

Fillmore Soil & Water Conservation District

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

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

www.fillmoreswcd.org

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 17th, 2025

5:00 PM

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

Members Present: Jason Wetzel, Travis Willford, Eunice Biel, Kathy Tesmer

Members Absent: Tim Gossman

Others Present: Tessa Olson, Riley Buley, Loren Wetzel, Theresa Baker

Jason Wetzel Called meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Anesa Liptak joined the meeting at 5:32

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Biel motioned to approve agenda with addition highlighted in yellow seconded by Willford, Affirmative: Wetzel, Tesmer, Biel, Willford.**
- II. FSA Report: Tessa Olson reported that the office has been very busy with the following: Acreage Reporting ended 7/15 with 2500 farms reported, CRP will end off 1st. 8/15/25 is the ECAP deadline based off of 2024 records and that Stage 1 of the Disaster Relief program began 7/10/25: this program is for producers who suffered revenue, quality or production losses to crops, trees, bushes ect. Due to qualifying disaster events in calendar year s of 2023 & 2024. FSA is also excepting County Committee Election Nominations in zone 01. Sumner, Jordan, Spring Valley, Fillmore, Bloomfield, Forestville, Beaver and York townships. Anyone interested please contact the FSA office. June 16th -August 1st
- III. Treasurer's Report
 1. Approve, June 2025 SWCD Treasurer's report subject to audit. **Tesmer motioned to approve the June treasurer's report subject to audit. Seconded by Biel. Affirmative: Biel, Wetzel, Tesmer, Willford, opposed none motioned carried.**
 2. Approve Root River 1W1P Treasurer's report subject to audit. **Willford motioned to approve June RR1W1P treasurer's report subject to Audit, seconded by Tesmer Affirmative: Willford, Tesmer, Wetzel, Biel, opposed none notion carried.**

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	\$ 1,418,045.41	\$ -95,409.41

The mission of the Fillmore Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote natural resource stewardship by providing educational, technical and financial assistance.

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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	\$ 613,487.44	\$ 536,987.60

IV. Consent Agenda: Biel motioned to approve consent agenda seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Biel, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer opposed none motion carried.

1. Approve amendment to Matthew Miner's RR1W1P 24-21 contract. Total contract award amount from \$12,732 to \$8,488 due to same acres being awarded in the CSA program.
2. Fillmore SWCD will have booth set up at Fair
3. Climate Smart 3rd Round information meeting July 15-16 9:00-3:00 Cnf. Rm 108
4. Approve Contract DWP WS-01 Dean Jones in the amount of \$2,000. Well decommission project utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant.
5. Approve secretary's Report- June 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

V. Reports

1. Supervisor's Activity Report: **Wetzel reported attending regular board meeting, Willford reported regular board meeting, MPCA meeting, Tesmer reported attending regular board meeting, Area 7 Supervisors meeting, 2 TSA Meetings and MPCA meeting. Biel reported attending regular board meeting and Area 7 Supervisors meeting.**
2. Staff Reports: **Attached to board packet**
3. Administrator's Report
 - i. Fillmore SWCD AID update: **R Buley indicated allocations from the MN Legislative are decreasing.**
 - ii. Fillmore County Request: **R Buley presented his proposal to the board, and he indicated that there was no increase from the county in that last 2 years. SWCD board proposed R. Buley & staff be more visible at the County Board meetings.**
4. NRCS Report: **No report**
5. County Report: **Bakke emailed that the County is working through the budgets**

VI. Old Business

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VII. New Business

1. Recommendations for the Conservationist of the Year: **Board and Staff were polled, and 2 families were recommended. Once family excepts, we will announce.**
2. 2026 Budget Review. **R. Buley provided a draft of the 2026 budget review and will make a formal report at the end of the year.**
3. Consider Step increase for employee number 23033 to grade 4 step 8. **Biel motioned to approve grade 4 step 8 increase for employee 23033. Second, by Willford. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Tesmer, Willford. Opposed none motion carried.**
4. Determine 5th grade tree option for 2026. **Board determined Red Maple will be given to area 5th grades for 2026.**
5. Approve Supervisor expense reports. **Tesmer motioned to approve Supervisors reports seconded by Willford. Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Tesmer, Willford. Opposed none motion carried.**

II. Accounts Payable

1. Approve, June accounts payable: **Willford motioned to approve June Accounts payable, seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Biel, Wetzel, Willford Tesmer. Opposed none motion carried.**

III. Adjournment, Tesmer motioned to adjourn seconded by Willford affirmative, Wetzel, Biel, Tesmer Willford. Opposed none motion carried Meeting adjourned at 6:16

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Climate Smart 3 rd Round Mtg	July 15-16, 2025
Fillmore County Fair	July 21-26, 2025
Forestry Field Day: Lost Creek Hiking Trail	July 30, 2025
SE SWCD Tech. Support JPB Meeting	July 17, 2025
SWCD Prairie Walk: Savanna Spring Nature Area	Aug 13, 2025
Fillmore SWCD Board Meeting	Aug 21, 2025
MN State Fair	Aug 21-Sept 1 2025

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