PRESENT: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, Jim Purfeerst, Steve Pahs, Travis Hirman, Bridget Evers, Justin Fuchs, Teresa DeMars, Debbie Skarupa, and Rice County Commissioner Jeff Docken.

ABSENT: None

Board discussed invasive species and wild parsnip before the meeting.

Chairman Purfeerst called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

SOIL HEALTH TOPIC: Bridget showed a Facebook video entitled “Residue” by the Peterson Brothers from Kansas. Approximately 155,220 people have viewed this musical video.

MINUTES: Motion by Michael Ludwig, seconded by Dick Peterson to approve the June 14, 2017 board minutes. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL/BILLS PAYABLE: Steve reviewed the financial statements. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Mike Ludwig to approve the June Program Record and bills payable subject to audit. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

BUFFER UPDATE – Board wondering if there will be money available from the County from the funds the County received for enforcement. Jeff Docken said expenses are unknown at this point and attorney fees could be huge. County getting $75,000 the first year and $80,000 the second year. Jeff said the county is willing to discuss it. Not all reporting requirements have been released yet. Travis has been updating on BuffCAT website and has spent less time on buffers this year than last. Not too many landowners have requested flagging.

AREA RESOLUTIONS MEETING JUNE 29 - STEWARTVILLE: Area Resolutions Meeting was held on June 29 in Stewartville. Jim and Steve attended. Area 7 resolutions may get incorporated with other resolutions at the state level.

75th ANNIVERSARY - AUGUST 25, 1942: Teresa has panels up at the Historical Society and added some older pieces of equipment and weed wrench, etc. Daily News has flyer made asking businesses if they want to contribute to the 75th Anniversary edition.

BEST OF THE BEST AT RICE CO. FAIR: Reminder the Best of the Best Rice County Fair breakfast will be Wednesday, July 19. Expecting higher attendance than usual for ten-year reunion.
**PURFEERST INTERSEEDER DEMONSTRATION:** Demonstration was rained out but did seed at 5:00 pm. Was moderately well attended with about 30 people and some new faces. Planting mixes, seed costs, seeds per square foot, and machine settings were discussed.

**MASWCD GOVERNANCE 101 TRAINING:** SWCD Governance 101 training will be held September 14 and 15 in Bloomington. Mike Ludwig plans to attend and maybe Tim. They will register themselves before the August 28 deadline.

**COVER CROP APPLICATIONS:** Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Dick Peterson to approve the following cover crop applications coming from the 2017 District Capacity Grant Funds:

- **CC 17-03** Matt Purfeerst Faribault 84+ acres at $30/ac - $7,500.00
- **CC 17-04** Jim Jirik – Kilkenny – 18.5 Acres at $30 and $35/ac - $1,788.50
- **CC 17-05** Richland Dairy-Al Meyers – Kenyon – 105.1 acres at $30/ac = $3,153.00
- **CC 17-06** Far-Gaze Farms – Brian Peterson 32.3 acres at $30/ac - $2898.50

All money has been spent unless unspent funds from another grant can be transferred.

Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

**RAIN GARDEN APPLICATIONS AT 75% C-S:** Motion by Dick Peterson, seconded by Richard Cook to approve the following rain garden applications:

- **RG17-01** Jane Egerdal – 103 NE 14 St. – Faribault - Rain Garden – Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-02** James & Sara Coulter – 733 6th Ave SW – Faribault – Rain Garden – Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-03** Elizabeth Croteau Kallestad-755 Lathrop Dr–Northfield -Rain Garden–Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-04** Gregg Roemhilt-1825 LaDonna Lane-Faribault – Rain Garden – Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-05** Peter Allen & Maria Musachio-931 Reed Ave – Faribault – Rain Garden–Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-06** Kevin Rasmussen-213 16 St. W. – Faribault – Rain Garden – Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-07** Dan & Karen Rasmussen-1217 Mitchell Dr-Faribault-Rain Garden-Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-08** Barry & Julie Johnson-1312 17 St SW – Faribault – Rain Garden – Up to $1000.00
- **RG17-09** Dante Rand-8415 Hennepin Ave – Morristown-Rain Garden – Up to $1,000.00

Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried. Justin took pictures and will take final pictures when completed.

**CRWP 6.5, FOR SHORELINE APPLICATION:** Justin showed design on the big screen and discussed. Motion by Dick Peterson, seconded by Richard Cook to approve the following CRWP 6.5, for shoreline application:

- **CRWP SR17-01** Dante Rand – 8415 Hennepin Ave-Morristown – Native Planting/Shoreline Restoration – Up to $1500.00.

Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

**REVISED SUB-AGREEMENT & REVISED C-S CONTRACT SEJPB#17-01 NATHAN KUBALL:** Bridget explained that this practice is changing from a Cap 104 to a Cap 102 and Nate will be hiring a Technical Service Provider. Motion by Mike Ludwig, seconded by Dick Peterson to amend the SE SWCD Technical Support Joint Powers Board Sub-Agreement for Nathan Kuball
from Cap 104 to Cap 102 from $8908.43 to $5737.15 and revise the contract from $675.00 to
$5139.10 as follows:

SEJPB17-01 Nathan Kuball 22156 Lake Ave-Waterville-Morristown Sec2-Comprehensive Nutrient
Management Plan (CNMP-CAP102) Soil borings for Pit design (313) - $5,139.10.

Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None
opposed. Motion carried. This is a combined BWSR and NRCS project.

EXTEND PAUL SCHEFFLER SE WRB FEEDLOT 319 DEADLINE: Milkhouse waste is
completed but not ready for final approval until the next board meeting. Motion by Dick Peterson,
seconded by Richard Cook to extend the deadline for the Paul Scheffler SEWRB Feedlot 19 project
to August 31, 2017. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim
Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

NRCS/SWCD COOPERATIVE WORKING AGREEMENT: New generic agreement outlines
each partner’s responsibilities. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Dick Peterson to approve
the NRCS Cooperative Working Agreement. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard
Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

NRCS/SWCD OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT: Justin and Bridget will keep the two CCE
NRCS computers, mainly for GIS capabilities and use the NRCS copier. SWCD will supply
office/phone coverage and some clerical. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Mike Ludwig to
approve the NRCS Operational Agreement. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig,
Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

FY18 CWF RIPARIAN BUFFER C-S AGREEMENT $25,000: Rice SWCD will receive
$25,000 to help people on a first-come first-serve with buffers that may need waterways, side inlets,
etc. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Dick Peterson to approve the BWSR FY18 Clean Water
Fund Riparian Buffer Agreement for $25,000. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim Little, Mike Ludwig,
Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

GOVERNOR DAYTON’S 25% BY 2025 WATER QUALITY GOAL: Sheila Vanney has
stressed supervisor attendance at upcoming meetings in Rochester on July 31 and August 16 in
Mankato. Information is in the packets. Supervisors can carpool with Steve.

SFA DIRT RICH TWO-DAY SOIL HEALTH TRAINING: Sustainable Farming Association
is having a two-day soil health training Aug 8 & 9 at the Rice County Fairgrounds and Pork Chop
Ridge and Hanappe Ranch. Discussion. Motion by Richard Cook, seconded by Tim Little to
support two attendees for $250.00 and will increase cost if more people want to attend. Discussion.
BOARD MEETING DATE CHANGE- The board meeting date will be changed to August 10 at
9:00 a.m. because the above Dirt Rich training is also on August 9. Ayes: Richard Cook, Tim
Little, Mike Ludwig, Richard Peterson, and Jim Purfeerst. All aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS: Richard Cook said CRWP is deciding about downsizing the board
and how they fit into One Watershed One Plan. Their role is to eliminate redundancy and be
experts in the field and are in the process of hiring a new director. Kristi Pursell has been interim
director for six months. Dick Peterson said Zumbro Watershed is deciding if they should do a
1W1P application and what their role is with changes and organizational structure. Sarah
Middleton had a baby and Laurie Svien is filling in while she is on maternity leave. Tim and Jim
felt supervisors could show photos of their cover crops. Root action keeps ground from getting hard. Discussion on cover crops and chemicals.

**ACTING D.C. REPORT by Leslie Diaz-Alvarez:**

**Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP-EQIP)**
- Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification- Funding pool
- Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in Minnesota- Funding pool
- Application acceptance deadline for FY 2018 funding will be on **Friday, March 2, 2018.**

**Conservation Compliance/Planning (plans, tract splits, 1026's)**
- Received 2 AD-1026 requests this month and addressed 2 previous/current AD-1026 requests
  - Completed 1 - Maintenance Request
  - Completed 1 - Small Area Exception (open land into production)

**Client Gateway**
- We would like to keep promoting the Client Gateway. This is a secure NRCS website which provides online access to conservation assistance for farmers and ranchers 24/7.

**Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)**
- NRCS accepts CSP applications on a continuous basis.
- The CSP helps you build on your existing conservation efforts while strengthening your operation, whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, implement no-till to reduce erosion or develop wildlife habitat by adopting CSP enhancements to achieve a higher level of conservation.

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**
- NRCS accepts EQIP applications on a continuous basis. Application acceptance deadline for FY 2018 funding will be on **Friday, August 18, 2017.**

**Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**
- NRCS was conducting annual easement monitoring. The monitoring/evaluation included site conditions, nesting cover, easement boundaries and signs. Completed 10 site evaluations.

