Renville Soil & Water Conservation District
1008 West Lincoln, Olivia MN 56277
Phone: 320-523-1559

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes	Date: August 13th, 2026
	Time: 7:00 am-9:00 am
	Location: Renville SWCD meeting room, 1008 W Lincoln Ave Olivia, MN

Present: Smith, Nere, Seehausen, Kokesch, Koenig, Commissioner Hamre
Staff: Hatlewick, Schroeder, Hoaglund

Agenda Items	Purpose	Presenter
1. Call to Order		Chair
2. Approval of Agenda	**Keonig, Nere MSC**	Chair
3. Citizen Comment Period (2 minutes per person)	INFO	Chair
4. Consent Agenda July Meeting and Special Board Meeting Minutes, June & July- removed treasurer's reports and bills paid	**Kokesch, Koenig MSC**	Chair and Administrator
5. Old Business a) 65-15-10-09 Violation update , verbal update	UPDATE/ DISCUSSION/ DECISION	Chair and Administrator
a) Personnel Committee a) Admin Assistant Positions update, motion for 1-year probation in alignment with Renville County hiring policy, SWCD handbook to be updated with 2027 handbook update **Nere, Koenig MSC** b) Resource Conservationist position: motion for 1-year probation in alignment with Renville County hiring policy, SWCD handbook to be updated with 2027 handbook update **Kokesch, Seehausen MSC** Motion to approve updated position description and authorize personnel committee to make an applicant selection and offer of employment **Kokesch, Nere MSC**	DISCUSSION/ DECISION	Personnel Committee
b) New Business a) Plot results and post-discussion; reviewed results talked about future plans. Board would like to focus on a corn and soybean rotation for the final two years of our lease b) Approval- Contract CD59-7 $84,877.93 **Nere, Kokesch MSC** c) Drone seeding program Table for next two months Sept & Oct for additional discussion; asked administrator to collect more a date **Nere, Koenig MSC** d) Farmward Agreement , approved one-year agreement with an expiration of 9/30/2027 **Nere, Koenig MSC** **e)** Non-Structural policy update IV, d. **Kokesch, Seehausen MSC** f) MDA Conservation Equipment grant, PO 3000057725 **Nere, Koenig MSC** to request to cancel grant	DECISION	Administrator and Resource Conservationist

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c) Program Updates– **8:45am, all employees.** Team Building question: If you were a season, which one would you be and why? a) Programs and cost share- reviewed contract update report 1) South Fork Crow River Watershed (SFCR) update, verbal update, no written report b) SWCD Staff Reports **Hatlewick**- Working in budget, personnel committee meetings, county building update **Schroeder**- WCA working on a large project, prep to start drone seeding; hope to start the week of 8/17 **Hoaglund** - RIM inspections close to complete, learned a lot at Conservation Planning Course. Shared about the 8/4 Lee event she attended. **Winzenburg**- on leave; not at meeting; written report c) NRCS Report, Jeff Kjorness- written report d) Board reports and prior month reflections **Kokesch** -echoed the Chair's words that staffing was appreciated and praised staff adaptability; attended a special meeting; enjoyed the Bison food truck; attended the 8/5 CMRWP JPB meeting. The JPB was understanding that we needed time to bridge the gap and supportive of the JPB allowing Kandiyohi SWCD to complete the Coordination role on a reimbursement basis for 6 months **Seehausen** said the staff is doing a wonderful job working through our staffing shortage. Attended the 8/5 field event with his wife and learned a lot. Thought it was very informative. Keep up the good work! **Koenig** - paying Area VI bills; Attended last Area VI meeting with Colby & Zoe; impressed with County HR at last meeting. **Nere**- couple of personnel meetings; grateful for the staff as we work through these changes. Attended 8/5 field day **Smith**- Shared with staff a thank you from the Board for all the work they are doing and covering the office and SWCD workload while we work to fill our current vacancies. Event at Max's impressed with staff's presentations and their job in a public speaking environment. Attended three-day soil health school in July. 8/20, will be on Chippewa and Kandiyohi SWCD farmer panel. **Commissioner Harme**- provided an update on the proposed public works building; the commissioners are moving forward with looking at a precast building design	DISCUSSION/ DECISION	Chair with Staff support
d) Other a) Area VI meeting 9/1/26, Kevin, Mark will attend	DISCUSSION/ DECISION	Chair, all board, with staff support

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e) Motion to adjourn **Koenig, Nere MSC** 8:56am	DECISION	

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Area VI meeting, Fairmont 9/1/26
- Next Board Meeting, September 10th, 2026, 7:30am location: Renville County Historical Society, Morton MN.

Chair Signature — date: 9-10-26