

Fillmore Soil & Water Conservation District

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

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

www.fillmoreswcd.org

Microsoft Teams Meeting Link:
Meeting ID: 217 423 119 625 8
Passcode: Mf3fy9N7

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, September 18th 2025

5:00 PM

Conservation Building

912 Houston Street

Preston, MN 55965

Members Present: Jason Wetzel, Kathy Tesmer, Travis Willford, Tim Gossman

Members absent Eunice Biel

Other Present: Dave Copland Riley Buley, Duane Bakke, Theresa Baker: Guests: Andy Bunge.

Tim Gossman Called meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Eunice Biel Joined meeting at 5:06pm

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda: **Biel motioned to approve agenda with additions highlighted in yellow seconded by Willford, Affirmative: Wetzel, Biel, Willford. Opposed none, motion carried.**
- II. Guest: Andy Bunge, further discussion on easement to city sewer through District property. **Board agrees with Bunge to move forward with easement along the tree line provided the easement indicates the specifics typed in the agreement.**
- III. Guest: Consider PF position expansion of duties and contract: **This topic was resolved before meeting.**
- IV. Treasurer's Report
 1. Approve, Aug. 2025 SWCD Treasurer's report subject to audit. **Willford motioned to approve the August treasurer's report subject to audit. Seconded by Tesmer. Affirmative: Biel, Gossman, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer. Opposed none, motion carried.**
 2. Approve Aug. Root River 1W1P Treasurer's report subject to audit: **Buley indicated that reconciliation for the RR1W1P 2022-2023 plan is soon to be in process. Which will turn the Red into black. Willford motioned to approve the August RR1W1P treasurer's report subject to audit. Seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Biel, Willford, Wetzel, Gossman, Tesmer Opposed none, motion 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 12-31-2025
Grant Total	Deposits	Disbursements	Grant Cash Balance
\$ 1,469,595.00	\$ 1,322,636.00	\$ 1,462,007.02	\$ -139,371.00

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	\$ 701,752.98	\$ 448,722.10

V. Consent Agenda: Tesmer motioned to approve consent agenda seconded by Wetzel.

Affirmative: Biel, Wetzel, Willford, Tesmer Gossman. Opposed none, motion carried.

1. Approve secretary's Report- August 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.
2. Consider Final payment on contract DWP-21, Kendall Curtis, in the amount of \$1,500.00, Nitrogen incentive usage utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
3. Consider Final payment on contract DWP-22, Chad Curtis, in the amount of \$1,500.00, Nitrogen incentive usage utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
4. Consider Final payment on contract DWP-20, Alex McCabe, in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen incentive usage utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
5. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-WS15, Schwinefus Estate (Wade Schwinefus), in the amount of \$2,000 Well Sealing. Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
6. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-27, Thesing Farms LLC in the amount of \$1,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.

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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7. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-28, Thesing Farms LLC in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
8. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-13, Amber Feine in the amount of \$1,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
9. Consider Partial payment on Contract DWP-16, Wayne Ferden in the amount of \$460.00 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
10. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-16, Wayne Ferden in the amount of \$1060.00 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
11. Consider Partial payment on Contract DWP-18 Greg Smith in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
12. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-18 Greg Smith in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
13. Consider Partial payment on Contract DWP-19 Randy Smith in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
14. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-19 Randy Smith in the amount of \$2,000 Nitrogen Incentive usage, Utilizing funds from Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
15. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-23, Curt Luhmann the amount of \$1,000.00 Nitrogen Incentive usage. Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
16. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-15, Brad Thompson the amount of \$2,000.00 Side Dress Nitrogen Incentive usage. Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
17. Consider Final payment on Contract DWP-14, Brad Thompson the amount of \$1,000.00 Pre plant Nitrogen Incentive usage. Utilizing funds from the Drinking Water Protection Grant in the Karst Region.
18. Consider Partial payment on contract RR1W1P25-02, Carter Lee, Grazing on property of Ann Meldahl in the Amount of \$101,103.93 Utilizing funds from the 2025 Root River 1 Watershed 1 Plan Grant.

