

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE July 14, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, July 14, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President – Dale Schlieman
Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch
Secretary – Clinton Schuerman
Treasurer - Orvin Gronseth

ABSENT: Carl Ahrndt

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Pederson County Commissioner, Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertson SWCD, Tom Orr, and Rick Gronseth NRCS.

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

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

Outstanding Conservationist: Several producers were discussed to be the Outstanding Conservationist for Swift County. It was decided to ask Wentzel Family Farms to be the representative from Swift County.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Schuerman to approve ask Wentzel Family Farms to be the 2016 Outstanding Conservationist.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Swift County Fair: We will have the usual booth space. It was brought up that they are asking for donations for the new bathrooms. It was decided that we cannot donate to this with public money.

New Business:

Garfield Holm: He is installing a new septic system and is asking for an AgBMP loan. The cost of the new septic system is \$9,820.

Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Schuerman to approve the AgBMP loan for Garfield Holm.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Swift County Pictometry Agreement: We received an agreement with the County for the use of their pictometry services. They are asking \$500.00 per year to help with the costs. This service is not ready yet to be used, but it was decided to sign the agreement now, and issue a check when the service becomes available.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Schuerman to approve the Swift County Pictometry Agreement for \$500.00 but to issue check at a later date.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Buffer Meeting: We will be holding an informational meeting on July 26th at the Law Enforcement Center. It will begin at 9:00 am. Letters & CRP brochures have been mailed to 725 landowners. There will be 3 computers set up for people to look at their land issues. The new buffer maps will be available on July 12th. Andy has contacted various speakers for this meeting. There will be representatives from the DNR, Water Certification, County Drainage, SWCD, NRCS, and a lawyer who is current with the buffer laws. We will provide donuts and coffee also.

NRCS – Rick Gronseth:

- There was an Area meeting on Wed in Morris. They discussed the “Client Gateway.”
- NRCS has 34% vacancies so staffing is tight.
- EQIP applications go to Aug 19th. So far there have been 9 applications.
- WRE deadline for applications is October 1.
- CSP renewal period for those who have expiring contracts can reapply.
- Rick received his conservation planning certificate so he can sign plans.

Farm Bill Biologist - Gemma Kleinschmidt: None

Farm Bill – Tom Orr: Pomme de Terre project for Carol Koosman streambank stabilization has an estimated cost of \$20,000. The Pomme de Terre will pay 75% and Fairfield Township will pay the other 25% since it is being done to protect township road.

Motion was made by Schuerman seconded by Gronseth to approve the Pomme de Terre go ahead with the project and having them pay 75% and Fairfield Township pay the other 25%.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Held a beetle collection with several counties participating. There was 6 counties that came and a couple came on a later date.

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 **August 15th** at 8:00 am.

APPROVED: _____
DATE

SECRETARY