

Fillmore Soil & Water Conservation District

912 Houston St., Box 45, Preston, Minnesota 55965

Phone: 507-887-0240, Fax: 507-765-4415

www.fillmoreswcd.org

September
DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 19th 2024
5:00 PM
Fillmore SWCD Conf. RM
912 Houston Street NW
Preston, MN 55965

Members present: Eunice Biel, Travis Willford, Kathy Tesmer, Jason Wetzel, Tim Gossman

Others Present: Josh Pommier, Riley Buley, Hunter Slifka, Aaren Mathison, Duane Bakke, Theresa Baker

Travis Willford called meeting to order @ 5:02pm

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Tesmer motioned to approve agenda, seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: None**
- II. Pheasants Forever Farm Bill: Josh Pommier: Discuss and consider fiscal, \$6,500, or moral support for a Farm Bill Biologist housed within the Fillmore USDA office. **J Pommier provided a brief explanation and answered questions about the position requesting fiscal funding for the Farm Bill Biologist in Fillmore County. Board discussed and determined they would support this with applicant designating hours to Fillmore SWCD at least 1 day a week. Motioned to approve support funding of \$6,500 by Gossman seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: None Motioned carried.**

Pommier left meeting at 5:28

- III. Treasurer's Report
 1. Approve August 2024 SWCD Treasurer's Report: **Tesmer motioned to approve August treasurers report, seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Willford, Wetzel, Biel, Gossman Tesmer. Opposed: none motioned carried.**
 2. Approve Root River 1W1P Treasurer's Report: **Wetzel motioned to approve RR1W1P August treasurer's report, seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Willford, Wetzel, Biel, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed: none motioned carried**

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2022-2023 - Root River 1W1P - C22-0480			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 734,798.00	50%	05-26-2022	Executed 05-20-2022
\$ 587,838.00	40%	09-09-2024	
\$ 146,959.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2024
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 1,469,595.00	\$ 1,322,636.00	\$ 847,669.34	\$ 474, 966.66

2024-2025 - Watershed Base Implementation ARP – C22-0143			
Payments	Terms	Received	Grant Terms
\$ 1,150,475.00	50%	04-23-2024	Executed 04-08-2024
\$ 920,380.00	40%		
\$ 230,095.00	10%		Expires 12-31-2026
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 2,300,950.00	\$ 1,150,475.00	\$ 56,793.02	\$ 1,093,682.00

- IV. Consent Agenda: **Gossman Motioned to approve consent agenda with the understanding if contracts were accepted on the CSA grant, the same acreages approved would not qualify for RR1W1P funding. Seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Tesmer, Gossman. Opposed none motioned carried.**
1. Secretary's Report – August 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.
 2. Approve contract RR1W1P 24-7, Nagel Rolling Acres, in the amount of \$1,000 Cover Crops 25 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River1W1P Grant.
 3. Consider final payment to Kent Dornink, Contract RR1W1P22-10, in the amount of \$2,736.00 Grassed Waterway. Utilizing funds from the 2022-2023 Root River 1W1P Grant.
 4. Approve Contract RR1W1P24-8, Jerry Bergey in the amount of \$9,518.00, Cover Crops:190.36 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River1W1P Grant.
 5. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-14, Bill Wingert in the amount of \$4,079.00 Cover Crops:81.6 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River1W1P Grant.
 6. Consider 2024 partial payment to David Markegard, Contract DWP-12, Nitrogen incentive usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$850.00 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water protection Grant in the Karst Region.
 7. Consider 2024 partial payment to Brad Thompson, Contract DWP-14, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.

