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MINNESOTA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN 55334
September 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair – Thies at 4:00 P.M.

Members Present: Chair, Kathleen Thies
Vice Chair, Loren Evenson
Secretary, Paul Wiemann
Treasurer, Robert Nielsen
Member, Wayne Grams

Others Present: District Manager, Joel Wurscher
District Technician, Jeremy Buckentin
Water Planner/Watershed Technician, Ron Otto
Conservation Technician, Jack Bushman
District Conservationist - NRCS, April Sullivan

Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the September agenda with additions. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Nielsen, Wiemann, Grams. Carried.

Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to approve the minutes of the August 2019 meeting. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve 32 paid bills for August 2019 totaling \$36,358.01. Ayes Thies, Evenson, Wiemann, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the September 2019 Treasurer's report subject to audit. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Grams, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

Old Business: None.

Cost Share: L&T Pioske's well has been sealed by Geib Well and Water Services and is requesting final payment in the amount of \$600.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve for final payment the Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-2) at a rate of \$600.00. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried.

Kathleen Thies is requesting her second and third years payment for 75 acres each year of a single species mix of cover crops in the amount of \$6,366.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve Kathleen's last two years payments from the Capacity 2018 contract (CAP18-2) in the amount of \$6,366.00. Ayes Grams, Evenson, Wiemann, Nielsen. Carried.

Lieske Farms' well has also been sealed by Geib Well and Water Services and is requesting final payment in the amount of \$650.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve for final payment the Clean Water Fund contract (FY19CWF-3) at a rate of \$650.00. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Nielsen, Evenson, Grams. Carried.

Wurscher presented to the Board a request from Everett Bratsch to enter into a CWF Cost-Share contract (FY19CWF- 14) for a well sealing on a property located in Sibley Twp. Everett had a quote from Schafer Well Company of \$900.00 total for the project. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the CWF contract for Everett Bratsch at 50% or \$450.00, whichever comes in less. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Evenson, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

A second request was presented to the Board to enter into a CWF Cost-Share contract with Lonnie Lewin (FY19CWF-15) for a well sealing on his property located in New Auburn Twp. Lonnie had a quote from LTP Enterprises of \$1,148.20 total for the project. Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the CWF contract for Lonnie Lewin at 50% or \$574.10, whichever comes in less. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Evenson, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

A third well sealing request was made from Terry Schwartz to the Board to enter into a CWF Cost-Share contract (FY19CWF-16) on his property located in Jessenland Twp. Terry had a quote from Geib Well and Water Services of \$2,100.00 total for two well sealings. Upon a motion by Wiemann and seconded by Grams, it was moved to approve the CWF contract for Terry Schwartz at 50% or \$1,050.00, whichever comes in less. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Evenson, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

The last well sealing request was made by Byron Becker to enter into a CWF Cost-Share contract (FY19CWF-17) on his property located in New Auburn Twp. Byron had a quote from Mathews Drilling and Pump Co. of \$794.00 total for the project. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to approve the CWF contract for Byron Becker at 50% or \$397.00, whichever comes in less. Ayes Thies, Wiemann, Evenson, Nielsen, Grams. Carried.

The last cost share request to the board was made from Dann Forsberg (CAP19-5) to enter into a contract for three rock tile inlets located in Cornish Twp. Dann had a quote from Hillman Backhoe and Tiling of \$1,750.00 total. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Evenson, it was moved to approve CAP19-5, in which the SWCD would pay 75% or \$1,312.50, whichever comes in less. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Grams, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

1WIP Grant Notification: Wurscher informed the Board that the District received notification on August 30th, that Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) selected the Lower Minnesota River West watershed planning area for a planning grant through the One Watershed, One Plan program. Wurscher discussed with the Board that the group needs to develop a Policy Committee and that Jenny Mocol-Johnson plans to host an orientation meeting sometime this fall.

AIS Phragmites: Bushman had a slide show presentation of a phragmites eradication project he has been working on. This project is located in Jessenland Twp. on the Curtis Mueller property. Bushman has been discussing the steps towards removal with contractors and received a bid of \$1,950.00. Upon a motion by Nielsen and seconded by Wiemann, it was moved to proceed by hiring Frank Heldberg to cut, burn, and spray the patch of phragmites on the Curtis Mueller property using AIS funds. Ayes Evenson, Thies, Grams, Nielsen, Wiemann. Carried.

Supervisor & Staff Report: See attached.

NRCS Report: See attached.

Other Business: None.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2019, starting at 4 p.m., located at 112 5th Street, Gaylord, MN.

Adjourn: Upon a motion by Grams and seconded by Nielsen, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 p.m. Ayes Wiemann, Evenson, Nielsen, Thies, Grams. Carried.

Approved: October 8, 2019

Secretary