

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping People Help the Land”



Murray SWCD

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Supervisors

Chair

Jason Miller
District II

Vice Chair

Anthony Conrad
District III

Secretary

Mona Henkels
District IV

Treasurer

Karen Hurd
District V

PR & I

Paul Posthuma
District I

Staff

District Administrator

Shelly Lewis

Program Manager

Craig Christensen

Resource Specialist

Danielle Kuball

Members Present:

Jason Miller- Chairman
Anthony Conrad-Vice Chairman
Mona Henkels-Secretary
Karen Hurd-Treasurer
Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Others Present:

Shelly Lewis-District Administrator
Craig Christensen-Program Manager
Danielle Kuball-Resource Specialist
Zach Ruppert-Soil Conservationist

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Additions to Agenda: The chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Miller to approve the agenda as presented.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Minutes of December 17, 2025: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Conrad to approve the Murray SWCD minutes of December 17, 2025.
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

The monthly Statement of Treasurer was read and filed for audit.

Salaries: Motion by Henkels second by Miller to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for December 2025.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None.

Motion carried.

DC Report:

EQIP and CSP thus far in FY26

- Wrapped up National sign-up 1 on January 15. Will move into evaluation, ranking and scoring
- Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) inside of EQIP and CSP
Evolving yet, but 5 year minimum contract length, soil health test in 1st and last year and core practices must be present

Upcoming events-

Minnesota Farmers Union-Soil Health Lunch and Learn tentatively planned for February 17, 2026 at the 4H building

Trainings

Lots of on-line opportunities

Ag Certification: The Board reviewed the Ag Certification report for December 2025.

Election of Officers: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Hurd to move all the officers up and keep Hurd as the Treasurer as follows:

Jason Miller-Chairman

Anthony Conrad-Vice Chairman

Mona Henkels-Secretary

Karen Hurd-Treasurer

Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2026 IRS Mileage Rate: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Conrad to follow the 2026 IRS Mileage Rate of .725 cents per mile.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2026 Capitalization & Straight-Line Depreciation: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Conrad to set the Murray SWCD 2026 Capitalization at \$5,000.00 and use Straight-Line Depreciation.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

2026 Murray SWCD depository: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to keep Minnwest Bank as the 2026 depository for the Murray SWCD.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

2026 Murray SWCD Committees: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Henkels to keep the committees the same as follows:

- Local Comprehensive Water Plan- Paul, Jason (alternate)
- Heron Lake Watershed-Mona, Shelly (alternate)
- SW Prairie Joint Powers Organization-Paul, (alternate-Jason)
- Personnel Committee-Karen and Mona (alternates: Jason, Paul)
- RCRCA-Paul, (alternate-Mona)
- Budget Committee-Paul, Karen (Alternate)
- Missouri River 1W1P- Karen, Paul (Alternate)
- Des Moines River 1W1P- Karen, Mona (Alternate)
- Cottonwood 1W1P- Mona, Jason (Alternate)

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

2026 Rent Contract: A motion was made by Henkels seconded Hurd to approve signing the 2026 Rent Contract at the same cost as last year.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

Per Diem for Meals: The Board discussed paying a per diem for meals vs using the credit card. A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Conrad to keep using the credit card for meals.

Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None
Motion carried.

2026 MASWCD Dues: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to pay the FY26 MASWCD dues in the amount of \$7,150.32.

Affirmative-Posthuma, Hurd, Conrad, Miller
Abstain-Henkels
Motion carried.

Cottonwood River 1W1P: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve forwarding the following contract to Cottonwood River 1W1P for funding:

25-CWMM-MUR-002 George Erbes Basins \$127,200.55 TSA Technical
Affirmative-Unanimous
Opposed-None

Motion carried

FY26 Soil Health Practices Grant: A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Hurd to approve the following contracts:

#51-1-3	Cover Crop	SWCD Technical	FY26 Soil Health	3yrs	\$17,941.20
#51-1-4	No-Till	SWCD Technical	FY26 Soil Health	2yrs	\$44,956.80
#51-1-5	Cover Crop	SWCD Technical	FY26 Soil Health	3yrs	\$17,483.20

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

Farm Mentor Contracts: A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Conrad to sign the Farm Mentor contracts for Bryan Biegler and Wade Kidman.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

SWCD Pickup: A motion was made by Hurd seconded by Posthuma to trade in the 2016 SWCD Ford pickup and purchase the 2026 Silverado LTC at Lockwood in the amount of \$31,258.00.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

District Administrator Update: Lewis updated the Board on the following:

- End of the month - Murray SWCD, SWPTSA, Des Moines River 1W1P
- Posting time in eLINK for grants for TSA & SWCD
- Paying bills for Des Moines River, TSA, & SWCD
- End of the quarter-Murray SWCD, SWPTSA
- End of the Year-Murray SWCD
- W-2s, 1099s (SWCD, Des Moines, TSA)

Meetings:

- December 18-Des Moines River 1W1P

Program Manager Update:

- Working on RIM & CREP Easements
- Working on Tree Plans
- Food plots for RIM & CREP
- Getting prices for pickup
- Des Moines 1W1P Meeting

Resource Specialist:

- RCPP Contracts
- Received several calls from newsletters that were sent
- Soil Health small group (working with farm mentors)
- Kremer survey
- Accessibility added to website
- Des Moines River meeting

Bills: A motion by Hurd seconded by Conrad to approve the Murray SWCD bills from December 17, 2025- January 16, 2026, in the amount of \$20,941.11.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

Approved by Mona Henkels, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date