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8. Consider 2024 partial payment to Brad Thompson, Contract DWP-15, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$2,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
9. Consider 2024 partial payment to Jacob Holst, Contract DWP-34, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
10. Consider 2024 partial payment to Jary Holst, Contract DWP-35, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
11. Consider 2024 partial payment to Isaac Holst, Contract DWP-35, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$2,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
12. Consider 2024 partial payment to Bryton Miller, Contract DWP-09, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$2,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
13. Consider 2024 partial payment to Tom Miller, Contract DWP-38, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$340.00 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
14. Consider 2024 partial payment to Thomas Miller, Contract DWP-10, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
15. Consider 2024 partial payment to Duane Hager, Contract DWP-11, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
16. Consider 2024 partial payment to Dalon Miller Contract DWP-17, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
17. Consider 2024 partial payment to Steven Evers, Contract DWP-37, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
18. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-6, David Swenson in the amount of \$1,916.00 1 yr Cover Crops 47.9 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
19. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-4, Nick Ruen in the amount of \$5,419.20 1 yr Cover Crops 135.48 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
20. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-5, Dustin Tart in the amount of \$15,953.60 1 yr Cover Crops 398.59 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
21. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-2, Roll-N-Valley in the amount of \$6,263.60 1 yr Cover Crops 156.59 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.

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22. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-27 Jonathon Keune in the amount of \$6,026.00 1 yr Cover Crops 150.65 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
23. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-24, Saratoga Partnership in the amount of \$13,500.00 3 yr Cover Crops 90.0 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
24. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-32, Michael Rohrer in the amount of \$5,949.50 1 yr Cover Crops 118.99 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
25. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-29, Dwayne Ostrem in the amount of \$6,400.00 1 yr Cover Crops 160 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
26. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-20, James Vagts in the amount of \$15,600.00 1 yr Cover Crops 321 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
27. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-31 Rockne West in the amount of \$7,200.00 3 yr Cover Crops 60 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
28. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-28, Kyle Mulhern in the amount of \$8,202.00.00 1 yr Cover Crops 205.05 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
29. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-33, Neal Mulhern in the amount of \$7,200.00 1 yr Cover Crops 180 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
30. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-34, Tim Mulhern in the amount of \$5,488.00 1 yr Cover Crops 137.2 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
31. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-35, Steve Highum in the amount of \$8,035.60 1 yr Cover Crops 200.89 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
32. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-17, Damon Gragert in the amount of \$6,382.00 1 yr Cover Crops 159.55 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
33. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-9, Steven McCallson in the amount of \$3,400.00 1 yr Cover Crops 85 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
34. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-26, Gross and Sons in the amount of \$18,753.00 3 yr 1 yr Cover Crops 125.02 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
35. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-23, Larry Broadwater in the amount of \$6,400.00 Cover Crops 160 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.

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36. Consider 2024 partial Payment to Alex McCabe Contract DWP-20, Nitrogen Incentive usage: Side dress Planting in the amount of \$2,000 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
37. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-13, Devan Schmidt in the amount of \$3,800.00 1 yr Cover Crops 95 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
38. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-25, James Eggerichs in the amount of \$7,343.00 1 yr Cover Crops 146.87 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
39. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-18, Alex McCabe in the amount of \$16,930.80 3 yr Cover Crops 141.09 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
40. Approve Renewal of Bacteria Lab Licensure through State of MN in the amount of no more than \$1050.00.
41. Consider 2024 partial payment to Chad Curtis, Contract DWP-22, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: 1st yr Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$1,500 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
42. Consider 2024 partial payment to Kendall Curtis, Contract DWP-21, Nitrogen Incentive Usage: 1st yr Side Dress Planting, in the amount of \$1,500 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karts Region.
43. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-16, Duane Bakke in the amount of \$6,984.00 1 yr. Cover Crops 174.6 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
44. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-30, Gerald Peter in the amount of \$27,000 3 yr. Cover Crops 180 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
45. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-15, Chad Curtis in the amount of \$ 26,011.20 1 yr Cover Crops 650.28 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
46. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-19, Doug McCabe in the amount of \$5,073.00 1 yr Cover Crop 126.84 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
47. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-3, Richard Hansen in the amount of \$4,600.00 1 yr Cover Crop 115 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
48. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-21, Matthew Miner in the amount of \$12,752.00 3 yr Cover Crop 106.1 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.
49. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-22, Robert Biel in the amount of \$9,225.00 1 yr Cover Crop 184.5 acres, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.

