

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES FROM THE August 15, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, August 15, 2016.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

President – Dale Schlieman  
Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch  
Treasurer - Orvin Gronseth  
P & I – Carl Ahrndt

ABSENT: Secretary – Clinton Schuerman

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ed Pederson County Commissioner, Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertson SWCD, Tom Orr, and Rick Gronseth NRCS, Dale Krystosek BWSR, Jason Beckler BWSR.

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

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

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

**Outstanding Conservationist:** Wentzel Family Farms has been contacted and are working on getting the interview completed.

**FY2017 Farm Bill Assistance Program Grant** - Need to sign the contract. It is for the amount of \$58,500 with a \$6,500 local match.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Gronseth to approve ask Fy2017 Farm Bill Assistance Grant.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**Swift County Fair:** We will have the usual booth space. We need people to work at the booth over the weekend.

**New Business:**

**Performance Review & Assistance Program:** Swift County is being reviewed this year. Each county gets reviewed every 10 years. This review includes assessing compliance with Level II performance standards. We will be going over performance of the office and if we are meeting the standards.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Ahrndt to approve the staff to work with BWSR to do PRAP review.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**FY17 Local Capacity Service Grant:** There is a possibility of receiving a match from the grant due to more money being available. We will have to get a match from the County to receive these funds and will need to change the work plan to receive these.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded Weimerskirch by to approve working to get the additional money from the FY17 Local Capacity Service Grant.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**Erosion Control State Cost Share:** This is a new practice with a 10 year effective life span. It is handled like CRP. Can be hayed, grazed, or mowed after year 4 and done once every 3 years. CRP would be more lucrative than this but it is an option for producers. There would be a flat rate per acre max is \$200 and it would be a onetime payment. Cannot be signed up for CRP also. They would have to run through the field farm scale plan. If already doing practice before this application, they are not eligible for cost share. The request would have to be done before the end of the first year because the grant would end before it could be implemented the second year of the grant.

**Area 2 Meeting:** Next Area 2 meeting will be held September 21 in Sauk Centre with Big Stone County hosting it. Let Sheri know if you are going so that the names can be sent in for pre-registration.

**Buffer Technician – Andy Albertsen:**

- Reported on the Buffer meeting that he organized. We had a good turn out with approximately 90 people attending. Since then we have had an increase in people coming in to inquire on CRP or if they need a buffer.
- Computer access has been delayed for possibility another year. This includes computer access, phone access and IT help. Since he is not on the “system” he does not have access to the printers in the office.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Ahrndt to approve purchasing a printer for Andy to use.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

- Swift County Corn Growers have asked him to speak on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in Danvers. This is their summer picnic meeting.

**NRCS – Rick Gronseth:**

- EQIP applications go to Aug 19<sup>th</sup>. So far there have been 13 applications.
- WRE spot checks are being done.
- CSP renewals are being worked on.
- CRP plans are being worked on by Gemma

**Farm Bill Biologist - Gemma Kleinschmidt: None**

**Farm Bill – Tom Orr:**

- Purchased signs to be put up in Appleton for the rain gardens that were installed.
- AgBMP loan for David Haas for a septic system just south of Murdock. The cost of the septic system is \$12,630.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve the AgBMP loan for a new septic system for David Haas for the amount of \$12,630.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

- Pomme de Terre – Carol Koosman stream bank project has been delayed possibly for another 30 days so the Fish & Wildlife department can look at it.
- We have had a couple requests for the use of the drill this fall. So far they have been for alfalfa.

**Financial Report:**

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Ahrndt to approve the Treasurer’s report subject to audit and pay bills.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

President – Dale Schlieman adjourned the meeting at 9:30.

Next meeting is scheduled for **September 15th** at 8:00 am.

**APPROVED:**

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DATE

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SECRETARY