

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES FROM THE **October 12, 2017** BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota October 12, 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, Jeff Hellermann.

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:**

**Tree Building:** Site has been cleared, but we need a few more trees removed. Some are rubbing on the old building and need to be removed. Color samples were passed out for all to look at. We chose 2 colors and Clint will take it back to the builder to order the steel.

**Water Festival:** Was held on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at Ambush Park. It rained mid-morning and we had the kids go the Benson Armory for lunch. The Raptor Center gave their presentation to the whole group then. After the raptors were finished all the students were sent back to their schools for the remainder of the day.

**Resolution Packets:** Get your ballots turned in so that we can send them in. Deadline is Nov 1, so they need to be here prior to that.

**Working and Operational Agreements with NRCS:** We have received both agreements signed by Cathee Pullman. We had a question on the operational agreement and Jeff sent an email to Gary Watson for some clarification.

**Randy Ascheman State Cost Share:** Work is done on this contract and can be closed out. This contract was for \$8426.25 total from FY15 and FY17 State share funds.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Schuerman to approve the Close Out of Randy Ascheman's State Cost Share contract #2015-03.**

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**New Business:**

**Technician 2 Position:** There was discussion on the possibility of hiring another technician. We would split some of the duties between the 2 technicians with Andy being the lead for most. With the 1W1P planning, Water Plan meetings, Buffer meetings, Andy is stretched pretty thin. Most of this position would be funded by the Buffer and Local Capacity Grants. Andy and Sheri will work on a job description and application before the next meeting.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve Andy and Sheri to proceed with job description for a new position of Technician 2.**

**Affirmative: All            Motion carried.**

**PF – Gemma Kleinschmidt**

- Any offer for CRP made between May 3-Sept 30 can be approved. As of October 1, no more applications can be accepted.
- Bee & Butterfly Grant is available for \$800 per acre. This is for permanent easements only. They are looking for 4-10 acre plats. For each of these that sign up, the District will receive \$300 per easement.

**Jeff Hellermann – Acting DC for NRCS:**

- Scanned 1026's to Marshall to be done. We are caught up to what we can do here.
- CSP – 21 letters were sent out to remind producers to get their paper work submitted. Only have 1 renewal for 2018 that was approved or requested.
- EQIP – 12 applications for the FY2018 year. Rick is working on these.

**District Technician – Andy Albertsen:**

- Drywood Creek dam has been removed and work is at a standstill due to water levels.
- Koosmann project has flagged and will be starting shortly
- Water Plan work group has selected several sites for possible Rain Gardens. They will have designs drawn up and presented to each site to see if they would like to proceed.
- Doug Schliep alternative intake project will need to be amended due to the wet fields. He will do the construction himself.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve the amendment to extend the contract to April 2019.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

- Fairfield Township project has been completed and we can close out that Cost Share from the 2017 State Cost share.

**Motion was made by Schuerman seconded by Ahrndt to approve the close out for the Fairfield Township Project.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

**Financial Report:**

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

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

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

Next meeting is scheduled for **November 13th** at 8:00 am.

**APPROVED:**

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**DATE**

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**SECRETARY**