



News Release

For Immediate Release: April 18, 2018

For more information call: Liz Dengate 651-480-7717
Liz.dengate@co.dakota.mn.us

Run for the SWCD Board: Election Filings Begin May 22

Individuals interested in natural resource management and conservation in Dakota County should consider filing to run for the position of Supervisor of the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Dakota SWCD Board Supervisors are voices for their local community, making decisions that affect natural resources and local residents. The filing period runs May 22 to June 5, 2018.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of the State and are governed by an elected Board of five Supervisors. Each Board Supervisor represents a district within the County and each district is defined by population. An elected Board of Supervisors governs each of Minnesota's 90 SWCDs.

"Supervisors play an important role in a wide variety of natural resource management issues at the local level, including water quality, soil erosion, stormwater management, agricultural conservation and land protection," noted Brian Watson, District Manager of the Dakota County SWCD. "Serving as a supervisor is a terrific opportunity for people who want a voice in how we manage our environment."

SWCDs are special purpose units of government that manage and direct local conservation activities with landowners and communities. The supervisors meet monthly, discussing the business of the SWCD, distributing state grant allocations, setting conservation priorities, developing legislative priorities, and coordinating conservation efforts with other local units of government and state agencies.

Supervisors do not receive a salary, although they do receive compensation for attending meetings and are reimbursed for expenses.

In 2018, the Dakota County SWCD has two Supervisor positions up for election, in Districts 4 and 5. SWCD candidates appear on the ballot during the general election which will take place on November 6, 2018. Again, individuals who wish to be on the ballot must file for candidacy between May 22 and June 5. Election terms are four-years.

District 4 includes the City of Burnsville, and sections of Apple Valley.

District 5 includes Castle Rock Township, Empire Township, Eureka Township, City of Farmington, Greenvale Township, City of Lakeville, City of Northfield, Sciota Township, and Waterford Township.

A more detailed description of each Supervisor district including precinct numbers can be found on the Dakota County SWCD home page at www.dakotaswcd.org.

Any eligible voter that is 21 years old and lives in a nomination district up for election can file for that SWCD Board vacancy.

If you are interested in filing for an SWCD Board Supervisor position, a “Minnesota Affidavit of Candidacy” is available from the Dakota County Election and Voter Registration Department. There is a \$20 filing fee. More information can be obtained at www.co.dakota.mn.us or by calling (651) 438-4380.

Information about the Dakota SWCD programs and activities are available at www.dakotaswcd.org. If you would like more information, you may also contact the SWCD Office at 651-480-7777.