    - a. Building lease options tabled last month, except option #1, to remodel north rooms in existing building and notify landlord, so remodeling can begin **Jepson, Koenig (MSC)**
- V. New Business:
  1. SWCD IT Policy, **Kokesch, Kelly (MSC)**
- VI. Personnel Committee
  1. Hatlewick PTO request **Kelly, Kokesch (MSC)**
- VII. Program Updates- All staff join the meeting 8:30am
  1. Local Workgroup results – Richter, presented survey, discussed wind erosion
  2. Cost Share Programs
    - a. Easement 65-02-93-02, Hatlewick update on project to Board
    - b. Discussed cost sharing crop damage so projects can be completed during the growing season, Board was ok with it if needed for timely construction and use of cost share funds.
  3. Staff Reports
    - a. CROW 1W1P update-Richter, update provided, the group plans to submit an application for the summer 2021, round of funding. Board was in agreement with using their previously submitted resolution.

Dahl:

### Buffer Law

- Going through our Buffer Law folders and updating our cost share files
- Reorganizing our Buffer folders in the cabinets
- Loren Butenhoff agreed to a spring seeding
- County mailed out 5 APO's on 3/29/21 with a planting deadline of May 15th

### Agricultural Inspector



- Proctoring Pesticide Applicator Testing over at the county.
- Harold Groen weed/vine inspection. Had red elderberry and wild grapevines choking his trees
- Invasive Organisms in Trade Training Webinar
- Township meetings with Flora and Beaver Falls on our wild parsnip grant

#### MAWQCP

- Signed application with Richard Jepson
- Application mailed to Joe Serbus
- Herman and planning on doing field inspections soon

#### Other

- Legislative Meeting
- Locally Led Conservation Meeting
- National Cover Crop Summit Spring Training
- Video filming, recording, and video edits for the Legislative video and the Walk in Access video

#### Richter:

##### CREP:

- '20 CREP is finally moving again. Had 5 easement agreements signed this month.
- '19 CREP easements, 3 left to be recorded. 1 is at 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 signup is from April 12-April 30. More Money is available then expected. Have a for sure 6 landowners submitting an application, with 6 or so still thinking about it.

#### WCA:

- Wetland Road Bank RFP closed on April 7. We had 3 applicants. Will find out if they will move on to the next step in May
- Submitted 2 NOA to the TEP and reviewed one mining reclamation

#### NFWF:

- Submitted a funding request for \$280,000 to increase technical assistance for water quality initiatives

#### 1W1P:

- Holly and I completed thorough review of implementation document
- South Fork of Crow 1W1P update- Met with McCleod SWCD to go over the planning process- We sent emails to the city hector and buffalo lake to inform them and ask them how involved they want to be

#### State Cost Share:

- Spent a day at Kevin's and spent time working with Holly thinking of what we can do to help him out



- Planning to survey 2 sites this April

Training:

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

Other:

- Signed up for a In person training up in Bemidji for critical area plantings and riparian stabilization
- Newsletter survey was a success. Had a lot of participation. Coffee and Conservation was a success

Hatlewick:

1W1P

- Working on plan Goals, implementation schedule, plan narrative
- Preparing screen tool

Other

- MARL, several Peer Circle virtual meetings. Due, to the virtual format, we are looking at a schedule change and adding dates for summer of 2021 and winter of 2022. Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>, all day virtual.
- Started planning fall Soil Health workshop with SWCD & Hawk staff
- Meeting with MPC on starting the WRAPS process for the CROW watershed
- MASWCD legislative briefing March 18<sup>th</sup>, and virtual appointments with local legislature
- Working with RIM landowner 65-02-93-02, on boundary concerns
- Held Local Work Group meeting with staff on March 15<sup>th</sup>, seven attendees in the room and 14 virtually, lot of good discussion
- Franklin erosion site visit with Board Member Kokesch , Kyle and Franklin City Council member

4. NRCS Report- Loren Clarke, NRCS Redwood Team Lead,
  - a. April 12<sup>th</sup>, will allow customers in by apt. funded 5, \$209,000 in funding for Renville in 2021. 14 active EQIP. 2021, will be a MAWQCP sign-up in 2021.

36 CSP apps, 3 high priority, 11 CSP re-newel. Olivia, tentative CET positions for the entire team, offer has been made, no idea when they will start.

5. Board Reports
  - a. Jepson, MASWCD attend legislative days
  - b. Kokesch, looked at erosion in Franklin
  - c. Kelly, Legislative days, MASWCD training, 1W1P plan meeting 4/7, discovery farms meeting.
  - d. Schroeder, Area VI Chairs meeting in New Ulm discussion on Cover Crops, new election of officers possibly one meeting later this year, talked about field events, signs posted at fields with QR codes. Hawk creek

Renville Soil & Water Conservation District  
1008 West Lincoln, Olivia MN 56277  
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monthly meeting lots of talk about 1w1p. 1w1p policy meeting, things are moving forward with a JPE.

- e. Koenig, officer's meeting in New Ulm 3/25. Chairman Schroeder was also at that meeting, Area VI is tentatively planning on an in-person meeting in September; depending of course on the status in a few months of virus restrictions. Dues for 2021 were not decided on as yet. As to the scholarship, as I received no applicants as of April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>

- f. Commissioner Harme, no report their to listen and learn.

VIII. Other

- 1. Discussion item- wind erosion on early harvested crops, encourage us to meet with neighboring SWCD's staff on this topic or suggestions, then maybe we have a zoom meeting with Boards and elected officials, maybe a meeting July with SMBC Board
- 2. State surplus update- signed by Board

IX. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember, stay in room 313 through Aug, at 8am

X. Motion to adjourn, 9:49am **Kelly, Kokesch, (MSC)**

**Virtual meeting instructions**

Renville SWCD is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SWCD Board Meeting

Time: Apr 9, 2021 08:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88198839142?pwd=T0N3TDFZeTJzYzh6V2V1VFBwMmppZz09>

**Meeting ID: 881 9883 9142**

**Passcode: 191021**

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