

District Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 27, 2020

7:30 PM

Goodhue County SWCD Office

Conference Call: 888 742 5095 code 150 830 9738

Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chair Jeff Beckman. It was noted that due to 'MN Department of Administration Open Meeting Requirements during a State of Emergency', meeting held utilizing telephone conferencing require all votes be taken by roll call, which will be used at this meeting.

Supervisors Present by Conference: Jeff Beckman (Chair), Mark Comstock (Vice Chair), Ed McNamara (Treasurer), John Jaeger (Reporter)

Staff: Glen Roberson

Staff by Conference: Beau Kennedy, Delane Krier

Other by Conference: Luke Breitenbach (NRCS)

II. AGENDA

Moved by McNamara, seconded by Comstock to approve the Agenda. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT Agenda

1. Payment on EPA 319 Small Feedlot fix Quarter 1 Invoices. (Olmsted \$9,524.06, Wabasha \$1,605.40, Houston \$874.28, Winona \$1,865.60)

2. Approve Payment on invoices to Barr Engineering - Invoice #23551058-8 for \$7,006.55 and #23551058-9 for \$4,166.50. Zumbro 1W1P Policy Committee approved @ March 12th meeting.

3. Approve Payment on invoice to Olmsted County SWCD – Invoice #2193 for \$7,640.60. Zumbro 1W1P Policy Committee approved @ March 12th meeting.

Moved by McNamara, seconded by Jaeger to approve the Consent Agenda. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Approve March 23, 2020 District Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Moved by McNamara, seconded by Jaeger to approve the Consent Agenda. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minute limit)

VI. ACTION ITEMS

1. Action on \$2500 One Time Dues Contribution to SE SWCD Tech Support JPB to Alleviate Budget Issues for FY2020.

Moved by Jaeger, seconded by McNamara to approve the \$2500.00 One Time Dues Contribution to SE SWCD Tech Support JPB to Alleviate Budget Issues for FY2020. Discussion took place on adding a questionnaire for farmers in regards to a time frame & future viability of the operation in order to qualify for Feedlot Fix grant funding. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Action on State Cost-Share Application 2018-06, Tim Hattemer, Grassed Waterway for \$6540.00 at 75% cost-share rate. (\$1336.49 2018 State Cost Share / \$3568.51 2019 State Cost Share)

Moved by Jaeger, seconded by Comstock to approve the State Cost-Share Application 2018-06, Tim Hattemer, Grassed Waterway for \$6540.00 at 75% cost-share rate. (\$1336.49 2018 State Cost Share / \$3568.51 2019 State Cost Share). Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

3. Action on COVID-19 Leave Policy

Moved by McNamara, seconded by Comstock to approve the Covid-19 Policy. Discussion took place. Moved by McNamara, seconded by Comstock to amend the motion to change 80 Hour policy to read non concurrent. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Amendment carried. Chair Beckman then

called for a vote on the Motion as Amended: Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion as Amended carried.

4. Reschedule May 2020 Board Meeting due to conflict with Memorial Day

Moved by McNamara, seconded by Jaeger to approve the May 2020 Board Meeting be rescheduled to Tuesday May 26th @ 7:30 pm due to the conflict with Memorial Day. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

VII. REPORTS

1. NRCS Report

Presented by Luke Breitenbach via Conference Call

2. District Manager's Report

CRP Contribution Agreement Update / Farm Bill Assistance Grant for FY2021 / Tree Program

3. Supervisor Report

Election Update

4. Staff Reports

Beau Kennedy – Vehicle purchase update

Other - Weekly Staff Scheduling & Staff Conference Call Meetings

VIII. TREASURER'S REPORT / PAYABLES

1. Approve March 2020 Financial Report

Moved by Comstock, seconded by Jaeger to approve the March 2020 Financial Report. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

2. Approve April 2020 Accounts Payable

Moved by Jaeger, seconded by McNamara to approve the April 2020 Accounts Payable. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Jaeger, seconded by McNamara to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Beckman, Comstock, Jaeger, McNamara. Opposed: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Schliep, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Memorial Day Holiday

May 25, 2020

Goodhue Co. SWCD Regular Board Meeting

May 26, 2020

NRCS PROGRAM UPDATES: April 27th, 2020

*2020 CONTRACT/APPLICATION STATUS:

