##

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

# MINUTES FROM THE May 14, 2020 BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room and by conference call, Benson Minnesota May 14, 2020.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President – Dale Schlieman

Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch

Secretary – Carl Ahrndt

Treasurer – Orvin Gronseth

P & I – Scott Olson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertsen SWCD, Dalton Herrboldt SWCD, and Ed Pederson County Commissioner, and Jason Beckler BWSR

**Motion to hold meeting via conference call due to COVID-19 was made by Olson and seconded by Weimerskirch**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

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

**Motion was made** **by Olson seconded by Gronseth to approve the Secretary Report and the Agenda with changes as printed.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Old Business:**

**Local Work Group** - Has been postponed to a later date. We can hold a Zoom meeting or wait and do it before July 31. We will decide at the June meeting.

**New Business:**

**Allen Mumm & Lance Mumm Amendments:** They signed amendments to extend the deadline to complete these projects. The amounts stay the same $750 each.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Olson to approve cancelling these contracts.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Doug Schliep – Kenneth Rohloff:** Pomme de Terre contract 76-04-16-319 for alternative intakes. We needed new contracts due to grant expiring before this project could be completed. Amount was $6500 with cost share $4875.

**Lance Mumm:** Pomme de Terre contract 76-02-16-319

 for alternative intakes. We needed new contracts due to grant expiring before this project could be completed. Amount was $11,500 with cost share $8625.

**Allen Mumm:** Pomme de Terre contract 76-03-16-319 for alternative intakes. We needed new contracts due to grant expiring before this project could be completed. Amount was $23,000 with cost share $17,250.

**Motion was made** **by Gronseth seconded by Olson to approve new contracts for Doug Schliep, Lance Mumm and Allan Mumm.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Ag Inspector/Tom Orr Contract:** He has been working on noxious weeds with 6 new species on the list. Has completed some checking of road ditches for wild parsnip. He did collect bugs and move them to areas that were in need last summer. The Cooperative Weed Program did not receive grant money. We need to sign a new contract with Tom as the prior one expired. The terms of the contract are the same as previous years.

**Motion was made** **by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve the contract for Ag Inspector with Tom Orr.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Election Filing starts May 19 – June 2. Weimerskirch and Olson will need to file for this fall’s elections.**

**Chippewa River JPA:** We need to change elections to staggered years. We have signed this several times prior but every time something changes, we need a new signature.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Olson to approve signing the new Chippewa River JPA with the staggered elections.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**FY21-22 CREP Outreach & Implement Request of Interest:**  This is going to be for a 2 year cycle of $32,000 each year with a total of $65,000. We will have to do a 10% match each year of $3250. This is for Gemma’s position.

**Motion was made** **by Olson seconded by Weimerskirch to approve signing the FY21-22 CREP Outreach & Implement Request of Interest.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

**Pheasants Forever – Gemma Kleinschmidt:**

* WIA has not given a sign up date yet.
* New JPA for WIA to allow Andy to sign contracts so that they do not have to wait for next Board meeting. We have 3 up for renewal and we have a total of 4 in Swift County.

**Motion was made** **by Weimerskirch seconded by Olson to approve signing the new WIA JPA with Andy having the ability to sign contracts.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

* PF/Purina- Soil Health & Habitat Program: Gemma gave a quick overview of the program.

**Jason Beckler BWSR:** He is our Board Conservationist in this area. Areas have changed again so he now has Swift again. He discussed funding do to the COVID-19 and what is going on with it. There will be some budget cuts, but Local Capacity should be staying the same with competitive grants going down in funding.

**District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt:**

* Have 2 tree plantings left to do. Have completed 14 already
* Drills are being moved to producers as they need.

**NRCS – Melanie Dickman:**

* Emergency Mortality EQIP sign up
* May 22 1st Batch ranking done next week for EQIP
* CSP signup ends May 22
* Discussed local work group plans.

**County Commissioner - Ed Pederson:**

* One COVID-19in Swift County so far.
* Property tax are due May 15th
* Prison plan for COVID-19 are on hold right now.

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

* PdT – 2016 Fed 319 Grant has $2,300 remaining in the grant which will expire Sept 30, 2020 but may be extended due to COVID-19. There has been a lot of cover crop applications.
* 1W1P Targeting June 12th for submitting to BWSR.
* MDA- Pesticide monitoring started again on the Shakopee Creek.
* USDA RCPP Irrigation Grant was not funded
* 10 seed sales so far
* SWAG – Will start water testing next week

**Financial Reports:**

Sheri read the financial report to the Board for their approval. Will be sending a copy for Gronseth to sign after it is approved.

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

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2020 at 8:00 am.

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