

MINUTES OF THE BUCHANAN SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
INDEPENDENCE, IA  
Tuesday, March 22, 2022  
10:00 a.m. at the Independence Field Office

Those present were:

**Commissioners**

Doug Kaiser  
Becky Lindsay  
Bob Muchmore  
Tim Halligan  
Sean Dolan

**Staff & Others**

Julie Althaus, Conservation Assistant  
Bill Meyer, District Conservationist  
Tori Nimrod, NE IA RC & D

The meeting was called to order by Kaiser at 10:03 a.m.

**Adopt Agenda**

Kaiser called to adopt the agenda.

**22-52 Motion** by Muchmore to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dolan. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Kaiser called for a discussion and approval of the minutes from the February 25, 2022, meeting.

**22-53 Motion** by Dolan to approve the minutes of February 25, 2022. Seconded by Lindsay. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer's Report for February 2022 was given. In doing the February TR, Althaus found an error, contacted Cindy Davis on assistance to fix the error. There was \$107.00 EFT payment to Dept. of Revenue, and \$0.22 Dividend that was missed. Got it fixed and had to do an explanation on page 1 Treasurer's Summary Report for 1/31/22 and presented to the commissioner's approval and signature.

**22-53 Motion** by Lindsay to approve the corrections to the January 2022 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Halligan. Motion carried.

It was discussed about moving the \$2,100.00 into the scholarship page, this will come from the Revolving Fund dollars.

**22-54 Motion** by Lindsay to put the \$2,100.00 for 2022 into the scholarship page of the TR. Seconded by Halligan. Motion carried.

Althaus presented the Financials for the February 2022 report. She stated that the CD in the amount of \$27,223.26 renewed at 0.30%, it renews again on 9/22/2022. No questions.

**22-55 Motion** by Dolan to approve the February 2022 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Muchmore. Motion carried.

Tori gave her report as follows:

- The Upper Wapsi River Management Authority is requesting \$600.00 for FY 2023 support.
- They are planning a field day tour; they are looking at mid-May. It was discussed to do a Press release and invite everyone. Althaus suggested that we start out at Cedar Rock and end up there and have the Pork Producers and the Dairy Producers serve a lunch. It is important that we get the commissioners visible also, when doing this so we can educate the public on what they do.
- There was over 2.6 million dollars spent on all these projects.
- The next WMA meeting is on April 12, 2022, at Fontana at 1:30 p.m. It will also be available via Zoom.

#### **Middle Cedar River Watershed –**

Althaus gave a quick update from Clark Porter's email, he is currently working with Amy Bouska, Urban Conservationist, and has been working with Craig and Kyle Schutte, and made a phone call to Dave Jordening to work on issues with Bear Creek which feeds into Lime Creek. He plans on attending the April meeting.

#### **Pheasants Forever Report – Allie Rath**

Nothing currently

#### **District Conservationist Report – Bill Meyer – DC**

Meyer reported as follows:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NRCS – the time it was updated was in 2020. Meyers went over the MOU and handed copies of this item out.
- IA Civil Rights – Meyers went through this with the commissioners on every item that was on the checklist. The commissioners were asked to sign this document so it could be sent into Teresa and NRCS state office.
- CRP – He has Evan, Jim, and Griffin working on renewals.
- EQIP – Meyers went over the different funding options, there are 12 applications
- CSP – Classic Application approved. Now they are sending out letters regarding CSP renewals.

#### **NACD Grant Position –**

Althaus explained everything had been updated on the job description. She asked the commissioners what they would like to be a cutoff date. A suggestion was made to make it like 3 weeks out.

**Updated Agenda** – Althaus discovered that she mistakenly sent out the agenda from the previous month and not the current one. She printed that off and presented it to the commissioners and explained her error.

#### **Revised Agenda –**

Kaiser called to adopt the revised agenda.

**22-56 Motion** by Lindsay to adopt the revised agenda. Seconded by Muchmore. Motion carried.

#### **Treasurer's Report Item B**

Approval to give Dan Hawkins or Cindy Davis permission to get banking information at financial institutions, suggested that the Treasurer or Co-Treasurer be present when this is done out of protection for everyone.

**22-57 Motion by Lindsay** to approve the Audit information that is requested, as long as the Treasurer or Co-Treasurer is to be present when getting info from the bank. Seconded by Muchmore. Motion carried.

**Iowa Environmental Lead Award for 2021 – John Kerkove**

Althaus asked when the commissioners wanted to present this to him. It was to be presented at the Iowa State Fair, and he did not attend. It was suggested to contact him, we need to make sure that we get a picture of him, possibly put it on the website. It was also suggested that we possibly could tie it in with the tour.

**Review of the CDI Spring Regional Meeting –**

Attendees were Doug Kaiser and Bob Muchmore. A report was given by Kaiser and Muchmore. It was discussed the BMP Mapping/ ACPF these links can be obtained by Dr. Larry Weber from the University of Iowa. Tori Nimrod also, stated that she could send out the links if they would like her to, and it was agreed for her to send them to Althaus, who would send them out to the commissioners.

Kaiser reported that the presentation done by Dr. Larry Weber was very interesting, the tools that he spoke of were amazing, he was very informative.

Also, discussed were the financial reviews with all the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

John Whitaker went over the STAR (Saving Tomorrow’s Agriculture Resources) Program. This is a free tool to assist farm operators and landowners in evaluation their nutrient and soil management practices on individual fields. The ultimate goal is to meet the goals of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRCS).

**Tree Sale –**

Althaus stated that the trees will be coming in on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, pickup will be on the 14<sup>th</sup>. She asked if we could sell the tank out back that is not used at all. She asked Dolan if he could bring in about 25 pallets. She will be communicating with them for their assistance for sorting trees.

**Conservation Plans – 15**

**Cost Share Approval –**

Nothing Currently

**Completed Cost Share –**

Nothing Currently

**Bills for March 2022**

Revolving Account – NSB (Northern Security Bank)

|               |         |                 |          |                       |
|---------------|---------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Julie Althaus | 3/22/22 | \$ 6.00         | Chk#4644 | Difference in Postage |
|               |         | VOID            | Chk#4645 |                       |
| The News      | 3/22/22 | <u>\$128.50</u> | Chk#4646 | Annual Report/Tree Ad |

Total \$134.50

**22-58 Motion by Dolan** to approve Conservation Plans and Bills for March. Seconded by Muchmore. Motion carried.

**Other Items:**

SWCD Scholarships – wanted to let remind them that they are coming in, and that the time that this was set up that they took \$2,100.00 and divided it up amongst the 7 schools that provide education to Buchanan County Residents that are going into an Ag Related Industry. It is usually 1 person per school. North Linn asked about

the possibility of 2, and it was suggested that we keep it the same. Althaus will reach out to them and let them know this.

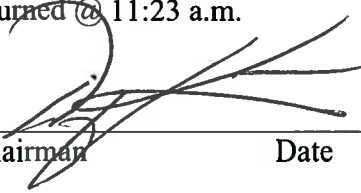
SWCD Computer Monitor – Althaus asked if it would be possible to purchase that monitor for \$10.00 if it is compatible to her home computer.


**22-59 Motion by Dolan** to approve the sale of the monitor to Julie Althaus. Seconded by Lindsay. Motion carried.

Regular Commissioner’s Meeting – **April 26, 2022**, at 10:00 a.m. at the USDA Building.

**22-60 Motion by Muchmore** to adjourn. Seconded by Lindsay. Motion carried

Adjourned @ 11:23 a.m.

  
Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date 4/24/22

  
Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date 5/24/22