- Several projects under construction: waterways, basins, dams, etc.
- EMERGENCY MORTALITY FACILITY APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
-more to come on this: 28 APRIL teleconference
- MILK SPREADING GUIDANCE ATTACHED

*UPCOMING PROGRAM DEADLINES (TENTATIVE):

EQIP

- 26 June 2020 = Preapproval deadline
- 2nd EQIP signup TBD

CSP

- 29 MAY 2020 = APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR GENERAL/CLASSIC 2020
EXPIRED 2015 CONTRACT HOLDERS CAN APPLY IN THIS POOL
- 17 July 2020 = Preapproval deadline

*Applicants need to maintain ELIGIBILITY (FSA): 1026, AGI, HEL, etc.

*CRP Accepted Offer #'s:

89 Regular and Renewal OFFERS

21 CCRP OFFERS

ALL CRP WORK MUST BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

*Contribution Agreement Status: no word.

*****DATES LISTED SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS CURRENT (COVID19)
SITUATION EVOLVING, POTENTIALLY AFFECTING TIMELINES*****

GOODHUE OFFICE REMAINS AT LEVEL 2: Appointments by phone only!

EQIP EMERGENCY SIGN UP

REQUEST FOR WAIVER TO START A PRACTICE EARLY *

Applicant: _____

Date: _____

County: _____

Application number: _____

Practice: 368 - Emergency Animal Mortality Management

Reason for request to start early: Animals will not go to market due to reduced capacity of processing plants

Applicant Signature _____

Date: _____

For Field Office Use

Field Office: _____

Concurrence by District Conservationist

DC Signature _____

Date: _____

For State Office Use

Approved by:

State Conservationist

Date

***STARTING PRACTICES PRIOR TO CONTRACT APPROVAL IS AT YOUR OWN RISK. This waiver is not approved until signed by the State Conservationist. Waiver approval does not guarantee contract approval. Payments cannot be made if application is not approved or if practices do not meet NRCS standards & specifications. Waiver is not valid unless participant meets all EQIP eligibility and payment limitation requirements. This waiver only allows applicant one year of eligibility for this emergency sign up.**

April 15, 2020

CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name:	Application Number:
Address: City: State: Zip:	Application Date:
	County and State:
Email:	
Telephone:	Watershed:
	Subaccount:
Location (Legal Description or Farm and Tract Number):	

1. Yes No Do you have farm records established with the appropriate USDA Service Center Agency?

If no, you must establish them with the appropriate USDA Service Center Agency prior to submitting this application.

2. This is an application to participate in the:

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) <input type="checkbox"/> CSP Renewal	Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) - Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)
<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) <input type="checkbox"/> EQIP <input type="checkbox"/> CSP	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) <input type="checkbox"/> ACEP- (WRE) <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)

3. Are you applying to participate in a conservation program as an (check one of the following):

Individual

a) Please enter your legal name and tax identification number:

Name:

Tax Number: xxx-xx-

Entity (Corporation, Limited Partnership, Trust, Estate, etc.)

a) Please enter entity legal name and tax identification number:

Name:

Tax Number: xxxxx-

b) Yes No Do you have appropriate documents including proof to sign for the entity?

Joint Operation (General Partnership, Joint Venture)

a) Please enter joint operation legal name and tax identification number:

Name:

Tax Number: xxxxx-

b) Yes No Do you have appropriate documents including proof to sign for the joint operation?

4. Is the land being offered for enrollment used for crop (including forest-related) or livestock production?
- Crop Production Crop Type:
 Livestock Production Livestock Type:
5. The land offered under this application is (check all that apply):
- Private Land
 Public Land (Federal, State, or Local Government)
 Tribal, Allotted, Ceded or Indian Land
6. You certify that Certification of control of the land offered under the application is evidenced by:
- Deed or other evidence of land ownership (required for all ACEP-WRE applications)
 Written lease agreement
Years of control are through
 Other agreement or legal conveyance (describe):
Years of control are through or,
Evidence of historical control of land since: _____
7. Yes No Is the land offered under this application enrolled in any other conservation program?
8. Do you meet the criteria for any of the following categories? (mark all that apply)
- Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher
 Beginning Farmer or Rancher
 Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher
 Veteran Farmer or Rancher
 Not Applicable

*If you wish to apply in any of these categories, you must meet the self certification requirements. Definitions are provided below. For more information please go to this website:
<https://lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/>*

Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher – The term “Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher” means a participant:

- With direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous two years, and
- Who has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous two years.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify. A Self-Determination Tool is available to the public and may be completed on-line or printed and completed hardcopy at: <https://lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

Beginning Farmer or Rancher – The term “Beginning Farmer or Rancher” means a participant who:

- Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of a legal entity, and who
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.

