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MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, Conference Call on November 10th, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Evenson at 4:01 p.m.

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

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Conservation Technician, Jack Bushman
District Conservationist - NRCS, April Sullivan
Board Conservationist – BWSR, Jenny Mocol-Johnson

After the pledge of allegiance, Wurscher stated that the board meeting would be in accordance to Minnesota Statute 13D.021. Wurscher followed that by announcing the meeting would be conducted by telephone due to the health pandemic and declared emergency. An in-person meeting would not be practical or prudent.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the November agenda with the cancellation of State Cost Share FY19 – Grant extension. Ayes Evenson, Nielsen, Wiemann, Thies. Carried.

Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the minutes of the October 2020 meeting. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen it was moved to approve thirty-one paid bills for the month of October totaling \$41,610.64. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson. Carried.

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

Old Business: Wurscher informed the board of what he found out from Verizon when researching cell phones/call plan for employees. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve purchasing cell phones for each employee with the unlimited data plan. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson. Carried.

Cost Share: Byron Becker's well has been sealed and he is requesting final payment in the amount of \$397.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Thies, it was moved to approve for final payment

the Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-17) at a rate of \$397.00. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson. Carried.

Contract CAP19-6/FY20-1 for Robert Dose's water and sediment control basin (WASCOB) was completed. Robert is requesting final payment for the amount of \$8,096.13. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve final payment for Robert's project in the amount of \$8,096.13. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Contract FY19-5 for Peter Weber's WASCOB structure was completed. The total project cost came in at \$5,744.00, with EQIP paying \$3,624.10. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve final payment of \$683.90, bringing the total cost share up to 75%. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve amendment #1 to contract CAP18-8/FY19-2 increasing the cost share amount by \$808.57. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried. L&T Pioske Farm's (CAP18-8/FY19-2) terrace project was finished. The total project cost came in at \$25,611.50, with EQIP paying \$12,784.12. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve final payment from the district of \$6,180.30. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

Contract CAP19-10/FY20-2 for Allan Dose's WASCOB was built. Allan is requesting final payment in the amount of \$6,655.50, bringing the total cost share up to 75%. Upon a motion by Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve final payment for Allan's project. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Richard Bartlows's (Contract CAP18-7) terrace and WASCOB structures were completed. The total cost came in at \$21,118.00, with EQIP paying \$15,542.94. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve cost share payment of \$295.56, bringing the total cost share up to 75%. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

NRCS Report: Sullivan told the board that Mike Hemmann started as the CET located in Glencoe on October 26th. She also gave updates on EQIP and the funding shifts that will occur for the upcoming sign-up. Sullivan noted that CSP has been the biggest workload of NRCS as of late. She concluded her report with the changes USDA have made about closing the office to the public.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached.

Other Business: None.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2020, starting at 4 p.m., USDA Conference Room, 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Nielsen seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:43 p.m. Ayes Wiemann, Evenson, Thies, Nielsen. Carried.

Approved: December 8, 2020

Secretary