



112 5th Street, PO Box 161
Gaylord, MN 55334
(507) 702-7077

MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street Gaylord, MN on March 10, 2026.

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Wiemann at 3:56 p.m.

Members Present: Chair, Paul Wiemann
Vice Chair, Robert Nielsen
Secretary, Wayne Grams
Treasurer, Kathleen Thies
Member, Loren Evenson

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
Senior District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Water Resources Coordinator, Jack Bushman
Operations Specialist, Hayley Thies
FSA – Program Analyst, Cali Schmitt
NRCS – District Conservationist, Christopher Engh
BWSR – Board Conservationist, Shane Bugeja

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the March 2026 meeting agenda as presented. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the minutes of the February 2026 meeting as presented. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve twenty-eight paid bills for the month of February totaling \$33,815.40. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the March 2026 Treasurer's report subjected to audit. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

FSA Report: See attached.

NRCS Report: See attached.

BWSR Report: Bugeja informed the Board there are 46 RCPP grants remaining for the state. He provided updates on available grant opportunities, the prevailing wage law, and grant transparency policies.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Cost Share: A request was made to enter into a contract (FY26 CC-5) toward two well sealings in Henderson Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the requested cost share contract with the total amount authorized being 75% of the project costs not to exceed \$2,000.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 CCRP-5) for a Continuous CRP contract incentive of \$250/acre. The contract is for a CP23A practice of 6.54 acres, with a contract length of 15 years. The project lands within a high priority area for altered hydrology in Penn Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the requested incentive contract for a total of \$1,635.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 CCRP-6) for a Continuous CRP contract incentive of \$250/acre. The contract is for a CP23A practice of 15.49 acres, with a contract length of 15 years. The project lands within a high priority area for altered hydrology in Cornish Township. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the requested incentive contract for a total of \$3,872.50. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 CCRP-7) for a Continuous CRP contract incentive of \$250/acre. The contract is for a CP23A practice of 18.15 acres, with a contract length of 15 years. The project lands within a medium priority area for altered hydrology in Moltke Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the requested incentive contract for a total of \$4,537.50. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 CCRP-8) for a Continuous CRP contract incentive of \$250/acre. The contract is for a CP23A practice of 76.04 acres, with a contract length of 15 years. The project lands within a medium priority area for altered hydrology in Cornish Township. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the requested incentive contract for a total of \$19,010.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Private Drinking Water Cost Share Policy: Bushman summarized the proposed changes to the cost share policy. After some discussion, a motion was made by Grams and seconded by Nielsen to approve the changes. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Supervisor & Staff Reports: See attached staff reports.

Other Business: Wurscher announced the next Area VI Meeting hosted by Watonwan SWCD at the South Central Services Cooperative on June 25.

Wurscher provided the Board with the information for the upcoming Peer Session event on March 24.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2026, starting at 4:00 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:01 p.m. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Approved: April 16, 2026


Secretary