##

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

# MINUTES FROM THE March 8, 2018 BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota March 8th, 2018.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President – Dale Schlieman

Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch

Secretary – Clinton Schuerman

P & I – Carl Ahrndt

Treasurer - Orvin Gronseth

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ed Peterson County Commissioner, Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertsen SWCD.

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by President – Dale Schlieman

Meeting was closed to discuss the appointment of Orvin Gronseth back to the Board. Board needed to discuss how to make the appointment the legal way. Gronseth will have to run for his position in the fall election again. Also, it was discussed on how to handle any future retirements. After discussion it was decided to appoint Gronseth and have him resume the Treasurer position.

**Motion was made** **by Schuerman seconded by Ahrndt to approve the Orvin Gronseth back to the Board.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

Meeting was opened back up.

Dalton Herrboldt was introduced as the new employee for the SWCD. He will be doing buffer checks, tree plans and plantings, drill moving and other projects to help Andy.

**Motion was made** **by Schuerman seconded by Weimerskirch to approve the Secretary Report and the Agenda.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Old Business:**

**Tree Building:**  We received an estimate for the electrical and cement work. The cement work had 2 estimates, one for just an apron and one to do the entire building and apron.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Ahrndt to approve the electrical estimate from E & M electric and cement from Molden to cement the entire building and apron.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Tractor Lease:** Discussion on leasing a tractor for the district was brought up again. Schlieman checked into leasing a John Deere 300hr $9475. He will check in to a 3 month lease. We will talk about it again at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

**Local Work Group -** Set date for the local work group to April 12th after the regular Board meeting.

**Civil Rights Review –** March 14th @ 8:45. NRCS is having a civil rights review and they need one Board member to come in. Schlieman volunteered to do the review for them.

**Buffer Cost Share Contracts:**  We received $60,000 for State Buffer Cost share. We had to have funds spoken for by March 1. Any funds not spoken for need to be returned to the State. We have $33342.00 requested, so we will be returning $26658.00 to BWSR. The cost hare requests need to have approved seed mix and turn in seed tags. They can request $300 per acre. We have requests so far from Dean Evenson, Kent Evenson, Charles Flolo, John Beyer, and Tom Olson.

**Motion was made** **by Gronseth seconded by Schuerman to approve the Buffer Cost Share request from the above people.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**2016 Easement Delivery Close Out:** We spent the funds for the 2016 Easement Delivery grant. We do not have to return any funds.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Ahrndt to approve the close out of the 2016 Easement Delivery Grant.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**2018-2019 Amendment:** We received the amendment for and additional $15,000 from BWSR. This money was a match from the County agreeing to allocate $15000 more than the $50,000 allocation. We need to sign it and return the form to BWSR

**Area 2 Meeting:** The next Area 2 meeting will be March 15th at Morris. We will be meeting at the Research Center.

**Internet:** The internet we have for Dalton and Sheri to use is not adequate. We have been running out of our data plan very quickly with maps being downloaded. Right now, we are paying $150 per month through Verizon. Andy checked with Charter about installing a line. It would cost us $50 per month. The owner of the building said as long as we pay for the installation of the line, we can do it.

**Motion was made** **by Gronseth seconded by Schuerman to approve having Charter install the internet in the office.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt:**

Up dating the tree order and planting worksheet for next year. Working on tree orders for this year. He is also putting together a tree book.

**District Manager** **– Andy Albertsen:**

* There are only 3 producers that have not signed a waver for the 2017 deadline.
* Have lot of field checks this spring and flagging.
* Seed Sales- Working with the dealer to show how to set up a spreadsheet with orders. So far, we have 5 quotes out and 3 orders.
* Pomme de Terre – 319 grant for mostly outreach and 1W1P is moving along.
* Chippewa River – 319 grant for the areas west of Benson. Board meeting is March 16th and they are having MCIT come to help with structuring of the new board.Weimerskirch will be sitting in on this meeting. Lower Shakopee AIG Grant will be holding work shops through out the summer.
* Rain Gardens – Are being designed.
* Water Plan – Took measurements and survey shots for the rain gardens at KMS and Benson schools.
* MDA Noxious Weed Grant – Received $4500 for this year.
* Gave a report on Washington DC trip for the leadership trip.
* Staff & Board strategic planning. We would have a 3rd party moderate the event. We would discuss what the goals of the SWCD are and what we would like to accomplish in the upcoming years.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Gronseth to approve conducting a Staff & Board Strategic Planning Meeting.**

 **Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**NRCS – Jeff Hellemann:**

* **CSP** has 3 applications for this year.
* **EQIP** Payments have been done for the 2017 year. Have 11 applications for 2018
* **Civil Rights** Review will be March 14th

**Legislative Day -**  Next week and Weimerskirch will be attending.

**PF – Gemma Kleinschmidt:**

* Working on outreach letters for CREP. So are have sent out 68 letters, but no applications as of yet.
* WIA – Sent out 45 not cards to potential applicants
* Working on pollinator plots.

**Financial Report**:

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

**Motion was made** **by Schuerman seconded by Ahrndt** **to approve financial report.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 12th, 2018 at 8:00 am.

**APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE SECRETARY**