

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE November 17, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, November 17, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertsen SWCD, and Tom Orr SWCD, Tara Ostendorf BWSR.

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

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

Introduction of new BC Tara Ostendorf

PRAP: Final copy of the PRAP has been received.

Shore land Amendment: Andy will be working with Scott Collins and Ethan Jenzen met on October 27th to work on the current ordinance to match the Buffer ordinance. They are still working on language to make it the same state wide. Time line later this winter with suggest public meetings.

BWSR Academy: All four of the SWCD staff attended. We all felt it was beneficial.

Rain Barrels: The SWCD pays \$55 for the barrels to the CROW when we get them. There needs to be a price stated on what we will charge for them.

Motion was made by Mark Weimerskirch seconded by Schuerman to approve charging \$60 per barrel.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Garage Rental: Sheri has talked to Duane Flanders on several occasions concerning the rental of the garage across the street. He is willing to negotiate the rent, but is still trying to evict the present renter since he is not paying his rent. He will keep in touch and let us know how that goes.

Trucks: New tunnel covers and mats have been installed in both the 2013 and the 2016 pickups. We discovered a crack in the 2016 windshield. They will get repaired as soon as possible.

New Business:

Pomme de Terre: Jared has taken a new position with Grant County. They are starting to interview for the position.

State Convention: It was discussed about whether to stay and eat at the convention on Monday night or go out for supper as a group like we always do. It was decided to go out as a group as usual.

County Cost Share Policy: We need to know what kind of policy we need to adopt so that we can use Cost Share money to fund nonstructural practices. Andy and Sheri will be working on this.

State Cost Share Randy Ascheman: We may have to cancel his contract due to he has not been able to finish. He is the operator and the owner has passed away so not sure who will be in charge of the property. He will keep us posted.

Buffer Technician – Andy Albertsen:

- CRP buffers being crosscheck for compliance.
- Finished signing easements.
- Meeting with Mike Johnson and Ethan Jenzen on issues on the DNR map.
- Next DNR map due out in October.
- Working on another mailing to those who have not contact us about getting compliant with buffer rules.
- Met with Sheri and Rob Wolfington city manager concerning possible city rain gardens.

Farm Bill: Gemma Kleinschmidt

- CRP contracts still on hold until they hear different.
- CREP still no date set yet on start of a signup.

Farm Bill – Tom Orr:

- FSA has sent out a letter to producers concerning a plant that is very invasive.

Closed employee review for Andy Albertsen: It was decided that due to his excellent work and it being his 6 month review to give him a raise to \$17.25 for December and then starting in January after all employees reviews are completed it will be decided on whether to raise it more.

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

PP

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

APPROVED: _____
DATE

SECRETARY