In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and

substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located.

In the case of a contract made with a legal entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. Material and substantial participation requires that the members provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if the members did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm or ranch would be seriously impaired.

Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher – The term "Socially Disadvantaged" means an individual or entity who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. For an entity, at least 50 percent ownership in the farm business must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals. A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

These groups consist of the following:

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Asians
- Blacks or African Americans
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
- Hispanics.

Note: Gender alone is not a covered group for the purposes of NRCS conservation programs. The term entities reflect a broad interpretation to include partnerships, couples, legal entities, etc.

Veteran Farmer or Rancher – The term "Veteran Farmer or Rancher" means a producer who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve component thereof; was released from service under conditions other than dishonorable; and:

- has not operated a farm or ranch, or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years; or
- who first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Veteran Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify.

9. Is any of the land offered for enrollment under this application:

- Certified Organic by the National Organic Program (NOP)**
- Transitioning to become Certified Organic by the NOP**
- Exempt from Organic Certification as defined by the NOP**
- Not Applicable**

Certification in any of these categories is to assist with planning and will not automatically result in the application being considered in any initiatives made available for organic-related production. Applicants must specifically request to participate in an organic initiative. Note that the EQIP Organic Initiative has a lower payment limitation (\$140,000 over the period of fiscal years 2019-2023 per person or legal entity) than payments made to a person or legal entity under General EQIP.

On the farm(s) identified above, the Applicant agrees to participate in the identified program if the offer is accepted by the NRCS. The undersigned shall hereafter be referred to as the "Participant." The participant understands that starting a practice prior to contract approval causes the practice to be ineligible for program financial assistance. The participant will provide written authorization to

install structural or vegetative practices. The Participant agrees not to start any financially assisted practice or activity or engage the reimbursable services of a certified Technical Service Provider before a Contract is executed by CCC. The Participant may request, in writing, a waiver of this requirement for financially assisted practices by the NRCS State Conservationist.

All participants that certify land control or certify eligibility as Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher, Beginning Farmer or Rancher, or Veteran Farmer or Rancher, will provide all records necessary to justify their claim as requested by a NRCS representative. It is the responsibility of the Participant to provide accurate information to support all items addressed in this application at the request of NRCS. False certifications are subject to criminal and civil fraud statutes.

The Participant acknowledges that highly erodible land conservation/wetland conservation, adjusted gross income certifications, and member information for entities and joint operations are on file with the FSA.

10. Yes No I have received a copy of the applicable conservation program contract appendix.

Applicant Signature	Date

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

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MINNESOTA NRCS 2020 EQIPEMERGENCY DATA COLLECTION

Client Name:		County	
Site Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Resource Concern:	Reduce impacts to surface water and groundwater resources		

<input type="checkbox"/>	Does the site have a NPDES Permit?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes (If Yes fill in permit info):
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you have an Emergency Plan Associated?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
	April-May
	Animal Information for Projected Mortality (# of Head, Pounds, average weight per animal)
Animal Type	
Animal numbers	
Ave Weight	
	CP368- Emergency Animal Mortality Management (Select Type of Management)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rendering Animals (refer to MN 368 rendering datasheet)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windrow Composting (refer to MN 368 composting datasheet)
	June- July
	Animal Information for Projected Mortality (# of Head, Pounds, average weight per animal)
Animal Type	
Animal numbers	
Ave Weight	
	CP368- Emergency Animal Mortality Management (Select Type of Management)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rendering Animals (refer to MN 368 rendering datasheet)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windrow Composting (refer to MN 368 composting datasheet)
	August-September
	Animal Information for Projected Mortality (# of Head, Pounds, average weight per animal)
Animal Type	
Animal numbers	
Ave Weight	
	CP368- Emergency Animal Mortality Management (Select Type of Management)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rendering Animals (refer to MN 368 rendering datasheet)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Windrow Composting (refer to MN 368 composting datasheet)



