



**SIBLEY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**MINNESOTA
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

MINUTES FROM REGULAR BOARD MEETING, February 12, 2008

Chairman Trebelhorn called the meeting to order at 4:06 P.M.

Members present:

Dave Trebelhorn, Chairman
Gerald Smith, Secretary
Gary Schafer, Reporter

Others present:

Loren Evenson, District Manager
Kevin Pioske, District Technician
Ronald Otto, Water Management
John Dotolo, NRCS District Conservationist
Marie Lynch, NRCS Soil Conservation Technician
Tom Fischer, Minnesota BWSR Board Conservationist

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Smith, to approve the January Secretary's report.
Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Smith, to approve the January Treasurer's report. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

NRCS Report

The field office has received eight applications for the current round of EQIP funding. Of these, five have been approved for about \$30,000 of project expense.

Marie Lynch was introduced to the group. She is a shared Soil Conservation Technician with the Nicollet field office. Welcome Marie!

Motion by Smith; seconded by Schafer, to acknowledge the Cooperative Agreement and Civil Rights language between the Service and Sibley SWCD. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Farm Services Agency is exploring changes in the building lease. The current lease expires in May.

(over)

Water Management Report

Otto handed out a report of the 2007 accomplishments of the Rush River and High Island Creek Implementation Project.

District Report

There were no comments on the District staff report.

Old Business

A letter of resignation was received from supervisor John Paulmann. Motion by Schafer; seconded by Smith, to accept the resignation pending receipt of a letter with Paulmann's signature. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Smith, to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of Kevin Koepf, Belle Plaine, for the construction of a water and sediment control basin on land in Jessenland Township. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried. Practice payment of \$2,000.00 will be issued for Contract # FY08-3. Technical assistance funding of \$250.00 will be retained by the District.

Sibley SWCD will be hosting the next Area VI meeting, on the afternoon of April 2nd. Drainage will be the topic. Al Kean, BWSR engineer will be the guest speaker. The business portion of the meeting will be kept to a minimum. District supervisors, county commissioners, county staff, and water planners will be invited.

Interested supervisors will discuss among themselves if they wish to attend the Legislative Briefing/Day at the Capitol event. The District staff will not attend this year due to a meeting conflict.

Motion by Smith; seconded by Schafer, to order bulletin inserts for churches in the County, in observance of Stewardship Sunday.

Correspondence

The office received information about changes in the AgBMP program. Participating banks may now act as the local lender for AgBMP loans. These banks will obtain the funds from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, if available. These funds are in addition to those already set aside for Sibley County.

Zone Ten, and other engineering zones around the State continue to have funding woes.

Tom Fischer spoke briefly on what is happening on the BWSR front.

(over)

Other Business

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Schafer, seconded by Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:30. P.M. The next meeting will be held on March 11, 2008, at 4:00 P.M., at the Agricultural Service Center.

Secretary's Signature *Gene E. Smith*