

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES FROM THE **May 11, 2017** BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, May 11, 2017.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

ABSENT: President – Dale Schlieman

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

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

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

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

**Carol Koosman Project:** The Board needs to sign a MOA with the Pomme de Terre since the project is going to cost more than originally thought. We will be putting more money toward the project.

**Motion was made by Schuerman seconded by Gronseth to approve the signing of the MOA for more money.**

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**Ag Inspector:** Sheri is working with the County Attorney to draft a new contract between the County and SWCD for the Ag Inspector. Also we are working to draft a new contract with Tom Orr to continue the position as an independent contractor. In this contract we will require the following be submitted to the SWCD before payment is made each month: Hour spent on job, mileage, and expense incurred. Payment will be made on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month when these items are turned in.

**Tom Orr:** His final check from the District is for the amount of \$283.00. This is for remainder of vacation hours.

**New Business:**

**Steve Banken Project:** The dam removal project will be the District's responsibility to do site inspection as specified in the contract for cost share. Also we will be paying the landowner, and Pomme de Terre will pay us. This will be done all at once since it is a large sum of money.

**Motion was made by Schuerman seconded by Gronseth to approve the signing of responsibility of site inspections and to pay Steve Banken when project is completed.**

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**Aaron Koosman:** Aaron has signed an EQIP contract for a grade stabilization project. They only pay part of the project, so to get him up to 75% of the cost, we will be partnering with State Cost Share money. The project is in Hegbert Section 13. The total cost of the project is \$49,658 with 75% being \$37,243.50. EQIP will pay \$23,171.00 and State Cost Share will pay \$14,072.50 this will come from 2016 and 2017 funds.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Gronseth to approve the State Cost Share Contract 2016-02 for the amount of \$14,072.50 for a Grade Stabilization for Aaron Koosman.**

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**Truck Lettering:** We discussed getting letters on the back windows of both pickups to say who we are. This will help when out in the field and people are wondering who is out in the fields for buffer checks and other time.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve the installation of lettering on the back window of both pickups.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**Barb Zeroth – Acting DC for NRCS:**

- EQIP – Sign up deadline is August 18<sup>th</sup> for the 2018 signup.
- CSP has 11 applications in progress. There are 3 renewals that are going through the ranking process
- May 24<sup>th</sup> Working Agreement teleconference with the SWCD. This will be the process we will be going through to get computer seats and a working agreement with the districts.
- Local Work Group will meet on June 8<sup>th</sup> after the District Board meeting.

**Pheasants Forever – Gemma Kleinschmidt:**

- Farm Bill Assistance Grant needs to be signed and the Local Partner Agreement also. This is for the \$3250 each match from the District and the local chapter of PF.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Schuerman to approve the signing of the Farm Bill Assistance Grant and the Local Partner Agreement.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

- WIA – There was 1 new site that was signed up. We will receive \$250 for it.
- CREP – Sign up begins May 15.
- CRP – All offers after May 3<sup>rd</sup> are not being approved yet. They may be out of acres for the program. They are still taking offers, just not approving them yet.

**District Technician – Andy Albertsen:**

- Working on field checks and flagging.
- CRWP – Meeting was held on Tuesday, with Andy and Sheri attending. Working with them to hold a Field Day.
- Tree planting will start May 12th.
- PdT - Working on a citizen advisory committee. Also working on a bus tour.
- Other Waters Resolution
  - The District drafted an Other Waters Resolution to fulfill the Districts responsibility pertaining to Minnesota Statutes 103F.48, Subd. 4. Albertsen went over the resolution with the board and answered questions about the resolution and its purpose. Albertsen asked the board to approve the resolution in order to fulfill statutory requirements. Once approved, the resolution will be sent to the local water management authority to be added as an addendum to the County Water Plan. The resolution format was supported over the map format as the resolution format would be more time effective, would prevent watercourses and water bodies being left off, and would allow for potentially more funding for projects if it is included in the County Water Plan.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Schuerman to approve to adopt the resolution.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**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**

Next meeting is scheduled for **June 8<sup>th</sup>** at 8:00 am.

**APPROVED:**

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DATE

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SECRETARY