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm
Production
and
Conservation

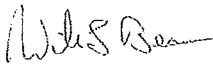
Farm
Service
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave, SW
Washington, DC
20250
Mail Stop 0513

Voice: 202-720-6221

April 16, 2020

TO: SEDs, State FSA Office

FROM: 
William L. Beam
Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

SUBJECT: Temporary Permission to Apply Milk on CRP Acreage Due to COVID19 Supply Disruptions

There has been a sudden change in the demand for milk due to COVID19 resulting in producers experiencing surplus milk production that requires milk disposal. We have been notified of producer interests, needs, and desires to spread milk waste on land under Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrollment. Below is FSA's related policy on CRP lands. For conservation planning purposes, please do a pen/ink change to the conservation plan to note the field and tracts on which milk waste will be spread.

COC's may permit the application of milk on acreage under CRP-1 if:

- it occurs prior to the primary nesting season
- FSA-850 does not reveal any adverse impacts to the human environment that cannot be successfully mitigated
- the participant seeks approval from the COC to apply milk on CRP acreage
- the participant receives a conservation plan in writing from NRCS or TSP that meets or exceeds the minimum standards of FOTG.
- all requirements and specifications, including permits, if applicable, are met as required by EPA and State and local regulatory
- the amount of milk and its nutrients that may be applied are limited to the level that can be used by the vegetative cover
- the milk will not be applied within 100 feet of property boundaries or water sources, such as wells, streams, rivers, wetlands, or swamps
- the participant must agree to re-establish, at the CRP participant's expense, the vegetative cover in the event of failure or damage after application.

You will receive further guidance if applying milk on CRP during the primary nesting season will be authorized.



Emergency Milk Disposal Guidance

Situation:

- There may be instances such as limited markets, limited processing capacity, milk quality violations or other factors that may force some dairy operations to dispose of milk.
- The items listed below are suggested alternatives. The options chosen by the producer for a given operation will vary based on the farm's situation, State regulations, and other requirements.

Issues:

- Producers must continue to abide by all Federal, State and local laws, even when disposing of waste or unused milk. Operational size and State regulations may affect the method of disposal.
- Milk has high biological oxygen demand (BOD) and can cause fish kills and potentially other negative environmental impacts if runoff reaches surface water or leaches into ground water.
- Milk will likely have a strong odor as it decomposes.

Disposal Options:

- Onsite waste storage facilities:
 - If available, milk should be disposed in an existing liquid waste storage facility. This will allow for proper planning and provide additional time to land apply.
 - Exceptions
 - Dairy operations that recycle sand bedding should not add milk to any part of the of the closed-loop or recycling wastewater system. Milk solids can adversely affect separation and curing time. Producers should only add to storages not associated with the recycling process. **Note:** Milk may be disposed in a sand bedding recycling system only if land conditions are not favorable for application (i.e., saturated soils, snow covered or frozen ground) and no other storage options are available.
 - Milk should not be added to under building manure storage facilities. Milk waste has the potential to generate deadly gases. These gases, combined with odors, are detrimental to animal and human health.
 - Milk, when mixed with manure storage effluent, reduces the BOD levels and potentially some odors associated with the milk.
 - Placing dumped milk in a waste storage facility will reduce storage capacity. Land application times may need to be adjusted to account for reduced storage period. Producers should not exceed the design capacity of waste storage facilities.
 - Document the amount of milk waste added to storage. Producers should update the nutrient management plan to account for additional nutrients added to the waste storage facility.



