

Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 12, 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 (9:45). Staff present: Johnston, Solemsaas, Staebler. Others present: Britta Haseman, NRCS (report only).
- II. Supervisor Fynboh moved to approve the agenda. Second by Supervisor Anderson. Passed unanimously.
- III. Reports
 - A. Britta Haseman, NRCS, summarized EQIP funding pools for the upcoming rounds and noted that the weight of local priorities went up when allocating funding. She is working with landowners to complete applications and the EQIP ranking deadline is January 10. There are 3 re-enrollments and 33 new applications for 2025. There will be 2 new staff starting in the Morris field office in the near future. She has about 90% of the CSP certifications complete and is working on processing payments.
 - B. Jeanne Ennen, County Commissioner, was not able to attend the meeting.
 - C. Additions to staff reports
 - a. Solemsaas noted that the DNR established the ordinary highwater mark on the Searle project and will likely require him to move an intake as a result. Still working through logistics on the new Alliance program. We should receive new funding in March. The steering committee for the Crissy Lake project met recently with HEI, who outlined project details. There will be a public information meeting in January or February. The project on Perkins Lake should be done this winter. He is working on spending grant funding remaining in local capacity grants which are expiring at the end of this year. He requested the final 10% of the soil health equipment grant.
 - b. Johnston said the MASWCD Raffle for Education raised about \$2180. There is \$20,000 budgeted for the 2025 Envirothon. The board discussed the procedures for the raffle and fundraising in general for this event. Now that SWELL has non-profit status, that board is trying to promote the area and there are several donations coming in.
 - c. Staebler is working on year-end financial reports.
- IV. Supervisor Lonergan moved to approve the minutes from the November meeting. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- V. Financial Matters
 - A. Feuchtenberger moved to approve this month's Treasurer's Report. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
 - B. Fynboh moved to approve the 2023 audited financial statements and the Management Representation letter to Peterson Company LLC. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously. Chris will contact the accounting firm to see if there are ways we can remove the 3 findings at the end of the report and find out what they recommend regarding having a third party complete financial work.
 - C. Fynboh moved to approve payment of the following bills. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.

1. Valnes Rentals	December Rent	2537.00
2. Debbie Anderson	Supervisor Pay	137.04
3. Greg Fynboh	Supervisor Pay	478.50
4. Dennis Feuchtenberger	Supervisor Pay	115.44
5. Troy Goodnough	Supervisor Pay	233.88
6. Dave Lonergan	Supervisor Pay	129.00
7. Austin Norby	Employee expenses	170.03
8. Matt Solemsaas	Employee expenses	215.74

9. Willie's	Meeting expenses	11.98
10. Otter Tail Power	Electric service	35.03
11. Stevens County Highway	Fuel	371.35
12. ProImage Partners	Logo clothing order	1433.00
13. MDA	Commercial pesticide app licenses	152.00
14. Bremer Card Services		2409.59
a. Info/Education	641.33	
b. Office maintenance	250.08	
c. Office supplies	209.94	
d. MASWCD Convention registrations	1308.24	
15. Frontier Precision	Drone	7895.00

VI. There was no Old Business.

VII. New Business

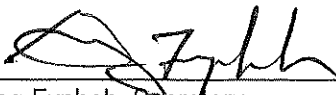
- A. Administrator Solemsaas swore in re-elected board members Feuchtenberger, Goodnough and Lonergan.
- B. Anderson moved to approve the Sub-Grant Implementation Agreement for the Chippewa River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. Second by Fynboh. Passed unanimously.
- C. Cost Share
 1. Feuchtenberger moved to approve the following amendments to cost share contracts. Second by Lonergan. Passed unanimously.
 - a. Add \$37.39 in funding to 2-22-SCS
 - b. Add \$270.92 in funding to 1-23-SCS
 2. Fynboh moved to approve the following cost share payments. Second by Anderson. Passed unanimously.
 - a. \$11,970.92 for 75% cost share on 1-23-SCS WASCOB contract (\$2105.38 FY22, \$9865.54 FY23)
 - b. \$1948.39 for 75% cost share on 2-22-SCS rain garden contract
 - c. \$972.31 for 75% cost share on 3-22-SCS rain garden contract
 - d. \$1821.92 for 75% cost share on 4-22-SCS rain garden contract
 3. Anderson moved to approve the following cost share payment. Second by Feuchtenberger. Passed unanimously.
 - a. \$54,225 for 75% cost share on 75-2-23-WBIF WASCOB contract

VIII. Supervisor Reports

- A. The MASWCD Annual Convention was well-attended. It was noted that there is an inflatable soil tunnel display available along with the display we've been using at the fair recently. Because of the noise of the fan to keep it inflated, it was decided to go with the display we've been using instead. All but one resolution passed. The staff sessions were ok.
- B. Reminder that the service center holiday party will be held January 3 at The Fireside. Please RSVP to Judy.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



 Greg Fynboh, Secretary

1/14/25

 Date