



522 South Johnson Drive • Litchfield, MN 55355

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320.693.7287

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 8:00 a.m.  
Meeker SWCD Offices  
522 South Johnson Drive  
Litchfield, MN 55355

Present: Fred Behnke, John Haffley, Jon Hoff, Greg Jans, and Bob Schiefelbein. Staff Present: Joe Norman, Jaden Hunter, Ann Steinhaus and Lacey Clark, SWCD; Jacob Stitch, NRCS; Brittney Hubbell, Pheasants Forever.

The meeting was called to order by Bob Schiefelbein at 8:05 a.m.

**Election of Officers:** Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to elect Bob Schiefelbein to the office of Chair, John Haffley to the office of Vice Chair, Greg Jans to the office of Secretary and Fred Behnke to the office of Treasurer of Meeker SWCD. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None

**Agenda:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Hoff to approve the agenda with the addition of the Compton and Grabanski under Cost Share. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Minutes:** Motion by Haffley and seconded by Behnke to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2024, meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Treasurer Report:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Hoff to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit, including bills payable in the amount of \$32,908.10 and bills paid. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Field Office Report:** Norman, Hunter, and Steinhaus reported on recent activities and programs.

**Farm Bill Report:** Stitch and Hubbell reported on their activities.

**Meeting/Training Reports:** None.

**Training/Meeting Requests:** None.

**Meeting Place, Day and Time Designation:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Haffley to hold District Board meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Litchfield, Minnesota. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Committee Assignments:** Motion by Haffley and seconded by Behnke that Hoff and Haffley be appointed to serve on the Meeker SWCD Personnel Committee, Haffley be appointed to be Meeker SWCD's representative on the WCTSA Committee with Scheifelbein being alternate, Haffley be appointed to be Meeker SWCD'S representative on the North Fork W1P with Schiefelbein being the alternate, Haffley be appointed to the South Fork 1W1P Policy Committee with Hoff being alternate, and Schiefelbein to the Mississippi/St. Cloud 1W1P Policy Committee with Haffley being alternate. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Bank and Newspaper Designation:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to maintain a checking account at Home State Bank in Litchfield, Minnesota, and Certificates of Deposit and a money market savings account at Center National Bank in Litchfield and that the official newspaper of Meeker SWCD continue to be the *Enterprise Dispatch* in Cokato, Minnesota. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Mileage Rate:** Motion by Hoff and seconded by Haffley to pay the highest mileage rate allowed by the IRS during 2025. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**PERA Rate:** Clark reported that there have been no changes to the PERA rates for 2025.

**Supervisor Compensation Rate:** Motion by Haffley and seconded by Behnke to continue to pay \$125/meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Blanket Payment for Rent, Internet and Reimbursable Copy Expense:** Motion by Haffley and seconded by Hoff to allow blanket payments for 2025 on rent for the office, internet service, data plan, employee life insurance, and sales tax. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Review of Existing Policies:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to amend the cover crop policy to change the rate to a flat \$50/acre, with a \$5,000 cap. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion by Jans and seconded by Hoff to update Meeker SWCD's tree policy. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Motion by Haffley and seconded by Behnke to amend the cost share rate to not exceed \$7,500 for streambank and shore land protection. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Cost Share:** Motion by Jans and seconded by Haffley to extend the expiration dates for contracts SA23-01 and SA23-02. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

**Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 8 a.m.

**Adjournment:** After a motion by Haffley, Chairman Schiefelbein adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

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Secretary

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Date