KANDIYOHI
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SWCD

The Board of Supervisors of the Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

Chairperson Smith 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 Margaret Johnson-District Manager, Sandy Laumer- Office and Finance Manager, William Lee-NRCS District Conservationist, and County Commissioner Dale Anderson.

Chairperson Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Friedlein, second by Martinka to approve the agenda with the addition of 9c. Home State Bank Money Market. 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 Consent Agenda items:

a. Minutes, April 15, 2025
b. List of Checks
c. Landscaping Bid Update
d. Electrical Update Shed Bid
e. MD Cleaning Service
f. Parking Lot Seal Coating Bid

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

Motion by Martinka, second by Friedlein to approve the following project encumbrances:

a. GW FY24-13 Well Decommissioning $5,000 from CWF Groundwater Funds
b. GW FY24-14 Well Decommissioning $2,500 from CWF Groundwater Funds
c. WP FY24-09 Conservation Cover $1,250 from 2024 Water Plan Funds

d. NF FY24-12 Critical Area Planting $16,644 from 2024 North Fork Funds
Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Martinka to approve the DDA Service Proposal for the Compensation Study & Market Analysis in the amount of $3,500. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Johnson gave a Personnel Committee and Staffing Update which included: Lenzmeier resigned from her position and shared her resignation letter; interviewed four candidates for Technician position but no offers were made; will update job description and repost Agricultural Coordinator position; and discussed reposting Technician Position in the fall.

Motion by Martinka, second by Friedlein to approve the Technical Approval Authority for Kanati. 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 2026 Draft Proposed Budget. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Martinka, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Motion carried.

Motion by Youngkrantz, second by Williamson to close Home State Bank checking account and put minimum in other accounts to maximize interest rates. Discussion was held. Voting in the affirmative were Friedlein, Smith, Williamson, and Youngkrantz. Abstain: Martinka.

Lee's NRCS Report included: gave staffing update for Pathways Program; 8 applications for Conservation Steward Program (CSP) have been preapproved for the Willmar Service team; CSP renewal letters have been sent out; currently 26 Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) applications have been preapproved for the Willmar Service Team; practice certification and payment on existing EQIP contracts is ongoing for completed projects; 3 application preapproved for Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP); Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) continuous sign up is open until June 6, 2025; new requests for Wetland Compliance continue to be submitted but there is staffing and workload changes so could take longer; and preparing for Local Work Group Meeting.

Johnson shared a drone video of the Konsterlie project.

Laumer's Staff Report included: entered billable hours in program logs and elink; finished setting up United Prairie Bank account; worked on changing bank information on payroll taxes and ACH; working on grants reconciliation for Alliance Grant; putting together tree and seed invoices; got bids for seal coating parking lot and cleaning services; canceled insurance and credit card for Lenzmeier; HCSP is switching administration companies to

Voya in June; completed MCIT Payroll Estimate Report; attended staff and partnership meetings; helped at Area 2 and State Envirothons; watched webinar on new Ag BMP loan System; entered 3 applications into new Ag BMP Loan System and have requested more funds when available; working with 3 landowners on well sealing cost share and have spend 50% of grant and requested next 40% of funds; and put together cost share vouchers for 5 pollinator plantings.

Johnson's District Manager report included: Chippewa River Watershed has a new coordinator; North Fork is working on spending down 2022 funds before end of 2025; South Fork is having a meeting to set the next water monitoring data and will meet in June for yearly presentation of funds; Hawk Creek board met to review potential changes to non-structural policy; waiting to hear on 2025 Riparian Aid; completed interviews for Technician Position; met with Stantec to discuss West Norway Lake; met with RMB Labs to set up sampling project; completed reviews for Ridgewater Intern; started agenda for Area 2 meeting; completed cost share policy review with Lenzmeier; worked with DDA on proposal for wage data; met with Hillenbrand on landscaping needs; staff meetings; completed check in and exit interview with Lenzmeier; met with Kanati to help with Alliance work; and discussed federal funds are still on hold.

County Commissioner Anderson discussed that there could be changes to the budget and appropriation might not be met.

Martinka attended the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District Meeting and projects were discussed.

Chairperson Smith attended the CMRWP meeting and potential changes for policy were discussed and budgets were tabled.

Motion by Friedlein, second by Martinka to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Donnel Williamson 6/17/2025

Donnel Williamson, Secretary Date

6-17-25

Brandon Smith, Chairperson Date