

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE March 10, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, on March 10, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch
Secretary – Clinton Schuerman
Treasurer - Orvin Gronseth
P & I - Carl Ahrndt

ABSENT: President – Dale Schlieman

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Pederson County Commissioner, Randy Schmiesing NRCS, Sheri Gades SWCD, and Tom Orr SWCD, Gemma Kleinschmidt SWCD, Dan Langseth Dept. Ag.

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

Year End Financials: Jill is coming today to help finish the year end financials. With the new PERA rules it has been much more complicated than before.

Pickup: New pickup has been ordered in silver with a cost of \$34,462. The enclosed trailer has been ordered and the cost of that is \$8,727.50

Drill: Schuerman has finished with the repairs that the old drill needed and he picked up the new side by side. They are at his place currently. The old trailer needs new decking and he is willing to do the necessary repairs.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to Schuerman to do the necessary repairs on the old trailer so that it is safe to use.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

New Business:

Area 2: The next Area 2 meeting will be April 13th. Let Sheri know if you are going to attend

Dan Langseth: Township Testing Program – Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan. Dan is from the Department of Ag. There will be free testing for landowners to have their wells tested. They are planning on working with the SWCD's to have a joint powers agreement to gather information and results of testing done in the county. They are targeting vulnerable townships, which are mostly the west side of Swift County.

Curt Gabrielson Fabric Cost Share: He is installing a wildlife tree planting in Westbank section 28. He requested money for fabric to help cover the cost. The estimated cost will be \$3,540 with a 50% cost share on the fabric which will be \$1,653.00.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve Curt Gabrielson's fabric cost share for the amount of \$1,653.00.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

NRCS – Randy Schmiesing:

- 1026 - To date there are 14 requests to be completed.
- EQIP – There has been 12 applications ready for being preapproved for funding.
- CRP – Gemma will be doing CRP conservation plans as new applications come in.
- CSP – Total of 17 applications for funding for 2017 with the deadline of March 31. There were 2 contracts that were drawn for an audit

Farm Bill – Tom Orr:

- Tree sales are a little better than last year at this time.
- Annual township officials meeting was held last Friday and he attended as the weed inspector. And gave his report
- TSA from Stearns are looking to hire another engineer to help with the large work load. They are considering housing that person possibly in Stevens county so that they could work with the counties located close by.

Farm Bill Biologist - Gemma Kleinschmidt:

- Working with CRP applications and anticipates that April will be a very busy month with sign ups.

Financial Report:

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Vice President – Mark Weimerskirch adjourned the meeting at 10:00.

Next meeting is scheduled for **April 14** at 8:00 am.

APPROVED: _____
DATE

SECRETARY