

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 21, 2021
9:30 a.m. SWCD Office

- I. Chair Lonergan called the regular meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members present: Anderson, Goodnough, Feuchtenberger, Fynboh, Lonergan. Staff present: Erickson, Johnston, Solemsaas, Staebler. Others present: Melissa McCann, NRCS.
- II. Supervisor Anderson moved to approve the agenda. Second by Supervisor Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
- III. Reports
 - A. Melissa McCann, NRCS, gave an NRCS report. EQIP payment processing has been completed for this round. The NW team will get the most money in the state. Beginning farms, socially disadvantaged, and areas of wildlife concerns are given priority when allocating funding. She's also been working on CSP contracts.
 - B. Commissioner Ennen was not present as the Board of Commissioners was meeting this morning.
 - C. Additions to written staff reports:
 - a. Solemsaas reported that the PDTRA annual meeting was well-attended and the guest speaker was good. He also attended the MASWCD convention. He has been working on several work plans in link for 2022 grants.
 - b. Johnston reported that the MASWCD convention auction went well. Donations were down and the auction was conducted as a silent auction only. She discussed the theme for a presentation she will be giving at the high school on climate change and how it has affected agricultural practices in Stevens County. She's working with several area specialists to learn more about the topic before the presentation.
- IV. Supervisor Goodnough moved to approve the minutes from the November Regular Meeting. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
- V. Financial Matters
 - A. Feuchtenberger moved to approve this month's Treasurer's Report. Second by Supervisor Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
 - B. Fynboh moved to approve payment of the following bills. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.

1. Valnes Rentals	December Rent	2187.00
2. Debbie Anderson	Supervisor Pay	133.74
3. Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	461.75
4. Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	605.19
5. Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	116.94
6. Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	254.04
7. Verizon	Supervisor tablets	84.70
8. Innovo	Health Insurance Premiums	459.60
9. Stevens County DAC	Vehicle Cleaning	91.00
10. Valnes Rentals	Mowing 2021	400.00
11. Otter Tail Power	Electric bill	35.97
12. Midwest Machinery	Tractor rent	4200.00
13. Morris Cooperative	Gas & Diesel	156.03
14. Craig's Tree Service	SWELL tree trimming	600.00
15. Chokio Review	Advertising	135.00
16. Town & Country	Supplies	231.32
17. Willie's	Meeting expenses	9.08
18. Federated Telephone	Internet connection	69.95
19. CenterPoint Energy	Natural gas	67.66
20. Stevens County Highway	Gas & diesel	238.80
21. Bremer Bank		3302.42
	a. Office Maintenance	135.06
	b. Convention registrations	2430.00
	c. Employee meetings	165.60

- d. Drone updates 487.11
- e. TSA expenses 84.65

VI. Old Business

- A. None.

VII. New Business

- A. Anderson moved to approve the 2022 CREP grant agreement. Second by Goodnough and all members voting aye, the motion passed.
- B. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the 2022 Charges for Services. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously. Cost of fabric per foot and site fill disposal increased and other costs remained the same.
- C. Fynboh moved to approve the 2022 Budget. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously. Budget was updated to include several grant allocations for 2022 and will be reviewed/revised mid-year.
- D. Fynboh moved to approve the Walk In Access JPA for 2022-2023 and to allow for e-signature of this contract when it arrives. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
- E. Cost Share Contracts
 - 1. Anderson moved to approve the payment of \$232.50 for 50% maximum cost share on a well sealing for Craig Schmidgall. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
 - 2. Contract 75-6-19-CWF has expired as of 11/30/21. Landowner was unable to start the project prior to the deadline, so if and when they are ready to proceed in spring 2022, a new contract will allocate funding needed to complete the project.
- F. Erickson presented a proposal for a buffer alternative that does not fit into buffer alternatives listed in district or state policy to date. Board discussed the policy, potential problems with granting variances to existing policy, and whether or not the proposal would provide intended land/water treatment. The board directed Erickson to draft a letter to the landowner informing them that the proposal does not provide adequate buffer/protection.

VIII. Supervisor Reports

- A. Board members who attended talked about the MASWCD convention.
- B. Staebler reminded the board to log in and complete their campaign finance disclosure reporting to the state.
- C. The office will have a holiday party January 10 at the Met Lounge beginning at 5 p.m. Judy will contact everyone regarding plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy Goodnough, Secretary

1-11-22
Date