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MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN 55334

January 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Evenson at 4:02 P.M.

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

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Water Planner, Ron Otto
Conservation Technician, Jack Bushman
District Conservationist - NRCS, April Sullivan
District Conservationist-Team Lead- NRCS, Jacob Stich

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

Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the minutes of the December 2019 meeting upon corrections. Ayes Grams, Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve 45 paid bills for December 2019 totaling \$48,244.53. Ayes Grams, Evenson, Wiemann, Thies, Nielsen. Carried

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the January 2020 Treasurer's report subject to audit. Ayes Grams, Evenson, Thies, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried

Old Business: Continued the Sibley County annual allocation discussion from the December meeting. Wurscher presented handouts containing the requests for FY19, FY20, and a spreadsheet from the Auditor's office.

Cost Share: Gary Wills' well has been sealed and he is requesting final payment in the amount of \$600.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the final payment for Clean Water Fund Contract (FY19CWF-1) at a rate of \$600.00. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Evenson, Grams, Nielsen. Carried.

Jim Carlson's wells have been sealed and he is requesting final payments for them. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve final payment for the first Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-11) at a rate of \$372.00. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve final payment for the second Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-12) at a rate of \$422.50. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried. Upon

a motion by Thies and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve final payment for the third Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-13) at a rate of \$472.50. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried.

Dann Forsberg's (CAP19-5) three rock tile inlets were completed this past fall. Dann brought in bills from Hillman Backhoe & Tiling for \$1,500.00. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve final payment at 75% or \$1,125.00. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Grams, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried

2020 MASWCD Dues: The District received an invoice for the 2020 MASWCD Dues in the amount of \$3,338.27. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Thies it was moved to approve payment. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Neilsen, Grams, Evenson. Carried

DNR Observation Well Monitoring: Wurscher brought forth to the Board a request from Garry Bennet of the MN DNR to perform some well monitoring around the county. The contract would be set up to pay \$30 per well nest site, six total sites, four times a year. Wurscher passed around a sample contract between Isanti SWCD and the DNR for reference. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Thies, it was approved to move forward and enter into a contract to provide well monitoring services. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried.

2020 Non-Structural Management Practices Policy: Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to accept the 2020 Non-Structural Management Practices Policy as presented (see attached). Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried.

Lower MN River West - MOA: Wurscher and Bushman introduced and discussed with the board the MOA that was sent out prior to the board meeting. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the Lower MN River West – MOA as presented. Ayes Evenson, Wiemann, Grams, Nielsen, Thies. Carried

NRCS Report: See attached.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached.

Other Business: Stich informed the board that there will be many changes to the CRP program with the new Farm Bill. With these changes, NRCS staff will have an increase in workload and demands.

Wurscher passed around a handout announcing March 24th-25th and MASWCD legislative briefing days at the Capitol.

Next Meeting: February 11, 2020, starting at 4 p.m. located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

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

Approved: February 11, 2020

Secretary