



# BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

1160 S. VICTORY DRIVE, STE #5  
MANKATO, MN 56001  
PHONE 507.345.4744  
FAX 507.345.6036

Approved Minutes of September 4, 2025

**Supervisors Present:** Chairman: John Rollings, Vice Chairman: Jacob Quade, Treasurer: John Shanahan, Secretary: Carol Krosch, PR&I: Bernie Paulson

**Staff Present:** District Manager: Jerad Bach, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, Conservation Specialist: Jake Fritz, Conservation Technician: Haley Scott

**Guests:** NRCS: Brandon Berndt, County Commissioner: Kevin Paap

**Proceedings:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Rollings at 4:00 p.m.

**Pledge:** All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## HOUSEKEEPING

**Agenda:** Agenda was reviewed. Quade moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Krosch.

**Motion adopted.**

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed. Krosch moved to approve the August 7, 2025, minutes, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

**Treasurer's Report:** (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 1,197,851.50
Receipts	\$ 142,021.79
Disbursements	\$ 37,263.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,302,609.45</b>

**Kuduk** presented the Treasurer's Report for August and requested to pay the Supervisor per diems, which were read for each Supervisor. Shanahan moved to file the August Treasurer's Report subject to audit and pay Supervisor per diems as read, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

## OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

**Guest Speakers:**

**County Commissioner Paap** presented the Blue Earth County Commissioner report. The County is continuing to work on the budget. The construction of the Public Works building is moving along and they're hopeful to move in before winter. There will be a public open house in early December. The board will hold a special work session next week to discuss the Rapidan Dam and the Red Jacket trestle bridge.

**NRCS District Conservationist Berndt** presented the District Conservationist report. They have an intern that started last week that will be with them through the school year. Current workload includes finalizing CRP contracts and getting them sent over to FSA. Work continues with rankings of EQIP and CSP contracts.

**District Manager Bach** presented the District Manager report (see attached).

## **COST SHARE:**

### **Contract 7-1-1:**

**Scott** requested to encumber \$7,229.00 for contract 7-1-1 where cover crops will be planted on 60.24 acres for the next three years. Krosch moved to encumber \$7,229.00 for contract 7-1-1 to be paid from the FY26 Soil Health Practices grant, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

### **Contract 7-1-2:**

**Scott** requested to encumber \$25,012.00 for contract 7-1-2 where cover crops will be planted on 125.06 acres for the next four years. Krosch moved to encumber \$25,012.00 for contract 7-1-2 to be paid from the FY26 Soil Health Practices grant, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

### **Contract 7-1-3:**

**Scott** requested to encumber \$8,754.00 for contract 7-1-3 where no-till will be implemented on 125.06 acres for the next two years. Quade moved to encumber \$8,754.00 for contract 7-1-3 to be paid from the FY26 Soil Health Practices grant, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

### **Contract 7-1-4:**

**Fritz** requested to encumber \$100,000.00 for the 7-1-4 contract where cover crops will be planted on 625 acres for the next four years. Krosch moved to encumber \$100,000.00 for the 7-1-4 contract to be paid from the FY26 Soil Health Practices grant, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

### **Contract 7-1-5:**

**Fritz** requested to encumber \$8,583.00 for contract 7-1-5 where cover crops will be planted on 214.6 acres for one year. Shanahan moved to encumber \$8,583.00 for contract 7-1-5 to be paid from the FY26 Soil Health Practices grant, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **2025 SWCD Aid Payment Guidelines Resolution:**

**Bach** reviewed Resolution No. 2025R-01, which details the guidelines on how Blue Earth County SWCD will spend SWCD Aid. Krosch moved to adopt Resolution No. 2025R-01 regarding SWCD Aid, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

### **Letter of Support – Lura Lake Project (Faribault SWCD)**

**Bach** reviewed the project proposal he received from Faribault SWCD who will be writing a grant in partnership with the DNR to repair the outlet for Lura Lake. Due to the majority of the lake being located in Blue Earth County, they've asked the board for a letter of support. Quade moved to approve Bach writing a letter of support on the board's behalf for Faribault SWCD, seconded by Paulson. **Motion adopted.**

### **Tree Program Update:**

**Kuduk** gave an update on the tree program for the upcoming 2026 program. The board gave suggestions on possible changes to look into.

### **Area VI Meeting:**

**Kuduk** reviewed the Area VI agenda with the board and asked that the Supervisors RSVP with her by Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**MASWCD Convention:**

**Kuduk** gave an update on the upcoming 2025 MASWCD Annual Convention that will take place on December 1-3, 2025, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington. She'll send out an email to board members when registration opens.

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Shanahan** – Commented on his CREP ground and tree growth he witnessed.

**Krosch** – Commented on the MASWCD Resolution committee meeting she attended.

**Paulson** – Commented on the Le Sueur 1W1P meeting he attended last month.

**Quade** – Commented on the Middle MN River 1W1P he will be attending next week.

**Rollings** – No report.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business, Chairman Rollings adjourned the meeting.

- Meeting adjourned 5:13 p.m.
- Next regular meeting will be held October 9, 2025
- Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_