

Minutes
Board of Supervisors
February 28th, 2025
Grant Soil & Water Conservation District

Chairman Groneberg called the meeting to order at 9:26 a.m.

Members Present:

Paul Groneberg, Chairman

Randy Larson, Vice Chair

Andrew Marks, Treasurer

Other Present: Brent Gulbrandson, Nicole Sumstad, Tim Amundson (SWCD), Ryan Haspel (NRCS), and Dean Christenson.

RIM Application: Application for a new RIM easement for 48.5 acres for Christenson Farms Trust. Larson made a motion to approve the RIM Easement application for Christenson Farms Trust. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Marks made a motion to approve the Secretary's Report of January 23rd, 2025, board meeting. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sumstad reviewed the Treasurer's report. Marks made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

NRCS: Haspel updated on CSP applications, CRP status review letters, the IRA money that is currently frozen, and that the local workgroup meeting will be held March 27, 2025, right after the Grant SWCD board meeting.

Chippewa River Watershed Association: Gulbrandson stated the CRP Incentive program will be ready to roll when the farm bill opens up.

Pomme de Terre River Association: Groneberg commented on the Soil Health meeting that will be held March 13 at the Old Number 1 in Morris and gave a Chrissy Dam update.

Bois de Sioux Watershed: Larson stated no meeting. Gulbrandson updated on 5-mile creek and various project updates.

TSA: Marks updated on the S POD working very well and a new engineering tech has been hired for Becker SWCD. Gulbrandson outlined the new engineering agreement. Marks made a motion to approve the Agreement for Engineering Services. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Policies and Ranking Sheets Update: Gulbrandson outlined the updated language and rates made to the Cost Share Policy (Conservation Contracts), the Non-Structural Land Management

Policy, the Cost Share (Conservation Contracts) ranking sheet, and the Soil Health Ranking sheet. Larson made a motion to approve the following updated policies and ranking sheets: Conservation Contracts Policy, Non-Structural Land Management Policy, Conservation Contracts Ranking Sheet, and the Soil Health Ranking Sheet. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Application Approvals: Gulbrandson and Amundson outlined applications 26-09-25-CCP, Windbreak/Shelterbelt, total project \$4,244.50, cost share amount of \$3,183.37, and 26-10-25-CCP, Windbreak/Shelterbelt, total project \$2,434.70, cost share amount of \$1,826.02 (Conservation Contract FY24 and Conservation Contract FY25). Marks made a motion to approve applications 26-09-25-CCP and 26-10-25-CCP. Larson seconded. None opposed all in favor. Motion carried.

Rollofson Soil Health Test Plots Contract: Gulbranson updated on the Rollofson contract for FY25-26 along with the yield report for FY24. Marks made a motion not to offer a contract for the Rollofson FY25-26 soil health test plots. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Envirothon: Sumstad outlined the request for donation for FY25 and explained the survey that went out to the schools in southern Area 1 zone (Grant, Wilken, East and West Otter Tail, Clay, and Becker). Larson made a motion to give a donation of \$500.00 for FY25 to the Area 1 Envirothon. Marks seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Tail-Wind Direction Donation: Marks made a motion to approve a donation of \$1,000.00 to Tail-Wind Direction for FY25. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Buffer Update: Gulbrandson and Amundson discussed the challenges with the buffer survey, the buffer meeting, and will be reaching out to Tom Giles to gather clarification on enforcement issues.

Soil Health Updates: Gulbrandson stated everything is kind of at a standstill with the IRA money being frozen, the Yardstick program with Western Soil Health has been dismissed and wrapping up the ranking process for the programs.

PRAP: Sumstad gave a summary of the district being selected to for a PRAP study, Performance Review and Assistance Program, generally happens every 10 years.

Marks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larson seconded. None opposed, all in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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3-27-25