**Operational Agreement**
- The agreement is between the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Rice Soil and Water Conservation District. Our goal is to further strengthen and modernize conservation delivery and operations to optimize efficiency and effectiveness to our landowners and operators.

**DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT by Steve Pahs:**

Staff has new emails and can set up for supervisors also.

Since the June meeting, I’ve been very busy with a variety of work. I’ve got about half of the ditch spraying completed, and there are a few repair projects planned or underway. Justin and I participated in the Faribault Heritage Days parade and thought it went well. I participated in a soil health training event for staff. Also put together a field day to show interseeding in corn. Our computers and new server have been installed, and we also entered into a lease on a new copier from Coordinated Business Systems. The separation from the USDA network is near completion, with Justin and Bridget keeping a computer on that network for the next year or more. Other things I’ve been working
on include the budget, cooperative working agreement with NRCS, resolutions meeting, PF meeting, etc.
Upcoming activities include some ditch work, fair prep, 1W1P meetings, soil health meetings and coordinating an aerial application, and hopefully a vacation!

**RESOURCE SPECIALIST REPORT by Justin Fuchs:**
- Meet with DNR about Pedestrian Bridge, new data sheets for ACOE.
- Rain Garden Surveys
- Shoreline Restoration Survey
- PTM App Online Training in Rochester
- Work on Rand Shoreline Restoration Plan
- Board Meeting
- WCA TEP meeting with City of Fbo, Stantec, DNR and ACOE about Ladonna Lane re-alignment and bridge replacement
- Cover Crop Field Day
- Addison LLC WCA site visit regarding dirt bike track
- Meet with delineator for new solar garden
- Meet with landowner about potential bridge through wetland
- Wetland replacement application for local farmer
- Heritage Days Parade
- Various WCA questions by landowner
- Work on Pollinator garden at office
- Boudreau Update: I Scheduled a site visit with BWSR Wetland Specialist Jed Chesnut on June 22nd and I received an email from Lynda Boudreau on June 20th to cancel the site visit with Jed because the Boudreau’s didn’t feel comfortable obtaining permission for me to access the Hunt property.

**DISTRICT TECHNICIAN’S REPORT by Bridget Evers:**
- New CRP contracts
- Re-enroll CRP contracts
- CRP Site visits for re-enrolls
- State Cost Share projects Survey and Designs
- EQIP projects
- Scott WMO projects
- RCPP Projects
- Milk house waste system install
• Soil heath training June 19th

Upcoming:
• Continue New CRP Sign ups
• Survey and designs for Cost share items and CRP program (wetland restorations)
• EQIP survey and designs with Colin

State Cost share Engineering Site visits (1, 5 and 9th year in 10-year life span)

**NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST by Travis Hirman:**
• Finished new MMP for J & P Degrood (428.8 acres, Rice Co.)
• Attended NRCS soil health training in Dodge County.
• Delivered the GP drill to Charles Haecherl.
• Attended our cover crop interseeding demonstration.
• Did some various ditch work.
• Signed up 4 more producers under the district cover crop incentive program.
• Continued to implement the buffer law, although not many landowners contacted us.
• Looking ahead: I may do more buffer outreach, possibly another letter drive, a public meeting, or both. Also I will need to field verify interseeded cover crops for our incentive program.

**OTHER/ADDITIONAL STAFF COMMENTS:** Jeff Docken was asked about the funds BWSR is giving Rice County for buffer enforcement. County may not hire additional staff and feedlot manager may do the job depending on how involved they will need to be. Willing to discuss in the future. Jeff mentioned the private dirt bike track in Webster Township. Justin has had two site visits there. County needs numbers and landowner’s engineer is supposed to give the county a plan. Discussion. Justin spoke on a couple from England wanting to create a soccer facility and he gave an update on the Boudreau property.

Travis may do an additional buffer mailing letter and another public meeting to discuss alternative practices. Jim Purfeerst wants to be included in emails sent out to landowners, and supervisors should receive a copy of the letter going out. Approximately 150 that are not compliant. There will be a field day at Dave Legvold’s on July 25. Alternative practices were discussed.

Fair booth was discussed. Jim would like to see screen with continuous slide show on cover crops, etc. Teresa will be there four to five hours a day and could put together a slide show. Dakota County buffers, six-twelve row equipment, Scott County transportation of equipment, MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program process, EQIP 75%, RCPP 90%, and Jim’s upcoming meeting with MN Dept of Ag Commissioner Dave Frederickson were mentioned.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Rice County Fair July 18-23.

**ADJOURN:** Chairman Purfeerst adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Submitted by: 
Debbie Skarupa – Admin. Assistant

Board Secretary - Timothy J. Little