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50. Consider 2024 partial payment to Glen Groth, Contract DWP-29, Nitrogen incentive usage: Pre-Planting, in the amount of \$1000.00 utilizing funds from the Drinking Water protection Grant in the Karst Region.

V. Reports

1. Supervisor Activity Report: **Willford: regular mtg, Brightsdale Dam virtual mtg. Tesmer: regular mtg, Brightsdale Dam virtual mtg Biel: regular mtg, Brightsdale Dam virtual mtg Gossman: regular mtg, Brightsdale Dam virtual mtg and RR1W1P policy committee mtg. Wetzel: Reg. Board mtg.**
2. Staff Reports: Submitted
3. Administrator's Report:
 - a. Building update: **Buley indicated we are moved in and settling in.**
 - b. Conservation Corp Intern 2025: **We have been awarded a 2025 CC Intern.**
 - c. Brightsdale Dam [Story](#) Article will feature in Star Tribune
4. NRCS Report: Bronson **Submitted: Staff is gearing up for 2025**
5. County Report: **Bakke reported Dobelstein project will be listed on the 11/21 County brd agenda.**

VI. Old Business: None

VII. New Business

1. Verify Supervisors interested in attending A7 MASWCD Meeting 10/22/24 @ 9:00 am Austin MN. **Tesmer and Biel will attend: along with Wheeler, Buley, Slifka, West, Baker, Mitchell**
2. Verify Supervisors interested in attending annual meeting Dec 2,3,4. **Wetzel, Tesmer & Biel along with 3 staff members. Tabled till October Brd mtg. to discuss further for lodging.**
3. Discuss open house for SWCD. Week of Oct 7-11: **Board agreed on dates and will put in Paper.**
4. Approve amendment to the MDA FSP JPB contract increase to allocate funds to Minnesota Geological Survey and St. Mary's. **Tesmer approved, seconded by Gossman. Affirmative Biel, Gossman, Tesmer, Wetzel, Willford. Opposed none.**
5. Approve contract TNC-01, Johnson Rolling Acres in the amount of \$20,000 for the Nutrient Sensing Technology Evaluation Plot, utilizing The Nature Conservancy Funding. **Wetzel motioned to approve TNC-01 Contract seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Willford, Wetzel, Biel, Gossman, Tesmer**
6. Discuss district vehicle fleet and new truck purchase using new the Soil Health Delivery Funds.
 - A. Chevy quote w/ 2013 Chevy: **Motioned made by Wetzel to use Funding from Soil Health Grant and to look at State bidding as well. Seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Wetzel, Gossman, Willford, Biel, Tesmer Opposed: None**
 - B. 2023 Topper quote: **Board requested additional quotes for review on Toppers.**
7. Discuss Southeast Service Cooperative meeting and products: **Buley discussed he met with the SE Service Co-Op about, Human Resources, Benefits and Healthcare. See Item 9b. for decision from board.**

