

MINUTES OF THE LINN COUNTY

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Marion, IA

2/13/2024

Location: Cedar Rapids-Linn County Solid Waste Agency

Call Meeting to order:

Laura Krouse called the 02/13/2024, meeting of the Linn Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners to order at 9:35 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Bruce Frana

Laura Krouse

Sue Ellen Hosch

Robert Broulik

Alan Horak

Assistant Commissioner:

Karmin McShane

Guests:

MaryBeth Stevenson, City of Cedar Rapids (via Zoom)

James Martin, IDALS

Allie Barth, Wildlife Biologist

Staff

Levi Schwartz, District Conservationist

Julie Althaus, Acting Conservation Assistant

Jon Gallagher, County Resource Conservationist

Mark Bienemann, Conservation Technician

Jeanette Shoop, Conservation Assistant

Adopt Agenda:

- Motion by Frana to adopt the agenda with the addition of a review of LSWC assets under New Business. Second by Hosch. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the 12/12/2023, were presented for approval.

- Motion by Hosch to approve the minutes from the 12/12/2023, meeting. Seconded by Horak. Motion carried.

Public Comment: N/A

Treasurers report & bills:

The treasurer's report for 12/2023 and 01/2024 were presented for approval.

- Motion by Frana to approve the treasurer's report for December 31, 2023. Second by Hosch. Motion carried.
- Motion by Frana to approve the treasurer's report for January 31, 2024. Second by Broulik. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker: James Martin, Regional Coordinator – Southeast Iowa, Water Resources Bureau, IDALS
James Martin discussed partnering (District and County) for a WQI Grant that could fund a Project Coordinator position. Martin also discussed the Iowa Legislature's current proposed legislation and the impact it could have on WMA.

WQI Claims:

Name	Program	Practice	Estimated Cost	Cost Share Amt	Action
Brecht, Peter	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Broulik, Luke	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3445	\$1033.50	Approve
Broulik, Robert	WQI	Cover Crops	\$7950	\$2385	Approve
Cook, Daniel	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Dye, Ian	WQI	Cover Crops	\$4000	\$1200	Approve
Grief, Gary	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3750	\$1124	Approve
Grief, Mark	WQI	Cover Crops	\$1650	\$495	Approve
Hershey Family Farms	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3600	\$1080	Approve
Holub, Larry	WQI	Cover Crops	\$2250	\$675	Approve
Kane, Michael	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3164.50	\$949.35	Approve
Keegan, Timothy	WQI	Cover Crops	\$5319	\$1595.70	Approve
Kula, LaVern	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Lensch, Brian	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Lensch, James	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Meythaler Farms	WQI	Cover Crops	\$5262.50	\$1578.75	Approve
Nulle, Todd	WQI	Cover Crops	\$2500	\$765	Approve
Russell, Jason	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Sebetka, Matthew	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Shadden, Chris	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Shaffer, Dexter	WQI	Cover Crops	\$2161	\$648.30	Approve
Sperflage, Joe	WQI	Cover Crops	\$7747.50	\$2324.25	Approve
Stamy, Dave	WQI	Cover Crops	\$7250	\$2175	Approve
Stick, Scott	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3856	\$1928	Approve
Tomash, Alex	WQI	Cover Crops	\$1600	\$800	Approve
Uhlenkamp, Bruce	WQI	Cover Crops	\$2400	\$1401.90	Approve
Uhlenkamp, Dean	WQI	Cover Crops	\$3294.50	\$988.10	Approve
Ulch, Brian	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Voss, Dan	WQI	Cover Crops	\$8000	\$2400	Approve
Yates, Doug	WQI	Cover Crops	\$500	\$150	Approve

- Motion by Horak to approve the 29 WQI Cover Crop applications listed above. Seconded by Hosch. Motion carried.

Maintenance Agreement:

Approve Pasture and Hayland - 5-year Maintenance Agreement for Doug Yates.

- Motion by Hosch to approve Pasture and Hayland - 5-year Maintenance agreement for Doug Yates Second by Broulik. Motion carried.

Old Business

Linn County Water Management Authorities Updates:

- Lower Cedar WMA Meeting scheduled for tonight.
- Indian Creek WMA Meeting was held on 1/10/24 via Zoom.
- Batch and Build projects with the City of Cedar Rapids:
- Upper Wapsi WMA Meeting is scheduled for 3/12/24.

Truax Drill –payment for Doug Wyman – Shoop will connect with Wyman and initiate payment process.

New Business

Discussion of 2024 Slough Bill: Jon Gallagher provided an update regarding the Linn County Assessor's Office reclassification of some parcels from agriculture to residential or commercial. For 2024 those parcels will be grandfathered in for one year, unless it is determined that extensive mowing has occurred.

Approval of 2024 Slough Bill Applications:

- Motion by Broulik to approve 272 Slough Bill applications, covering 1,928.62 acres; and approval of the Impound Structure application. Second by Frana. Motion carried.

APPROVE Bill - 780 employee invoice:

- Motion by Horak to approve the 780-employee invoice in the amount of \$1,405.08. Second by Frana. Motion carried.

CDI Region 7 Spring Regional Meeting, February 28, 2024, at Muscatine: Broulik, Frana, and possibly Krouse are interested in attending. Shoop can attend if 2 commissioners attend. Shoop will send in the RSVP.

Quarterly Report, Wildlife Biologist, Allie Barth (report in-packet)

Barth reviewed the October through December 2023 Quarterly report.

CDI Conservation Scholarship – the Commissioners reviewed 2 scholarship applications.

- Motion by Hosch to approve the scholarship application from Mitch Mahoney to send on to the Jack Boyer, the Region 7 Director. Second by Broulik. Motion passed.

Linn SWCD assets review: Shoop reported the HP printer purchased in 2015 is no longer operational, also the Dell Laptop purchased in 2012 is no longer operational.

- Motion by Frana to recycle and write off the HP printer and the Dell Laptop. Second by Hosch. Motion carried.

Staff / Commissioners Reports

Commissioners:

NRCS – Levi Schwartz, DC, reported that the EQUIP applications have been ranked. Linn County has 26 applications for a total of \$1.7 million. The average per application is \$65,000. Schwartz also noted the CSP deadline is 3/1/24.

County Resource Conservationist-Jon Gallagher reported Linn County has contracted with ISG from Waterloo to provide Ag Inspection services for the proposed gas pipeline on the east side of Cedar Rapids. Gallagher also noted that Linn County is developing a Wind Farm Ordinance.

Conservation Assistant – Jeanette Shoop, reported she will add a section to the monthly agenda to review a portion of the 5-year plan. Also, Shoop now has access to our Facebook page and Website.

Correspondence: No additional correspondence was shared.

Next meeting date

The next regular meeting of the Linn Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, March 12th at 8:45 AM.

Adjourn

Hosch moved to adjourn at 11:19 A.M. Second by Frana. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Secretary

Date

Chairperson

Date