

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Monday, December 22, 2025**

A meeting of the Rock County Soil and Water District Board was held on Monday, December 22, 2025 at 8:00 AM at the Rock County Land Management Office with the following members present: Josh Ossefoort, Matt VanGrootheest, Dave Esselink, Roger Hoff, Jim Veldkamp, County Commissioner Stan Williamson, Director Eric Hartman, Assistant Director Arlyn Gehrke, Office Manager Mary Thompson and Office Manager Shayla Rock. Absent: None.

Chair Hoff called the meeting to order and asked for any additions to the agenda. With no additions, motion to approve by Esselink, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**2026 Meeting Dates**

Thompson presented the 2026 meeting dates. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Van Grootheest. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**2026 Budget**

Hartman gave an overview of the preliminary budget stating there may be a need for a slight amendment. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Convention Overview**

Gehrke stated the convention overall had good attendance. He sat on a One Watershed One Plan panel that addressed the mid-point review and amendments as well as general questions. Terry and Christy Aukes attended as Rock SWCDs Outstanding Conservationists and Gehrke accepted the 2025 Drinking Water Protection Award on behalf of Rock SWCD.

**MS4 Front Watershed Project Tracking Grant Final Overview and Payment**

Gehrke gave an overview of the final development of MS4 Front Watershed Project Tracking tool that has been developed in conjunction with Houston Engineering. The following were completed: summary reports were created within MS4 Front, revisions to the dashboard, completion of technical memorandum outlining the process to download and prepare ELINK BMP GIS data for import into MS4 Front and completion of a practice/goal spreadsheet template for watershed partnerships to coordinate how data should be entered into tracking tools. Thompson presented the final invoice for \$24,749.25. Motion to approve by Van Grootheest, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Missouri River Watershed Update and Project/Soil Health Payments**

Gehrke presented potential changes or reorganization to goals. With 2.1 million coming in RCPP Soil Health they looked at allocating \$400,000 to manure waste storage and \$100,000 for manure management. Any changes or reorganization will be approved at a public hearing. Thompson gave an overview of projects that were paid in December including 4 basin projects, 3 waterway projects and 2 cover crop contracts totaling \$262,673.63.

**Cost Share:**

**State Cost Share:**

Thompson presented an amendment to contract FY24-1 for a basin project for Randy Muller to amend the total amount authorized to the actual available funds of \$34,522.26. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Thompson presented the payment for contract FY24-1 for Randy Muller in the amount of \$31,217.77 for a basin project in the NW1/4 of Section 12F, Rose Dell Township. Motion to approve by Veldkamp, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Conservation Use Acres:**

Thompson presented the following Conservation Use Acre fund payments that were in conjunction with WBIF projects:

Willers Farms for \$686.76 to supplement contract FY24-MRWP-210 to meet the 75% cost share on the basin project. WBIF projects are not eligible for amendment with those funds if the shortage in the contract is less than \$1,000. Rock projects are supplemented with conservation use acre funds if needed. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Blake Crawford for 249.00 to supplement contract FY24-MRWP-274 to meet the 90% cost share on the grassed waterway project. WBIF projects are not eligible for amendment with those funds if the shortage in the contract is less than \$1,000. Rock projects are supplemented with conservation use acre funds if needed. Motion to approve by Van Grootheest, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

CUA-73 Blake Crawford for 4 acres/\$150 acre/\$600.00. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

CUA-72 Dan Leuthold for 7.5 acres/\$150 acre/\$1,125.00. Motion to approve by Veldkamp, second by Van Grootheest. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**RCPP Cover Crop Year 1 Payments:**

Contract 67-1-3 for \$7,260.00 for 121 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Contract 67-1-5 for \$9,600.00 for 160 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Van Grootheest. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Contract 67-1-9 for \$9,600.00 for 160 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Van Grootheest, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Contract 67-1-11 for \$7,020.00 for 117 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Veldkamp, second by Esselink. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Contract 67-2-2 for \$9,600.00 for 160 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Esselink. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Contract 67-2-4 for \$9,600.00 for 160 acres of multi-species at \$60 per acre. Motion to approve by Esselink, second by Van Grootheest. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Bills for Approval**

Thompson presented the following bills for approval:

**Regular Checking**

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
12/22/2025	2295	HOUSTON ENGINEERING INC	\$24,749.25
12/22/2025	18751	ROCK COUNTY LAND MANAGEMENT	\$945.83
12/22/2025	099999000	TRAVERSE SOIL & WATER CONS DISTRICT	\$223.50

**Total \$ 25,918.58**

Motion to approve by Veldkamp, second by Van Grootheest. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Financial Statement**

Hartman presented both the November financial statement. After review, motion to approve by Van Grootheest, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Approval Minutes**

After review of November 17, 2025 minutes, motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Esselink. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

**Upcoming Meeting**

Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Esselink, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary Thompson  
Office Manager