- Anaerobic digester (AD):
 - Milk can potentially be added to an anaerobic digester (AD).
 - Prior to adding milk, contact the digester manufacturer for recommended rates to reduce the impact on the microbial community and digester performance.
 - The milk sugar content may increase biogas production.
 - Digestion can reduce the odor potential of the milk.
 - The high fat content of milk may result in the solidification of fats.
 - Adding milk slowly over time may allow microbial populations to adapt.
 - There is minimal to no nutrient reduction as a result of anaerobic digestion (i.e., nutrients in equal nutrients out).
 - Digested material must still be land applied, treated, or stored.
- Land application:
 - Producers should follow the nutrient management plan (590) to determine the best places to apply the milk.
 - If available, producers should contact their nutrient management specialist or crop advisor associated with the farming operation for guidance on land applying wasted milk.
 - Milk contains a higher nutrient content than manure.
 - Sample the milk for nutrient content. Without a sample, the estimated nutrient values for milk are: 45 lbs. N, 18 lbs. P₂O₅, and 15 lbs. K₂O per 1,000 gallons.
 - If possible, it is preferable to mix milk with manure prior to land application.
 - Producers should apply based on crop needs.
 - Producers should not over apply, causing leaching or runoff.
 - Due to the potential odor from land-applied milk, the producer should locate application fields as far from neighbors and businesses as possible.
 - Date, volume, and locations where milk was land applied should be recorded.
 - All nitrogen and phosphorus are considered plant available.
 - Milk should be applied uniformly across a field to ensure even distribution of nutrients.
 - When possible, inject or incorporate milk to reduce odor and runoff potential.
 - Solids in the milk may buildup in hoses, valves, and pipes on land application equipment. Rinse/flush equipment to reduce plugging.
 - Milk should not be applied to vegetated treatment areas (VTA) or added to a septic system. The milk solids and BOD are detrimental to the performance of these systems. Odors can also be an issue.
 - Producers should establish appropriate setback distances from streams, wetlands and other waterbodies where runoff could occur. As a minimum, use setbacks as established for manure applications.
 - Land application should not occur prior to or directly after rainfall events to reduce runoff and leaching potential.
 - If possible, milk applications should occur after grazing in a rotation or after harvest to increase soil contact and maximize the length of time prior to the next grazing or harvest event.



- Feed:
 - Milk can be utilized as an animal feed.
 - Producers should consult State regulations with regards to feeding milk to animals (sale and labeling). Use may be limited to on-farm only.
 - Animal performance may be impacted due to dietary change from feeding milk. Sudden changes in diet may result in changes in manure consistency and impact the manure management system.
 - Biosecurity protocols should be maintained with regards to handling of milk as feed. Pasteurize milk if possible, prior to feeding. Disease can be spread through unpasteurized milk. Monitor herd health.
 - Milk spoils quickly. Clean equipment and be mindful of spoilage. The increase in microbial activity and odor associated with spoilage decreases palatability. Flies are attracted to unclean surfaces, and they are directly linked to other health issues such as mastitis and pink eye.

References:

- Animal Manure and Nutrient Management Team (AMNMT) SharePoint Site – Link to Resources: Milk Disposal - https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_st_entsc/namnmt/SitePages/Resource%20Links.aspx



Date:

Subject: Emergency Milk Disposal

Many businesses and industries are struggling at this time, none more so than the dairy farmer. Unfortunately, during this time of unprecedented situations there may be limited milk markets or limited processing capacity. Dairy producers may be left with a very difficult decision to make. What to do with my excess milk?

There is no single option applicable to every dairy operation. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service would like to provide a few alternatives for safe disposal of surplus milk. These options should help to minimize the impact on the environment. It is important to understand and follow all Federal, State and local laws.

Storage: Disposal of milk in a liquid waste storage facility with adequate capacity may provide the best option, if available. Storage in a waste holding facility allows for proper planning and additional time to land apply. Producers should update the nutrient management plan to account for added nutrients to the waste storage facility. Be cautious, however, when using systems with sand recycling or under-building storage. Milk waste can impact sand separation performance. It also has the potential to generate deadly gases. These gases, combined with odors, are detrimental to animal and human health.

Anaerobic Digestion: Before adding milk to an anaerobic digestion system, the producer should contact the digester manufacturer for recommended rates. Milk sugars may increase biogas production, but the fats may have a negative impact on digester performance.

Land Application: Producers should follow their nutrient management plan to determine the best fields to apply the milk. Because of the potential odor from land applied milk, locate application fields as far as possible from businesses and neighbors. When possible inject milk to help reduce the odor potential. Consider carefully where runoff could occur to avoid water quality issues.

Feed: Excess milk can possibly be used as feed, but use may be limited to on-farm only. Animal performance can be impacted with dietary changes.

Your local land grant university extension service may have other options and recommendations to help you with this situation. The information outlined in this letter provides basic guidance for these alternatives. To address other questions and for additional information on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact your local USDA Service Center for further assistance.

