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MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN on
July 19th, 2022.

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

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

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
District Conservationist - NRCS, Joel Alicea-Hernandez
Sibley County FSA – Jennifer King

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

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

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve thirty-three paid bills for the month of June totaling \$331,328.66. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

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

Old Business: Following up with the request by the Board at the June meeting, Wurscher sent out a memorandum and a sample/proposed WCA fee schedule. After some discussion, a motion was made by Grams and seconded by Wiemann, moving to adopt the proposed fee schedule as presented starting January 1st, 2023. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

New Business:

Cost Share: Contract FY22-3 has been completed. The well had been sealed by Ervin well Company Inc. The total cost of the sealing came in at \$1,575.00. A request for final cost share payment in the amount of \$400.00. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve final payment for FY22-3 at a rate of \$400.00. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A request was made (FY23-1) to enter into a contract for 32 acres of cover crop on several properties located in Faxon Twp. Cost share for single species cover crop is \$34.90/ac. Over the 3-year time span,

the total would come to \$3,350.40. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the cost share request for FY23-1. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

CPL Grant - High Island Lake Dam: Wurscher presented to the Board a second partial payment request from Land Pride Construction, LLC in the amount of \$244,352.86. This request included costs of work completed up to June 27th. Wurscher told the Board with this payment, all CPL grants funds and match dollars would be expended and that he would have to request payment from the MN DNR using the additional dam safety dollars that were set aside. Again, all bills were approved by Houston Engineering and MN DNR prior to taking them to the Board. Upon a motion by Grams, seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the second partial payment to Land Pride Construction, LLC in the amount of \$244,352.86. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Conservationist of the Year: Wurscher brought up the topic of the 2022 Sibley SWCD outstanding conservationist of the year. After some discussion, a motion was made by Wiemann and seconded by Thies to nominate the Friends of High Island as the 2022 Sibley SWCD outstanding conservationist of the year. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams, Evenson. Carried.

Sibley County Fair Booth: Wurscher brought up the topic of this year's fair booth. He passed around a booth coverage sign up sheet and asked for suggestions on topics of interest/focus. It was unanimous to have some emphasis on pollinators since that is a huge topic of interest as of late.

NRCS Report: See attached report.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached staff report.

Other Business: Wurscher notified the board that the Summer 2022 newsletter was at the printers and should be ready to go out sometime soon in the mail.

Nielsen updated the rest of the Board on the June 23rd Area VI TSA meeting in Mankato.

Next Meeting: August 9, 2022, starting at 4 p.m., located at the High Island Lake Conservation Club (2499 5th Ave., New Auburn, MN 55336).

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Wiemann seconded by Grams, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. Ayes Nielsen, Grams, Evenson, Thies, Wiemann. Carried.

Approved: August 9, 2022

Secretary