KANDIYOHI
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SWCD

The Board of Supervisors of the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

Chairperson Williamson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Supervisors Steve Friedlein, Jeff Martinka, Brandon Smith, Donnel Williamson, and Jane Youngkrantz. Also present were Ellie Faber-Conservation Technician, Margaret Johnson-District Manager, Sandy Laumer-Office and Finance Manager, Ryan Peterson-District Technical Coordinator, County Commissioner Dale Anderson, William Lee-NRCS District Conservationist, and Aaron Wilson-Pheasants Forever Senior FarmBill Biologist.

Chairperson Williamson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Williamson read the Mission Statement: Our mission is to encourage the wise use of land and water and to treat these resources in accordance with needs for protection and improvement.

Motion by Smith, second by Youngkrantz to approve the Agenda. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Chairperson. Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Martinka to nominate Smith for Chairperson. Further nominations were called, and none were received. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Abstain: Smith. Williamson declared Smith the Chairperson.

Williamson turned the Chairmanship over to Smith.

Nominations were opened for Vice Chairperson. Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Williamson to nominate Friedlein for Vice Chairperson. Further nominations were called, and none were received. Voting in the affirmative were Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Abstain: Friedlein. Smith declared Friedlein the Vice Chairperson.

Nominations were opened for Secretary. Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Friedlein to nominate Williamson for Secretary. Further nominations were called, and none were

received. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, and Youngkrantz. Abstain: Williamson. Smith declared Williamson the Secretary.

Nominations were opened for Treasurer. Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Williamson to nominate Martinka as Treasurer. Further nominations were called, and none were received. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Abstain: Martinka. Smith declared Martinka the Treasurer.

Nominations opened for Public Relations and Information. Motion by Williamson, second by Martinka to nominate Youngkrantz for Public Relations and Information. Further nominations were called, and none were received. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, and Williamson. Abstain: Youngkrantz. Smith declared Youngkrantz, Public Relations and Information.

Motion by Williamson, second by Martinka to approve the 2025 Board Appointments and Committees as follows:

- Personnel Committee 1. Friedlein 2. Youngkrantz
- Finance Committee 1. Smith 2. Martinka
- Building Committee 1. Friedlein 2. Youngkrantz
- Area II Technical Service Area Joint Powers Board
  Primary-Friedlein Alternate-Williamson
- North Fork 1W1P Policy Committee Representative
  Primary-Williamson Alternate-Martinka
- South Fork Planning Policy Committee Representative
  Primary-Youngkrantz Alternate-Williamson
- Central MN River Watershed Partnership Joint Powers Board Representative
  Primary-Smith Alternate-Youngkrantz
- Chippewa River Association Joint Powers Board Representative
  Primary-Friedlein Alternate-Williamson

Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Friedlein to approve the consent agenda items:

a. Minutes December 17, 2024
b. List of Checks
c. Cost Share & Incentive Projects
   1. WP FY24-02 Conservation Cover for $550 from 2024 Water Plan Funds
   2. NF FY24-06 Critical Area Planting/Shoreline for $30,281.25 from 2024 North Fork 1W1P Funds
   3. NF FY22-25 Critical Area Planting for $13,320.18 from 2022 North Fork 1W1P Funds
   4. WP FY24-01 Critical Area Planting for $650 from 2024 Water Plan Funds

Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Williamson, second by Martinka to approve the Treasurer's Report. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Johnson reviewed maps of the Chetomba Creek, Eagle Lake Watershed, JD1 Watershed, and Norway Lake Watershed. Johnson discussed that studies will be conducted in these areas and potential projects will be identified.

Johnson discussed that there is currently a Climate-Smart Alliance Grant sign up until February 14th. Johnson discussed that this an opportunity for landowners to try projects and shared a list of eligible practices.

Motion by Williamson, second by Youngkrantz to not get loan from Home State Bank for the new building. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Martinka to approve Resolution 2025-01 Annual Business items with change of February board meeting to February 25th. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Williamson, second by Friedlein to approve Resolution 2025-02 State Aid. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Martinka to approve 2025 Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust Coverage in the amount of $8,400. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Williamson, second by Friedlein to approve the 2025 Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Membership in the amount of $7,431.37. Discussion was held to research how the dues are calculated. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Martinka, second by Williamson to approve the Soil Health Practices Grant-Request for Interest. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Johnson reviewed the staffing plan and discussed the increase in projects and hiring an engineering technician.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Williamson to authorize Johnson to put together job description for Engineering Technician. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

The Replacement schedule was reviewed, and we will need to replace 1 IPad this year and discussed adjusting the truck replacement years on the schedule.

Motion by Martinka, second by Friedlein to approve the Replacement Schedule with replacing 1 IPad and changes to truck replacement. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Lee's NRCS Report included: staffing update; working on Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) annual payments; CSP renewal letters will be going out; assessing and ranking FY25 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) applications; 1 application for EQIP ACT NOW has been preapproved; RCPP ranking deadline for 1W1P was Jan 10 and had 6 applications; Wetland Compliance requests have slowed down; completing a few field checks on projects; planning preapproved EQIP applications; wrapping up payments for 2024 projects; contacting CSP holders for renewals; training new staff, and screening CSP classic applications.

Wilson's report included: currently there are no new changes to CRP; FarmBill has been extended for 1 year; and BWSR has some new CREP options.

Faber's Staff Report included: no buffer updates; Tree Open House is Feb 6; putting together Photo Contest; Diamond Lake Project approved in North Fork; working on Fair exhibit; newsletter will be out on Saturday; working on moving and organizing things in new building; and attended staff and partnership meetings.

Peterson's Staff Report included: working with landowners on RIM applications; citation was issued for WCA Restoration order and awaiting court date; attended North Fork TAC meeting; and putting together seed orders for about 700 acres in 2025.

Laumer's staff report included: entered billable hours in program logs and elink; submitted quarterly payroll and sales tax; put together invoices for 1W1P staff time; updating email address and mailing address; moved and set up things in new office; worked on updating billable rates, made payroll updates in Quickbooks; closed out 2023 Soil Health Grant; working on year end elink reporting; completed and submitted W-2s and 1099s; updated replacement schedule; attended staff and partnership meetings; attended Oath of Office; working with landowner on AgBMP Loan Application; and paid out 2 well sealing cost share contracts.

Johnson's District Manager Report included: working on 1W1P planning and 3 of the plans are using the MS4 for tracking ; attended Central Counties meeting; working on Alliance

project sign up; attended Oath of Office; working on moving and organizing things in new building; thanked Williamson for helping with the move; Lenzmeier's first day was Jan 2; attended staff and partnership meetings; discussed State Aid reduction in 2025; attended Pheasants Forever Meeting; helping with MN Lakes symposium in Feb; hosting Irrigation meeting in March; discussed upcoming dates and events; and funding update.

Williamson's report included: will be attending the upcoming MASWCD Legislature Days; discussed Resolution process; attended Oath of Office; and discussed the articles in local papers on Outstanding Conservationist.

Youngkrantz led discussion on possible resolutions.

Friedlein attended the Chippewa Joint Powers Board meeting.

Motion by Williamson, second by Friedlein to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Donnel Williamson 2-25-2025

Donnel Williamson, Secretary Date

2-25-25

Brandon Smith, Chairperson Date