Sincerely,

State Conservationist

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Address
Phone Number
E-mail Address

Krier, DeLane

From: Breitenbach, Luke - NRCS, Goodhue, MN <luke.breitenbach@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 8:26 AM
To: Krier, DeLane
Subject: FW: MN Bulletin 300-20-06: 2020 Emergency Swine Mortality Management

External Email - Use caution opening links or attachments!

Subject: MN Bulletin 300-20-06: 2020 Emergency Swine Mortality Management

Timeline for activities for this sign up:

Batch Period	DATE	ACTION
	April 17, 2020	Signup period begins.
1	May 1, 2020	Application cutoff – Batching Period 1.
1	May 8, 2020	Workload Prioritization/Screening deadline (see details below) – Batching Period 1.
1	May 15, 2020	Assessment and Ranking deadline for applications received by May 1 – Batching Period 1.
1	May 22, 2020	Obligation deadline – Batching Period 1.
2	May 22, 2020	Application cutoff – Batching Period 2.
2	May 29, 2020	Workload Prioritization/Screening deadline (see details below) – Batching Period 2.
2	June 5, 2020	Assessment and Ranking deadline for applications received by May 22 – Batching Period 2.
2	June 12, 2020	Obligation deadline – Batching Period 2.
3	June 12, 2020	Application cutoff – Batching Period 3.
3	June 19, 2020	Workload Prioritization/Screening deadline (see details below) – Batching Period 3.
3	June 26, 2020	Assessment and Ranking deadline for applications received by May 1 – Batching Period 3.
3	July 2, 2020	Obligation deadline – Batching Period 3.

**The State Conservationist reserves the right to establish additional batching periods at his discretion.*

Planners will only use the eligible land uses, practice, resource concern category, and resource concern listed below.

- Eligible Land uses: Farmstead, Cropland, Pasture, Associate Ag Land
- Eligible Practice: Emergency Animal Mortality Management (368)
- Resource Concern Category: Storage and Handling of pollutants
- Resource Concern: Nutrients Transported to Surface Water

A **\$25,000** practice payment CAP limit per producer is in place.

The following four scenarios will be offered in Minnesota for this emergency signup with the anticipated rates:

<u>Scenario</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Non-HU Rate</u>	<u>HU Rate</u>
Disposal other than Burial	AU	\$113.43	\$136.11
Burial	AU	\$74.28	\$89.14
Forced Air Incineration	AU	\$219.88	\$263.86
Disposal at Landfill or Render	LB	\$0.05	\$0.06

Considerations

This funding availability is to help swine producers in response to an emergency need and is not to be used to address long-term mortality needs. Contracting and funding should be based on the disposal needs in the immediate and very near future. Expectation is for 1 contract item to address the immediate and short-term need; additional needs could be applied for in future batching periods with another application (NRCS-CPA-1200).

Early Start Waiver Process

The wavier worksheet attached to this bulletin will be used to request and approve early start waivers for this emergency signup. Applicants should be provided the waiver worksheet along with the program application (NRCS-CPA-1200). Applicants need to be informed of the waiver process and the risk involved with starting early. Once waivers are signed by the applicant, they can be approved by the Designated Conservationist (CST Leader) as delegated for this sign up. The field office will promptly contact the applicant to inform them the start wavier was approved and file the waiver. **Applicants need to be given technical requirement documents as part of the wavier approval process to ensure they are aware of the requirements for the practice and scenario selected.**

Workload Prioritization/Screening

The following questions will be used to target immediate disposal needs. All applications will need to be screened (or rescreened) with the priority entered in ProTracts by the deadlines above. For example, some applications may be a low in Batching Period 1, but move to a high in Batching Period 2.

***High:** The applicant had a signed application in by the Batching Period application cutoff date, has an approved early start waiver, started to euthanize swine prior to the batching application cutoff, is planning to do the Rendering/Landfill Scenario or Composting Scenario, and had Eligibility met and set to Yes in ProTracts by the screening deadline.*

***Medium:** The applicant had a signed application in by the Batching Period application cutoff date, has an approved early start waiver, started to euthanize swine prior to the batching application cutoff, is planning to do the Incineration or Burial scenarios.*

***Low:** All other applications.*

Certification and Payments

Documentation, such as rendering weigh slips, should be used to support practice certification for rendering. For other scenarios, use of customer-provided records, self-certification, photos of compost/burial sites, field verification, and/or other methods that may be applicable.

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