

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, ~~March 9, 2021~~ April 13, 2021
9:30 a.m. Morris Fire Hall and via Zoom call

- I. Chair Lonergan called the regular meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Board members present: Anderson, Feuchtenberger, Fynboh, Goodnough (via Zoom), Lonergan. Staff present: Solemsaas, Staebler. Others present: Jeanne Ennen, County Commissioner; Melissa McCann, NRCS (via Zoom).

- II. Supervisor Anderson moved to approve the agenda. Second by Supervisor Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.

- III. Personnel Reports
 - A. Melissa McCann gave program updates and noted that they are still working remotely although they have been given the ability to have one producer at a time enter the office for less than 15 minutes at a time.
 - B. Commissioner Ennen reported that they will be holding the final hearing for Ditch 25. They are having issues with the availability of pipe and other manufacturing/materials. They may wait for the unit price of materials to go down before starting on construction. She also noted a project that Pope/Douglas Solid Waste is working on. They sent out a survey regarding an organic waste site in Hoffman which would reduce the amount of waste going into landfills and having to be otherwise disposed of. They received a grant to do this and Stevens is also looking at getting a grant. Supervisor Goodnough mentioned that UMM has been separating organics successfully at their facilities as well as the local schools. The soil produced from composting the organic material will be available to the community.
 - C. Additions to written staff reports
 - a. Solemsaas that the PDTRA recently received the first half of a two-year WBIF grant from BWSR and the participating counties will be able to start spending this funding. Bois de Sioux and Chippewa 1W1P projects are getting closer to being able to do this as well. He's been working on some wetland banking projects and noted that there will likely be 1 or 2 more banks within the next couple years. He has started administering in-person chemical applicator tests again. He mentioned the Prairie Yard & Garden episode featuring rain gardens and the work of the SWCD which aired last week. It's available on YouTube for those who were not able to watch the premiere on the public access channel. So far, there has been a low response rate for the survey UMM sent out. We are working on updating the mailing list before sending the spring newsletter. The crew is getting ready to start tree planting at the beginning of May.
 - b. Erickson is helping with a CREP project located in Pope County because the landowner administers his programs here in Stevens County.
 - c. Jeanne Ennen inquired regarding the Grant County project on Silver Lake. It was noted we are not really involved in the process. Right now, County Rd 5 needs ditch maintenance that one landowner is opposed to.

- IV. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the minutes from the March Regular Meeting as corrected. Second by Supervisor Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

- V. Financial Matters
 - A. Fynboh moved to approve this month's Treasurer's Report. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
 - B. Fynboh moved to approve payment of the following bills. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously. The board also reviewed the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss through 3/31/2021 and discussed grant funding available going forward.
 - 1. Valnes Rentals March Rent 2187.00
 - 2. Debbie Anderson Supervisor Pay 86.96

3.	Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	138.53
4.	Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	152.53
5.	Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	70.16
6.	Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	150.40
7.	Stevens County Times	Advertising & Annual Review	412.80
8.	Innovo	Health Insurance Premiums	381.36
9.	Otter Tail Power	Electric bill	38.51
10.	Stevens County Highway	Gas	34.69
11.	Hilltop Lumber	Shingles SWELL	3595.09
12.	Bremer Card Services		2068.12
	a. Office Maintenance	1885.53	
	b. Office Supplies	67.95	
	c. Promotion	29.88	
	d. TSA Expense	34.76	
	e. Supervisor Expense	50.00	

VI. Old Business

- a. Anderson moved to approve opening a SWCD SWELL checking account, with Matt Solemsaas, Judy Johnston, and Chris Staebler listed as signors. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

VII. New Business

- A. Fynboh moved to approve the 2021 WBIF Contract for Services with the PDTRA. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
- B. Anderson moved to approve the two following cost share allocations. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
1. \$37440.33 or up to 75% total cost share to contract 75-2-19-319 Storck grassed waterway.
 2. \$77208.72 or up to 75% total cost share to contract 75-3-19-319 Lapa LLC lined waterway.

VIII. Supervisor Reports

- a. Board members who attended the virtual Legislative Briefing reported there was nothing major discussed. Troy reminded everyone about the upcoming Sharing Stories webinar featuring Mark Erickson from Donnelly. He thanked Judy for her help organizing these events. They also completed a set of videos which will be sent to the schools with 5-6 minutes of information about the We Area Water exhibit themes. He will send the link to the presentations to the board as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Troy Goodnough, Secretary

Date