

**MINUTES OF THE BUCHANAN SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
INDEPENDENCE, IA
Thursday, January 11, 2024
2:26 p.m. at the Independence Field Office**

Those present were:

Commissioners

Sean Dolan

Dale Priebe

Tim Halligan

Becky Lindsay

Doug Kaiser*

*Absent from Meeting

Staff & Others

Julie Althaus, Conservation Assistant

Evan Ronnebaum, District Conservationist

The meeting was called to order by Dolan at 2:26 p.m.

Adopt Agenda

Dolan called to adopt the agenda.

24-40 Motion by Halligan to approve the agenda. Seconded by Lindsay. Motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes November 28, 2023

Dolan called for a discussion and approval of the meeting minutes from November 28, 2023, no discussion.

24-41 Motion by Lindsay to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 28, 2023, meeting.

Seconded by Priebe. Motion carried.

No Meeting held in December – Document needs to be signed for submission to IDALS.

Commissioner's Financial Review FY2023 Letter

Althaus presented to the commissioners the letter of response that was discussed at November meeting, to make sure that they agreed with the recommendations that were sent to us. They reviewed the letter and they all agreed to the letter that was presented to them. Signature was provided by Sean Dolan, Chairperson.

Treasurer's Report & Financials –

Treasurer's Report & Financials approval for November 30, 2023.

24-42 Motion by Lindsay to approve the November 30, 2023, Financial Report. Seconded by Halligan.

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report & Financials approval for December 29, 2023.

24-43 Motion by Priebe to approve the December 29, 2023, Financial Report. Seconded by Halligan. Motion

carried.

A reminder the CD will expires on 2/8/2024 at 4.93%. Friendly reminder that it will take 2 signatures for the renewal.

FARMS Ledger Remain Balance as of January 10, 2024 – IFIP \$0.00/REAP F/NG \$2,590.53/ REAP P \$8,614.78

Practice #	Name	Program	Practice	Estimated Cost	Cost Share Amt	Action
111307	Sperfslage, Craig	REAP P	Windbreak	\$2,133.50	\$1,600.00	Approve
114506	Reuter, Roger	REAP P	Windbreak	\$2,323.64	\$1,600.00	Approve

FARMS Completed Cost Share Projects & Maintenance Agreements

Practice #	Name	Program	Practice	Cost Share Amt	Action
109647	Baragary Brothers	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,169.00	Approve
108024	Osvold, Dusting	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,400.00	Approve
113984	Fuller, Raymond	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$600.00	Approve
111263	Milbach, Keith	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,400.00	Approve
113164	Bevans, Shane	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,400.00	Approve
113168	Gosse, Luke	HUC 8 – Cedar River	Cover Crops	\$8,796.00	Approve
113324	Priebe, Dale	HUC 8 – Cedar River	Cover Crops	\$1,975.00	Approve
107959	Cook Brothers, LTD	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,311.50	Approve
113014	Dolan, Sean	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,400.00	Approve
108145	Dolan, William	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,273.25	Approve
109656	Fischels, Doug	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$872.00	Approve
113914	Francois, Julie	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,000.00	Approve
112506	Lehman, Randy	HUC 8 – Middle Cedar	Cover Crops	\$875.00	Approve
112431	Michels, Benjamin	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$750.00	Approve
111669	Milbach, Matt	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$1,657.50	Approve
112328	Noe, Derek	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$372.90	Approve
109452	Rouse, Tony	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$1,725.00	Approve
112228	Slattery, John P	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,206.35	Approve
108709	Sperfslage, Richard	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$2,400.00	Approve
108358	West Family Farms	WQI Cover Crops	Cover Crops	\$1,459.50	Approve

24-44 Motion by Halligan to approve new requests for cost share and approve the completed cost share for payment. Seconded by Lindsay. Motion carried.

District Conservationist Report – Evan Ronnebaum, District Conservationist

NRCS Updates –

- EQIP – 20 Applications; Approximately half of them are Strip Till/Cover Crops. Deadline is February 2nd
- CSP – 5 applications – Deadline is in March. Ronnebaum explained the ins and outs of the ranking system, which makes it difficult for ones that really do need assistance for a conservation practice.
- Black Hawk SWCD – Cover Crop Management Workshop, January 18 at 9:30 a.m./Registration at 9:00 a.m. – RSVP to Jenna by calling the office at 319 296 3262, ext. 3.

Watershed Reports

- Middle Cedar/SF512 Middle Cedar HUC 8 Project – Althaus reported that Clark Porter’s father passed away and we need to send a card.
- Middle Cedar Watershed Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting is on Thursday, January 18, 2024; Location Waterloo Center for the Arts, Schoitz Room 1, 225 Commercial Street from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. (Email from Jenifer Fencil)
- Maquoketa River Watershed Management Authority – Nothing at this time
- Upper Wapsi Watershed – Did anyone attend the meeting on December 5th? No one attended.

Conservation Districts of Iowa – Report from Sean

- February 8th is Partnership Day in Des Moines – 9:30 a.m. at the Wallace Building/Sean will be attending, if anyone else wants to go please let him know.
- CDI Administrative Support – They will be housed in the Independence Office but will be going around to the other counties to assist.
- Spring Regionals – Region 4 will be in Dubuque in the morning of March 5th at 10:00, more information to follow.
- Time to think about Resolutions – they are due March 1st, we will cover at the February meeting. One that was suggested regarding EQIP points, send any resolutions out to Sean.

IA Department of Ag and Land Stewardship

- Nothing at this time

NACD – National Association of Conservation District

- Nothing at this time.

District Activities

- Julie is still filling in at Linn County, new started December 8th. Training for all of the firsts.
- Supervisors Request has been sent in for \$4,000.00 for FY 25, emailed on December 29th, 2023.

- Request for funds for FY24 from Supervisors, we were allocated \$3,000.00. Need signature on documentation that has been requested from the state from the auditors. It will stay on file, so we won't have to do it every year.
- Fundraisers ready to roll out
- Commissioners Expenses FY24 1st Qtr – need approval – note approved in the TR under Bills
- Commissioners Expenses FY24 2nd Qtr -need approval – note approved in the TR under Bills

Conservation Plans – None at the time

Other Items:

- Priebe discussed the windmill project, since it is on hold until April, he will do a write up regarding it. Althaus stated that she will be putting it on the agenda for February, so the commissioners can resolve it.
- Next Commissioners meeting will be on February 27th at 2:00 p.m. at the Field Office.

24-45 Motion by Lindsay to adjourn. Seconded by Kaiser. Motion carried.

Adjourned @ 11:21 a.m.

Chairman

Date

Secretary

Date