VI. Reports

1. Supervisor's Activity Report: **Wetzel reported attending the regular board meeting, Willford reported regular board meeting, Biel reported regular board meeting as well as a BWSR meeting. Tesmer reported attending MASWCD meeting. Gossman reported attending Forestry field day and Prairie Walk.**

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2. Staff Reports: **Attached to Board Packet**
3. Administrator's Report:
 - i. RCPP Contract update: **Fillmore SWCD has 4 contracts with 2 fully approved by NRCS totaling \$177,000.00**
 4. NRCS Report: **J. Bronson indicated NRCS is wrapping up with 2025 Fiscal Year and starting work on potential 2026 projects.**
 5. County Report: **Bakke indicated the counties' operating levy is at 5.9%. The AMC Policy committee has concerns about Solid Waste storage.**

VII. Old Business

1. Board approved Conservationist for 2025 Oak Meadow Farms Lynn and Barb Aggen & Family
2. Larson & Sons inspected the AC and Boiler in DNR building. Fixed wire on A/C and added Freon. Providing quote for new AC. Boiler was checked and appears to be working as expected. Quote provided. Do we leave as is and wait till next year or replace quote is good for 30 days. Rebates are provided by the City of Preston! \$40-\$100 possible. **Buley will propose a new AC unit in the 2026 budget for DNR facility. Larson to provide updated quote before submission.**
3. Kaleb Adams contract was accepted and approved at \$20.83 per hour.

VIII. New Business

1. Review of Fillmore SWCD Health Insurance plan with Minnesota Healthcare Consortium. **Tesmer motioned the district continues with Minnesota Healthcare Consortium as our Health Care provider seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative Biel, Gossman, Willford, Tesmer, Wetzel. Opposed none, motion carried.**
2. Approve Staff Member 23041 pay from a grade 6 step 6 to a grade 6 step 7, based on annual review. **Tesmer motioned to approve Staff member 23041 pay to grade 6 step 7 seconded by Biel, Affirmative: Gossman, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer, Biel. Opposed none, motion carried.**
3. Discuss MASWCD Annual Convention Dec.1-3 2025, Bloomington: **Tesmer motioned to approve 2 staff members and 2 board members and Aggen Family to attend the MASWCD Convention.**
4. Approve new Contract RR1W1P25-03, Brian Meldahl in the amount of \$9,305.00 Grade Stabilization Structure (practice 410 &412) utilizing funds from the 2024-2025 RR1W1P grant. **Tesmer motioned to approve contract RR1W1P 25-03 seconded by Willford, Affirmative: Gossman, Willford, Wetzel, Tesmer, Biel. Opposed none, motion carried**
5. Approve new contract RR1W1P 25-04, John Peterson in the amount of \$3,868.40 Grade Stabilization Structure (practice 410 & 412) utilizing funds from the 2025 Root River 1 Watershed 1 Plan Grant. **Wetzel motioned to approve contract RR1W1P 25-04 seconded by Willford. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Tesmer, Biel Willford. opposed none, motion carried.**

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6. Approve 2025 3rd QRT Supervisor Reports. Will review next month.

II. Accounts Payable

1. Approve, August accounts payable. **Tesmer motioned to approve August Accounts payable seconded by Wetzel. Affirmative: Gossman, Wetzel, Tesmer, Willford, Biel, opposed none, Motion carried.**

III. Adjournment, **Wetzel motioned to adjourn seconded by Willford. Affirmative Wetzel, Biel, Willford Gossman, Tesmer Opposed none, motioned carried. Wetzel adjourned meeting at 6:10**

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Labor Day (Office closed)	Sept 1,2025
Area 7 MASWCD registration due	Sept. 9,2025
BALMM Meeting	Sept 10,2025
Zumbro Root River Float	Sept 11,2025
Tree Sales begin	Oct 1, 2025
Area 7 Joint SEMACDE & MASWCD Fall mtg.	Oct. 2, 2025
6 th Grade Conservation Day (@ Forestville)	Oct. 2., 2025
Columbus Day (Office closed)	Oct. 13, 2025
Regular Board Meeting	Oct 16, 2025

X _____ Date _____