



112 5th 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 5th Street, Gaylord, MN on
May 9th, 2023.

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

Members Present: Vice Chair, Kathleen Thies
Treasurer, Paul Wiemann
Member, Bob Nielsen

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

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

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

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve thirty-nine paid bills for the month of April totaling \$39,970.04. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

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

Old Business:

After last month's discussion, Bushman reported on how LeSueur County administers their well testing program. After some discussion, it was decided and instructed by the board to seek out any possible partnerships with Sibley County's Public Health Department. Staff responded they would report back on this topic next month.

Wurscher informed the Board that he went to the bank to research what it took to open up a new account as well as what the options were for account types. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve opening a business investor money market account at ProGrowth Bank in Gaylord with the same signing authority as the other accounts. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

NRCS Report: See attached NRCS report.

New Business:

Cost Share: A request was made from Karl Schauer (SH FY23-1) to enter into a contract for 79 acres of multi-species cover crop (\$41.10/ac.) located in New Auburn Twp. Over the 3-year time span, the total would come to \$9,740.70. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen it was moved to approve Karl's cost share request. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Another request was made from Karl Schauer (SH FY23-2), this time to enter into a contract for 79 acres of no-till/strip-till (\$16.84/ac.) on the same parcels in New Auburn Twp. Over the 3-year time span, the total would come to \$3,991.08. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve Karl's second cost share request. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

2023 Tree Program Recap: Buckentin gave a report recapping the 2023 tree program. Buckentin stated that tree pick-up went well this year and that plant kits are still coming in on May 17th. He noted that there were a total of 118 orders, but had a down year for plant kits. Buckentin added that he had already placed the Evergreen nursery order for 2024 and will soon be placing the Schumacher's order.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached staff report. Nielsen asked the group if anyone had watched the webinar put on by MASWCD. He stated that discussion was held regarding the status of SWCD Aide going through legislation.

Other Business:

Wurscher informed the Board that they have interviews for the Conservation Technician position scheduled for Tuesday, May 16th.

Next Meeting: June 6, 2023, starting at 4 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Nielsen seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Approved: June 6, 2023

Secretary