



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  
August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

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

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

Others Present:         District Manager, Joel Wurscher  
                                  District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin  
                                  Water Resources Coordinator, Jack Bushman  
                                  NRCS-District Conservationist, Reyna Chavez

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the August 2023 agenda as presented. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the minutes of the July 2023 meeting. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve thirty-seven paid bills for the month of July totaling \$41,816.25. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve the August 2023 Treasurer's report subjected to audit. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

**Old Business:** Wiemann asked if there were any updates on a vehicle purchase. Wurscher explained that they had placed an order with Brau Motors and that he had just received a call from them with an update. Currently, the vehicle was on a rail car headed towards Wisconsin. It will be then be trucked over to Arlington. They mentioned that the vehicle should be available for pick up towards the end of the month. Then discussion took place on what the District should do with the 1999 Ford F-150. A plan was then formulated on what do with the vehicle.

**NRCS Report:** See attached.

### **New Business:**

**Cost Share:** A request was made from Chris Beranek (FY23 WBIF-2) to enter into a contract for one year, 32 acres of single-species cover crop (\$35/ac.) located in Cornish Twp. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve Beranek's cover crop cost share request with the total amount authorized being \$1,120.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A second request was made, this time from Dann Forsberg (FY23 WBIF-3) to enter into a contract for one year, 77 acres of multi-species cover crop (\$45/ac.), also located in Cornish Twp. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve Forsberg's cover crop cost share request with the total amount authorized being \$3,465.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A third request was made, this time from Gerald Lorentz (FY23 WBIF-4) to enter into a contract for one year, 91.71 acres of multi-species cover crop (\$45/ac.) located in New Auburn Twp. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve Lorentz's cover crop cost share request with the total amount authorized being \$4,126.95. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A fourth request was made, this time from Richard Kramer (FY23 WBIF-5) to enter into a contract for one year, 160 acres of single-species cover crop (\$35/ac.) located in Martinsburg Twp. of Renville County. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve Kramer's cover crop cost share request with the total amount authorized being \$5,600.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A final cover crop request was made, this time from Thomas Henke (FY23 WBIF-6) to enter into a contract for two years, 80 acres per year of single-species cover crop (\$40/ac.) located in Transit Twp. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve Henke's cover crop cost share request with the total amount authorized being \$6,400.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Next, a request was made from Dave Evans (FY23 WBIF-7) to enter into a contract for two water and sediment control basins (638 practice) located in Henderson Twp. A total cost estimate of the project was \$16,500.00. Dave is requesting that the partnership would provide cost share in the amount of \$14,850.00 or 90% of the total cost, whichever is less. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve Dave's request. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

The last WBIF request was made from Darwin Gieseke (FY23 WBIF-8) to enter into a contract for two water and sediment control basins (638 practice) located in Bernadotte Twp. of Nicollet County. A cost estimate produced by TSA came up with a total cost of \$32,849.05. Darwin is requesting that the partnership would provide cost share in the amount of \$17,942.05 in conjunction with EQIP. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve Darwin's request. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

A request was presented to the Board to enter into a state cost-share contract with Wanda Schalo (FY23-3) for a well sealing on her property located in Henderson Twp. Wanda had a quote of \$1,100.00. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the contract for Wanda Schalo at a rate of 50%, with a max of \$550.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

The last cost share request of the meeting came from Peter Hahn (FY23-4) for a well sealing on his property located in New Auburn Twp. Peter had a quote of \$1,500.00. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the state cost share contract for Peter Hahn at a rate of 50%, with a max of \$550.00. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

**2023 Conservationists of the Year:** After some great discussion, a motion was made by Thies and seconded by Wiemann to nominate Ron and Leslie Weber as the 2023 Sibley SWCD outstanding conservationist of the year. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

**Supervisor & Staff Reports:** See attached staff reports. The supervisors reported on their County fair booth experiences.

**Other Business:** None.

**Next Meeting:** September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, starting at 4 p.m., located at the Fireman's Shelter in Oak Tree Park along Lake Titlow.

**Adjourn:** Upon a motion by Wiemann seconded by Thies, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m. Ayes Grams, Thies, Evenson, Wiemann. Carried.

Approved: September 12, 2023

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**Secretary**