



112 5<sup>th</sup> Street, PO Box 161  
Gaylord, MN 55334  
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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  
October 11<sup>th</sup>, 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  
Sibley County Commissioner - Joy Cohrs

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

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

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve twenty-seven paid bills for the month of September totaling \$30,787.50. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

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

**Old Business:** Wurscher updated the board on the search for a new District vehicle to replace the 1999 F-150. Wurscher checked in with several area dealerships as well as Enterprise Fleet Management. Stock was determined to be very limited at this time and the board directed Wurscher to keep pursuing the different avenues while the grant dollars are still available.

Wurscher then informed the board about the latest on a potential Farm Bill Biologist position. At this time, with the options presented by BWSR to amend grant agreements, both McLeod and Nicollet were uninterested in pursuing this new position.

### **New Business:**

**MASWCD Resolution Ballots/Voting:** Wurscher had sent out the information and 2022 resolution ballots prior to the board meeting. Wurscher stated that ballots have to be turned in to Sheila Vanney by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Wurscher also informed the board that the convention will again be held at the Double Tree in Bloomington, but the dates have changed to Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Personnel Committee:** A personnel committee meeting took place to discuss some changes to the Sibley SWCD personnel policy. Wurscher followed that up by mailing out those revised copies with the board packets. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the new Sibley SWCD personnel policy as presented to the board effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the personnel committee's recommendation of all staff increasing wages by one grade and one step on the County's performance matrix starting the first pay period in January. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

**NRCS Report:** See attached staff report.

**Supervisor & Staff Report:** See attached staff report.

**Other Business:** Wurscher notified the board that the Area VI meeting has been set for November 15<sup>th</sup> held at the Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca. He asked for a head count of those that plan on attending, so that he could submit the registration prior to November 7<sup>th</sup>. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve any interested staff and Supervisors to attend the November Area VI meeting in Waseca. Ayes Nielsen, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

**Next Meeting:** November 8, 2022, starting at 4 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

**Adjourn:** Upon a motion by Thies seconded by Evenson, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 p.m. Ayes Nielsen, Evenson, Thies, Wiemann. Carried.

Approved: November 8, 2022

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**Secretary**