

**TRAVERSE SWCD NOVEMBER 2024**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2024 by Chairperson Doug Frisch.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call**

Supervisors present: Dennis Zimbrick, Greg Hoppe, Jeff Peterson, Chester Raguse, and Doug Frisch. Absent: None. Staff and others present: Sara Gronfeld, Trudy Determan, Bruce Johnson, Tate Serocki, and Devon Thompson, Commissioner Chad Metz, and NRCS District Conservationist Blake Bartz.

**Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Hoppe, second by Zimbrick to approve the revised agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes of the October Meeting**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Hoppe, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

**October Treasurer's Reports**

A motion to approve the October treasurer's report was made by Raguse, second by Zimbrick. Motion carried unanimously.

**NACD Dues**

A motion was made to pay \$500 for NACD dues, second by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence**

Gronfeld circulated the correspondence folder and mentioned information received from a tree shelter customer.

**District Technical Manager's Report**

Johnson offered a report summarizing the activity he has been working on, including soil health technical assistance, feedlot programming, and technical services. The Premier Soil Health Event organized by the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition will be held December 3-4 in Mankato. Scholarships are available.

A motion was made by Raguse to approve a well sealing contract, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

Karen Lupkes	CLWP-24-07	\$500.00
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**District Conservation Technician**

Lennox was absent from the meeting.

**District Engineering Technician**

Serocki provided an update on his activities including work on Lined Waterway Outlets and assistance provided with seeding and site preparation.

**District Conservation Technician**

Thompson reported his activities.

**NRCS Field Office Report**

Bartz delivered a brief report with local programming updates. The CSP application deadline is Friday 11/15.

**Office Report**

Gronfeld offered a summary of grant and program updates. She presented a report at the County Board meeting on November 5.

**Joint Powers Agreement with Traverse County**

A motion was made by Raguse to approve the updated agreement as presented, second by Peterson. Motion carried.

**Area I MASWCD Meeting**

Traverse SWCD is hosting the upcoming Area I meeting. Staff will deliver a presentation and plan to highlight Bruce's 20<sup>th</sup> employment anniversary.

**MASWCD State Convention**

Gronfeld mentioned the deadline for registration is November 18. All supervisors are encouraged to attend.

**2025 Scholarship Award**

Raguse made a motion to increase the scholarship offered from \$400 to \$650, second by Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

**BWSR Academy Training Report**

Staff agreed the training was excellent and worthwhile. Bruce offered some additional details about the sessions he attended.

**December Meeting Date**

The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12, at 7:30 a.m.

**Other Business**

Gronfeld mentioned a grant from Horizon Public Health for free water testing to eligible applicants. She provided Bruce Johnson with a certificate of merit for 20 years of service as an employee of Traverse SWCD. The anniversary of his employment was November 12. He was thanked for his hard work and dedication to service with the SWCD. The personnel committee will be asked to meet and review staff performance evaluations prior to the next meeting.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made by Hoppe second by Zimbrick to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 a.m. Motion carried.

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**DISTRICT SECRETARY**

**DATE**