

# SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“Helping People Help the Land”



Murray SWCD

2740 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Suite 3

Slayton, MN 56172

Phone: 507-836-6990 EXT 3

murrayswcd.org

## 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

Mona Henkels-Secretary

Paul Posthuma-P.R.&I.

### Members Absent:

Anthony Conrad-Vice Chairman

Karen Hurd-Treasurer

### Others Present:

Shelly Lewis-District Administrator

Allisa Wendland-District 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 Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve the agenda as presented.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

**Minutes of January 16, 2026:** A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve the Murray SWCD minutes of January 16, 2025.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

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

**Salaries:** Motion by Henkels second by Posthuma to approve Supervisor's vouchers and Murray SWCD salaries for January 2026.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None.

Motion carried.

## **DC Report:**

EQIP and CSP thus far in FY26

- Wrapped up National sign-up 1 Jan 15. Will move into evaluation, ranking and scoring until later March and April. • EQIP applications= 59 CSP applications= 76
- Murray County will use a prioritization tool to manage the workload
- Lots of changes in the contracting side- this week there has been many trainings to start the information exchange
- NRCS conservation practices are still here with little change.  
<https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/state/MN/documents> publicly accessible and have the latest practice standards.

- Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) inside of EQIP and CSP
- Evolving yet, but 5-year minimum contract length, soil health test in 1<sup>st</sup> and last year and core practice(s) must be present, a whole-farm assessment includes all resource concerns, **and** it must meet NRCS planning criteria in the soil and water resource categories ▪ **Core Practices:** Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Contour Farming (330), Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331), Cover Crop (340), Drainage Water Management (554), Forage Harvest Management (511), Forest Stand Improvement (666), Irrigation Water Management (449), Mulching (484), Nutrient Management (590), Pest Management Conservation System (595), Grazing Management (528), Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329), Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced (345), Stripcropping (585)
  - **Soil Resource Concern Category (components following):** Bank Erosion from Streams, Shorelines, Channels; Classic Gully Erosion; Ephemeral Gully Erosion; Sheet and Rill Erosion; Subsidence; Wind Erosion; Aggregate Instability; Compaction; Organic Matter Depletion; Salts and Other Chemicals; Soil Organism Habitat Loss or Degradation
  - **Water Resource Concern Category (components following):** Drifted Snow; Ponding and Flooding; Seasonal High Water Table; Seeps; Ground Water Depletion; Surface Water Depletion; Inefficient Irrigation Water; Use Naturally Available Moisture Use; Nutrients to Surface or Ground Water; Pathogens and Chemicals to Surface or Ground Water; Pesticides to Surface or Ground Water; Pollutants to Surface or Ground Water; Salts to Surface or Ground Water; Sediment to Surface Water; Elevated Water Temperature

Upcoming events-

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

February 17, 2026- Keith Klubec (Acting ASTC-FO/ ASTC-Programs) is planning to visit the office.

## Trainings

Lots of on-line opportunities (live and recorded)- <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/tech-talks>

## Meetings

February 25-26- I have an Operational Meeting in Brainerd (Cheryl as well)

March 10, 2026- All NRCS SW Employee Meeting in Marshall

## Leave

None planned

**Ag Certification:** The Board reviewed the Ag Certification report for January 2026.

**2026 Murray SWCD Annual Plan:** A motion was made Posthuma by seconded by Henkels to approve the 2026 Murray SWCD Annual Plan with corrections.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

**Area V meeting:** A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve attendance at the Area V meeting via Webex.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

**Legislative Days:** A motion was made by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve attendance at the Legislative Days on March 17-18, 2026.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

**Managers Meeting:** A motion was made by Posthuma seconded by Henkels to approve Lewis attending the Managers Meeting in St. Cloud on March 25-26, 2026.

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

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

51-1-6            No Till            156.84 ac (3years) \$35.00/ac

51-1-7            Cover Crops    126.55 ac (3years) \$60.00/ac

Affirmative-Unanimous

Opposed-None

Motion carried.

**Des Moines River 1W1P:** A motion was made by Miller seconded by Henkels to approve the following and send to Des Moines River 1W1P for funding:

25-DMRW-MUR-003            Tyler Opdahl Basin    Bondin 14            \$34,850.00            TSA-Technical

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
- W-2s, 1099s
- Reconciliation on TSA grant

**Meetings:**

- January 13-TSA Meeting
- January 14-Des Moines 1W1P Technical
- January 15-Des Moines 1W1P Joint Powers

**Program Manager Update:**

- RIM refresh meeting online
- Missouri 1W1p meeting
- Mentor small group meeting.
- Arc Pro training in Marshall.
- Tree Plans
- RIM Easements

**Resource Specialist:**

- WCA Training-three meetings (two virtual, one in person)
- WCA tile requests
- Environmental Fair-Wanted to host in Slayton this year but fairgrounds are booked almost the whole month of September.
- Mentor Meeting in Marshall: Both mentors attended.
- Soi Health small group: successful, invited around 30 had 10-12 attend.
- RCPP sign up
- Structural practices meeting with producers.

**Bills:** A motion by Henkels seconded by Posthuma to approve the Murray SWCD bills from January 17, 2026- February 12, 2026, in the amount of \$36,162.74.

Affirmative-Unanimous  
Opposed-None  
Motion carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

# Murray SWCD Minutes February 12 | 2026

---

**Next Meeting:** March 12, 2025, 1:30 p.m.

---

Approved by Mona Henkels, Secretary of District Supervisors

Date