



112 5<sup>th</sup> Street, PO Box 161  
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## MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Gaylord, MN on  
June 10, 2025.

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

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

**Others Present:** Senior District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin  
Water Resources Coordinator, Jack Bushman  
Conservation Technician, Tara O'Brien  
Operations Specialist, Hayley Thies  
FSA – Executive Director, Jennifer King  
NRCS – Agronomist, Nicole Baumann  
BWSR – Board Conservationist, Shane Bugeja

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the May 2025 meeting agenda with the addition of a RCPP policy update. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies. Carried.

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the minutes of the May 2025 meeting with the correction of the Governance Training dates from November to September. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies. Carried.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve forty-six paid bills for the month of May totaling \$69,905.42. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies. Carried.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the June 2025 Treasurer's report subjected to audit. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies. Carried.

**FSA Report:** See attached.

**NRCS Report:** See attached.

**BWSR Report:** Bugeja informed the Board that The Clean Water Fund budget was approved. WBIF saw an increase for the biennial, while Soil Health funding was reduced. There will not be competitive grants this season.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

**Cost Share:** The contract holder for FY23-2 has requested the second- and third-year payments for 89 acres per year of no till/strip till practices. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the payment request in the amount of \$2,997.52. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

The contract holder for SHFY23-2 has requested the second- and third-year payments for 79 acres per year of no till/strip till practices. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the payment request in the amount of \$2,660.72. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

Buckentin informed the Board that contract FY23 WBIF-13 has been certified for the second-year requirement of no till/strip till practices on 496.4 acres. Payment was made in year one of the contract, no Board action is required.

The contract holder for FY23 WBIF-19 has requested all three years payments towards 320 acres per year of no till/strip till practices. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the payment request in the amount of \$28,800.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 WBIF-3) for 4 WASCOS (P.S. 638) located in Arlington Township. A bid for the project came in at \$53,919.70. The landowner is requesting that the watershed partnership provide cost share in the amount of \$12,269.70, in conjunction with their EQIP contract. The EQIP contract and cost share provided shall not exceed 100% of the total cost of the project. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the requested cost share contract. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 WBIF-4) for 3 WASCOS (P.S. 638) located in Arlington Township. A bid for the project came in at \$51,709.50. The landowner is requesting that the watershed partnership provide cost share in the amount of \$18,033.50, in conjunction with their EQIP contract. The EQIP contract and cost share provided shall not exceed 100% of the total cost of the project. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the requested cost share contract. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (PWP-1) toward a drinking water treatment system located in Bernadotte Township. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the requested cost share contract with the total amount authorized being 100% of the project costs not to exceed \$3,000.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

**RCPP Cost Share Policy:** It was proposed that the RCPP policy be updated to remove question 7 and the minimum point threshold from the ranking sheet. A motion was made by Nielsen, seconded by K. Thies, moving to approve the modifications to the RCPP cost share policy. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

While discussing the RCPP point threshold, a separate motion was made by K. Thies, seconded by Grams, to set the minimum to 15 points. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

**Supervisor & Staff Reports:** See attached staff reports.

**Other Business:** None.

**Next Meeting:** July 8, 2025, starting at 4:00 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

**Adjourn:** Upon a motion by K. Thies seconded by Grams, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, K. Thies. Carried.

Approved: July 8, 2025

  
Secretary