

NEWS RELEASE

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News Release: FILE BEFORE June 4th TO RUN FOR SWCD SUPERVISOR

Individuals concerned about water quality and soil erosion in East Otter Tail County should consider filing by June 4th to run for the position of Supervisor of the East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District (EOT SWCD).

“Supervisors play an important role in how our community deals with a wide variety of resource management issues, including wetlands, water quality, soil erosion, ground water, and forestry,” noted Darren Newville , District Manager with the EOT SWCD. “Serving as a supervisor is a terrific opportunity for people who want a voice in how we manage our environment,” he said.

SWCDs are special purpose units of government that are a primary source of conservation information, support, and program management for landowners and other local units of government. They are the technical experts that understand their specific communities’ needs and help landowners navigate conservation programs from start to finish. An elected board of Supervisors governs each of Minnesota’s 88 SWCDs and help to direct conservation programs, such as the State Cost-Share Program, Irrigation Scheduler, Watershed Planning and various lake shore programs.

This year, the EOT SWCD has three Supervisor positions up for election. SWCD candidates appear on the ballot for the general election which will take place on

November 5th, 2024. Candidates are elected county wide, but must reside in one of the nomination districts up for election. These include Nominating District I, which includes Candor, Dead Lake, Dora, Edna, Hobart, and Star Lake Townships, of which Bruce Albright currently serves. Nominating District IV, which includes Compton, Deer Creek, Folden, Girard, Henning, Leaf Lake and Otter Tail Townships, of which Terry Greenwaldt currently serves. Nominating District V, which includes Eastern, Elmo, Inman, Oak Valley, Parkers Prairie and Woodside Townships, of which Steve Inwards currently serves.

Supervisors meet monthly to discuss the business of the SWCD, including state grant allocations, financial assistance to landowners, district conservation priorities, setting SWCD policies and standards, coordination with other local units of government and state agencies, and legislative priorities. Supervisors do not receive a salary, although they do receive compensation for attending meetings and are reimbursed for expenses.

Those interested in running for Supervisor should file at the County Auditor's office from May 21st through June 4th, 2024. Additional information about the EOT SWCD can be found online at www.eotswcd.org or by calling the office at (218) 346-9105 and ask to speak to the District Manager.