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MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN on
April 12th, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Nielsen at 4:00 p.m.

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

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Conservation Technician, Jack Bushman

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the April agenda as presented. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the minutes of the March 2022 meeting. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve twenty-nine paid bills for the month of March totaling \$30,886.50. Wurscher noted that there were several “voids” listed to start out the month. He explained that these were federal tax payments that didn’t go through since the Quickbooks payroll subscription had expired. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the April 2022 Treasurer’s report subjected to audit. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Cost Share: A request was presented to the Board to enter into a cost-share contract with Judy Hahn (FY22-3) for a well sealing on her property located in Grafton Twp. Judy had a quote from Ervin Drilling and Pump of \$1,500.00. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the contract for Judy Hahn at a rate of 50%, with a max of \$400.00, whichever comes in less. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Another request was made to the Board to enter into a cost-share contract, this time with Joey Evenson (FY22-4) for a well sealing on his property located in Severance Twp. Joey also had a quote from Ervin Drilling and Pump, but this time in the amount of \$1,200.00. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by

Wiemann, it was moved to approve the contract for Joey Evenson at a rate of 50%, with a max of \$400.00, whichever comes in less. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Wiemann. Carried.

Hawk Creek – Middle MN 1W1P: Wurscher informed the Board that the Central Minnesota River Watershed Partnership officially met earlier in the month. At that meeting they approved their by-laws and revised their JPB agreement with the Hawk Creek Watershed Project. Wurscher announced that the group is still working on their cost share policies and noted the group will be applying for their first round of implementation dollars this summer. Wurscher stated that Swan Lake within Sibley County and its surrounding watershed was identified as a high priority area within the plan and that best management practices installed within that area will be cost shared at a rate of 90%.

Survey Equipment: Wurscher brought up the topic to the Board about updating their survey equipment. Buckentin provided some detail about the current equipment's aging operating systems and a lack of ongoing software support. He presented two different quotes from Dustin Harr of Frontier Precision (#61050 & #61051). Staff and the Board discussed the positives and negatives of both quotes. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the purchase from the quote #61051, including the Trimble TSC5 controller and Trimble R12i. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

LWG Meeting: After some discussion by the Board, it was determined to hold the FY23 Local Work Group meeting on June 14th at 3p.m. located in the USDA conference room, prior to the regular monthly SWCD Board meeting.

NRCS Report: See attached.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached.

Other Business: Wurscher notified the Board that he had sent in a letter of support to Dave Weirens towards a RCPP grant application that was submitted by BWSR in the amount of \$10,000,000. The grant was for implementation funds that would address water storage issues within the Cedar, Cannon, Yellow Medicine and Lower MN River watersheds.

Next Meeting: May 10, 2022, starting at 4 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Thies seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:59 p.m. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Approved: May 10, 2022

Secretary