

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 13, 2024
9:30 a.m. SWCD Office

I. Chair Goodnough called the regular meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board members present: Anderson, Feuchtenberger, Fynboh, Goodnough, Lonergan. Staff present: Solemsaas, Staebler. Others present: Britta Haseman, NRCS; Jeanne Ennen, Stevens County Commissioner; Pete Waller, BWSR.

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

III. Reports

A. Britta Haseman, NRCS, reported that there are 17 CSP contracts expiring. SWCD District Technician completed 26 CRP renewals and one new contract. September 6 is the EQIP sign-up deadline. Wetland delineation determinations are delayed. They are currently working on March 2024.

B. Jeanne Ennen, County Commissioner, discussed some county ditch issues. She also talked about upcoming public hearings regarding wind and solar ordinances. She requested a moratorium in order to research more about the size of the proposed wind towers.

C. Pete Waller, BWSR, gave an update on recent legislative activity and changes that will affect SWCDs. He also thanked us for all our conservation efforts.

D. Additions to staff reports

a. Solemsaas noted that he has submitted a funding request to the Chippewa River 1W1P. Some exemptions have been removed in recent WCA changes and this is making for a heavier workload than normal. The Soil Health Delivery Grant application of \$80,000 was approved. There will be \$100,000 available in the phase 3 allocation. They are trying for 3 to 5 year agreements. The Climate Smart grant with incentive payment contracts administered by Virginia Tech is underway. Current application deadline is this Friday. There will be applications accepted again in late winter and fall of 2025. There will be a soil health equipment field day this Thursday from 9 to 12. He has also been working on a budget proposal to be presented to the county board.

b. Staebler is starting to gather materials for the audits which will happen September 11.

IV. Lonergan moved to approve the minutes from the past meeting. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.

V. Financial Matters

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

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

1. Valnes Rentals	August Rent	2537.00
2. Debbie Anderson	Supervisor Pay	411.11
3. Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	461.75
4. Gregory Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	132.18
5. Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	116.94
6. Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	491.87
7. Lawn & Driveway	Rain garden mulch, 2 yards	136.00
8. Otter Tail Power	Electric service, shed	150.17
9. Millborn Seeds	Seed inventory	60.75
10. Town & Country	Supplies	117.45
11. Morning Sky Greenery	Rain garden plants	236.60
12. Morris Cooperative	Fuel	92.75
13. Willie's	Meeting supplies	5.99

14. Stevens County Highway	Lath & fuel	525.75
15. Stevens County Times	Soil Health Field Day ad	94.50
16. American	Promo materials, AIS, Fair	2512.39
17. Metro Sales	Copier Lease	144.76
18. Traverse SWCD	Soil Health Field Day sponsorship	1000.00
19. Elan Financial		3050.96
a. Office maintenance		131.55
b. Rain garden pavers		41.23
c. Education/promo		51.25
d. Owl meeting speaker (climate smart)		2674.00
e. TSA expenses		91.88

VI. There was no Old Business.

VII. New Business

A. Cost Share

- a. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the following allocations (FY22 & 23 State Cost Share). Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.
 - i. \$6000 (\$4091 FY22 and \$1909 FY23) to contract 5-22-SCS for up to 75% cost share on R Staples alternative tile intake project
- b. Anderson moved to approve the following amendments (FY24 Conservation Contracts). Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
 - i. \$87.88 to contract 8-24-CC to allow for maximum 50% cost share (tree planting)
 - ii. \$82.75 to contract 4-24-CC to allow for maximum 50% cost share (tree planting)
- c. Payments
 - i. Anderson moved to approve payment of the following FY 2024 Conservation Contracts. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.
 1. \$1333.63 to contract 1-24-CC for 50% cost share on Scott tree planting
 2. \$556.00 to contract 2-24-CC for 50% cost share on Hoffman tree planting
 3. \$199.25 to contract 3-24-CC for 50% cost share on Harstad tree planting
 4. \$266.75 to contract 4-24-CC for 50% cost share on Halvorson tree planting
 5. \$521.25 to contract 5-24-CC for 50% cost share on VanHorn tree planting
 6. \$211.25 to contract 6-24-CC for 50% cost share on Lampert tree planting
 7. \$178.25 to contract 7-24-CC for 50% cost share on Nelson tree planting
 8. \$462.88 to contract 8-24-CC for 50% cost share on Rasmusson tree planting
 9. \$2175.75 to contract 10-24-CC for 50% cost share on Stevens County Hwy tree planting
 10. \$961.13 to contract 11-24-CC for 50% cost share on Knobloch tree planting
 11. \$316.25 to contract 12-24-CC for 50% cost share on Buro tree planting
 - ii. Fynboh moved to approve payment of the following FY23 Soil Health Cost Share Contracts. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
 1. \$2387.25 to contract 6-23-SH for 50% cost share on Messner tree planting
 2. \$2454.38 to contract 7-23-SH for 50% cost share on LDS Farms tree planting
 3. \$247.00 to contract 8-23-SH for 50% cost share on LDS Farms tree planting
 4. \$1194.63 to contract 9-23-SH for 50% cost share on St Mary's Catholic Church tree planting
 5. \$1367.63 to contract 10-23-SH for 50% cost share on Joos tree planting

B. Anderson moved to approve the adoption of the Chippewa River Watershed Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.

C. Lonergan moved to approve the 2025 WBIF Contract for Services with the Pomme de Terre River Association. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.

- D. Anderson moved to approve the Non-Structural Land Management Practice Policy. Second by Feuchtenberger.
Passed unanimously.

VIII. Supervisor Reports

- A. Goodnough mentioned an article on wind power in the Wall Street Journal.
B. The Camelina field day at Fynboh's was good. The crop has now been delivered to Fargo to be made into products such as jet fuel. The yield was really low as it was too wet.
C. The fair booth had good traffic throughout the fair.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Anderson, Secretary

10-8-24

Date