



MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street Gaylord, MN on June 9, 2026.

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

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

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
Senior District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Water Resources Coordinator, Jack Bushman
Conservation Technician, Tara O'Brien
Operations Specialist, Hayley Thies
FSA – County Executive Director, Jennifer King
NRCS – District Conservationist, Christopher Engh
BWSR – Board Conservationist, Shane Bugeja
Sibley County – County Commissioner, Steve Saxton

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the June 2026 meeting agenda as presented. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the minutes of the May 2026 meeting with one correction. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve thirty-three paid bills for the month of May totaling \$65,481.16. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the June 2026 Treasurer's report subject to audit. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

FSA Report: See attached.

NRCS Report: See attached.

BWSR Report: Bugeja summarized two available grant opportunities: Managing Invasives for a Resilient Landscape and Multipurpose Drainage Management. He also provided a legislative update and the dates for upcoming 1W1P listening sessions.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Cost Share: An amendment request (A-1) was made to contract FY26 CC-1, a cost share contract for the sealing of two wells in Sibley Township. Upon a property inspection, a third abandoned well was discovered that needs to be sealed. By amending the contract to include the additional well-sealing, the cost share percentage will remain at 75% while the maximum payment will increase to \$3,000.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the A-1 amendment request. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

A request was made to enter into a contract (FY25 CCRP-17) for a Continuous CRP contract incentive of \$250/acre. The contract is for a CP23A practice of 10 acres, with a contract length of 15 years. The project lands within a medium priority area for altered hydrology in Cornish Township. Upon a motion by Evenson and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the requested incentive contract for a total of \$2,500.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for PWP-6 has requested their well water treatment cost share payment. The contract is for a reverse osmosis system in Moltke Township. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the requested cost share payment of \$2,512.58. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for FY26 CC-3 has requested their 1st year payment of a 3-year contract toward residue tillage management (P.S. 329) in Moltke Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$1,361.50. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for FY26 CC-4 has requested their payment toward a well sealing (P.S. 351) in Green Isle Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$1,000.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for FY26 CC-5 has requested their payment toward two well sealings (MN Well Code) in Henderson Township. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$2,000.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for 72-1-4 has requested their 1st year payment of a 3-year contract toward residue tillage management (P.S. 329) in Moltke Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$27,765.50. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for 72-1-6 has requested their 1st year payment of a 3-year contract toward residue tillage management (P.S. 329) in Severance Township. Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$7,000.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for 72-2-2 has requested 1st year payment of a 3-year contract toward residue tillage management (P.S. 329) in Cornish Township. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by K. Thies, it was moved to approve the cost share payment of \$10,860.50. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

The contract holder for FY25 WBIF-9 has requested all three years' payments toward 44 acres per year of residue tillage management (P.S. 329) in Martinsburg Township. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve the payment of \$4,620.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Private Well Protection Grant: Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen it was moved to apply for the recently announced Private Well Protection Grant RFP. If approved by MDH, the grant funding for Sibley will total \$32,760.00. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

MASWCD Leadership Institute 2026-2027: Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen it was moved to allow any interested staff or supervisors to enroll in the training. Ayes Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Nays Wiemann. Carried.

Supervisor & Staff Reports: See attached staff reports.

Other Business:

Wurscher mentioned that the next Area meeting will be on June 25 at SCSC in North Mankato. 3 supervisors expressed interest in attending. He also reminded the Board to submit their expense reports at the end of the month.

Next Meeting: July 14, 2026, starting at 4:00 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by K. Thies and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:01 p.m. Ayes Wiemann, Nielsen, K. Thies, Evenson. Carried.

Approved: July 14, 2026


Secretary