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8. Consider ArcGIS **license** purchase at \$2,200 per year. **Tesmer motioned to approve ArcGIS license for 1 year seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Gossman, Willford, Biel, Wetzel, Tesmer. Opposed None. Motioned carried.**
9. 2025 Schedule and Benefits Discussion
 - a. Discuss 2025 work schedules for district: **Buley provided results from Employee survey to board: Proposed 4 x 10 hr. days. 1-2 hybrid work days for employees. Tabled until January meeting.**
 - b. Consider use of the SE Services Cooperative for district HR, Benefits and Healthcare. **Gossman motioned a contingent to have Buley look in to Southeast Services Cooperative (with 1st yr costs for services help being waived) for Health Insurance costs, Employee Handbook, and HR policies. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Gossman, Tesmer, Biel, Willford. Buley will report at October Mtg.**
10. Consider step increase for 23041 from a grade 6 step 5 to a grade 6 step 6. **Tesmer motioned to approve step increase for Employee 23041 to Grade 6 step 6 effective at time of annual review. Seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed None Motioned carried.**
11. Tour and discuss new office. partitions in new building. <https://www.versare.com/hush-panel-configurable-cubicle-partition/> **Biel motioned to approve partitions not to exceed \$5, 500. Seconded by Wetzel, Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer. Opposed None Motioned carried.**
12. Discuss sign for outside the new building: shape, color, verbiage, mount to building or sign cemented in ground. **Board agreed to 4x3 sign to state Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District. Sign to be mounted on side of building.**
13. Approve RR1W1P 24-10, Ed Brekke in the amount of \$1605.95 Grade Stabilization Structures Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant. **Motioned made by Gossman to approve contract RR1W1P 24-10 in the amount of \$1605.95 Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer, Biel, Gossman, Wetzel. Opposed none: Motioned carried.**
14. Approve Contract RR1W1P 24-11, Steve McCallson in the amount of \$8,800.00 Grade Stabilization Structures, Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant. **Motioned made by Biel to approve contract RR1W1P 24-11 in the amount of \$8,800.00 Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer, Biel, Gossman, Wetzel. Opposed none: Motioned carried.**
15. Consider Final payment to Dan Miller, Contract FY19-07, Grade Stabilization Structure in the amount of \$18,160.94. Utilizing funds from FY 22 State Cost Share. **Motioned made by Gossman to approve contract FY19-07 in the amount of \$18,160.94 Seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer, Biel, Gossman, Wetzel. Opposed none: Motioned carried.**
16. Consider 2024 Partial payment to Carter Lee, Contract RR1W1P-24-01, Fencing removal & Installation, in the amount of \$32,357.38. Utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 Root River 1W1P Grant.

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Motioned made by Tesmer to approve contract RR1W1P 24-01 in the amount of \$32,357.38

Seconded by Gossman. Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer, Biel, Gossman, Wetzel. Opposed none:

Motioned carried.

17. Consider 2024 Partial payment to Judd Grover, Contract RR1W1P-22-11, Fencing removal & Installation, in the amount of \$13,702.97. Utilizing funds from the 2022-2023 Root River1W1P Grant. **Motioned made by Tesmer to approve contract RR1W1P 22-11 in the amount of \$13,702.97 Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer. Biel, Gossman, Wetzel. Opposed none: Motioned carried.**

18. Discuss new phone system quote from Armor Computers. \$1852.20 for 7 phones (\$215.00 ea. and 2 head-sets (\$110.00 ea.). Labor will be paid once work is complete for an additional \$644.25

Motioned made by Board to approve new phone system not to exceed \$1800.00 including installation with 1 phone and remaining headsets to be used by staff.

19. Discuss gravel for parking lot area north of the building. 3 rough Estimates.

Estimate 1 MB: 15-ton load (**11 yards**) 4 loads- \$245-\$250 a load = \$1000

Estimate 2 MK: \$19.91 per cubic yard each truck holds **13 yards** 4 loads \$259.00 = \$1035.32

Estimate 3 RS: each truck holds **10 yards** \$250.00 a load: 4 loads \$1000.00

Motioned made by Gossman not to exceed \$1,200 in gravel for parking lot north of new building.

Staff choosing contractor. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer, Biel, Gossman. Opposed none motioned carried.

VIII. Accounts Payable

1. Approve August 2024 accounts payable: **Motioned made to approve August Accounts payable by Gossman seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Willford, Biel, Tesmer, Gossman. Wetzel Opposed none. Motioned Carried.**

Adjournment: Wetzel motioned to adjourn the meeting seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative Biel, Wetzel, Willford, Gossman, Tesmer Opposed none meeting adjourned @ 7:33 pm

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Labor Day: Office closed	September. 2
SWCD Office Closed	September 3-6
QRTLTY Billing for RR1W1P	September, 9
6 th Grade Field Day	October, 3
Tree sales begin	October, 7
Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day: Office-closed	October 14
A7 MACDE & MASWCD Meeting Austin, MN	October 22