

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 12, 2019

- I. Chair Goodnough called the regular meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Board members present: Anderson, Feuchtenberger, Fynboh, Goodnough, Lonergan. Staff present: Erickson, Jenc, Johnston, Lembcke, Solemsaas, Staebler. Others present: Cory Walker & Alan Lepp, NRCS; Jeanne Ennen, Stevens County Commissioner.

- II. Supervisor Lonergan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Supervisor Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

- III. Personnel Reports
 - A. District Conservationist Walker gave an NRCS Report. He introduced his supervisor Alan Lepp who talked to the board about the reorganization within NRCS and the new Customer Service Teams throughout the state. They will be hiring approximately 40 staff this year and this will help alleviate shortages that have been ongoing. He noted that Stevens County was the top office in the area for participation in the EQIP program.
 - B. Commissioner Ennen spoke to the group about progress on County Ditch 5 and also discussed the proposed pipeline which would be the first of its kind in the state. There will be a public meeting conducted by planning & zoning regarding a proposed carrot processing plant. The annual meeting of townships is Thursday.
 - C. Additions to written staff reports:
 - a. Solemsaas talked about some upcoming technical trainings the staff are signed up for. Steve is working on getting formal Job Approval Authority restored to the level he had when he worked at NRCS. The retreat will be held April 16. He learned at a recent manager's meeting that the board should develop a safety policy. A drone policy was also suggested. He discussed again what the 2019 Local Capacity grant funding will be used for. John will be working on repairing the 10-ft drill. Kasey and Adam will need computer upgrades in the fairly near future.
 - b. Erickson reported that he's continuing to work with landowners on buffer law compliance. He has had interest in a CREP easement and is following up on that. He's been working with other staff on organizing in the shed. He mentioned that BWSR Easement Specialist Fredbo said the board will look at a 1 to 1 replacement ratio for the RIM violation which we have been waiting for an answer on and he mentioned they should have a decision before spring.
 - c. Lembcke said he'll arrange for the contractor to fix the tree cooler soon. He will be working at the Spring Expo this weekend.
 - d. Johnston noted that the Annual Review has gone out in the Stevens County Times. She's been working on school presentations and preparing for the Spring Expo.
 - e. Staebler will send out half down invoices for the tree plantings we have to do this year.
 - f. Jenc reported that she is back from a nice vacation/honeymoon. She has 2 new MAWQCP applications she's working on. She will be working with Judy on some AIS presentations in the schools.

IV. Loneragan moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

V. Financial Matters

A. Supervisor Feuchtenberger moved to approve this month's Treasurer's Report. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

B. Fynboh moved to approved payment of the following bills. Second by Supervisor Anderson. Passed unanimously.

1. Debbie Anderson	Supervisor Pay	157.73
2. Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	207.79
3. Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	83.76
4. Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	210.49
5. Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	161.20
6. Valnes Rentals	March Building Rent	2187.00
7. Matt Solemsaas	Employee expenses	111.36
8. Adam Erickson	Employee expenses	96.03
9. John Lembcke	Employee expenses	16.64
10. Town & Country	Supplies	35.02
11. ESRI	GIS maintenance agreement	1500.00
12. Further	Annual Fee	150.00
13. MN Conservation Volunteer	Annual subscription	25.00
14. Federated Telephone	Internet connection	109.95
15. Metro Sales	Copier Lease	129.36
16. Forum Communications	Legal meeting notice & annual review	490.60
17. MN PEIP	Insurance premiums	1655.60
18. KMRS/KKOK	Spring Expo	200.00
19. Bremer Card Services		577.80
	Office Maintenance	23.49
	Supervisor Expenses	180.00
	Employee Expenses Solemsaas	331.39
	Field Supplies (shed)	42.92

VI. Old Business

A. Loneragan moved to designate Riverwood Bank as the official depository of Stevens SWCD. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed, four aye and one opposed. Anderson moved to move funding from the current money market to the new account type presented by the account manager to gain higher interest rate. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.

B. Matt asked the board and staff to submit ideas to him for things they want the facilitator to include in our retreat on April 16.

- VII. New Business
- A. Anderson moved to approve expenses/payments made according to the 2019 Local Capacity Grant work plan. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.
 - B. Lonergan moved to approve hiring two seasonal part time employees at a starting rate of \$12 per hour. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously. Anderson moved to pay them overtime, at time and a half, if they work over 40 hours in a week. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- VIII. Supervisor Reports
- A. Supervisors Goodnough and Feuchtenberger attended the legislative day at the Capitol with Solemsaas.
 - B. Reminders:
 - a. There will be public meetings for the Bois de Sioux 1W1P in April.
 - b. Area 2 Meeting March 20
 - c. Board & Staff Retreat April 16

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Anderson, Secretary

4-9-19

Date