

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE August 8, 2024, BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held at Swift USDA Building, Benson, Minnesota on August 8, 2024.

Members Present:

Chairman – Dale Schlieman
Vice Chairman - Mark Weimerskirch
Secretary – Scott Olson
Treasurer – Orvin Gronseth
P&I – Alan Golden

Others Present: Andy Albertsen SWCD, Sheri Gades SWCD, Dalton Herrboldt SWCD, Cadence Larson SWCD, Ed Pederson County Commissioner, and Jon Smith PF.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman – Dale Schlieman.

Consent Agenda and Minutes:

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the Agenda, 2024 Swift Aid Resolution, and the Minutes.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

Outstanding Conservationist: Mike and Tammy Thompson met with Andy last week to be interviewed. Andy will continue to work on the article to be submitted to the State and the newspapers.

Side by Side: Test drove a Yamaha at Meis, which seems to fit our needs. Discussed putting the Arctic Cat on Zielsdorf's auction with a minimum of \$4500 on it. The Yamaha is \$8024, and we will pick it up today.

Motion was made by Gronseth and seconded by Weimerskirch to list the Arctic Cat for a minimum of \$4500 on the auction.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Soil Health Equipment: Andy has started to work on this grant application which is due the end of August. Dalton gave an update on maintenance cost for each drill and new cost of a drill. This is a 50\50% grant

New Business:

Marvel Thompson Cost Share Contract: Cost share contract #2023-LC-04 located in Camp Lake sec 12. This is for a WASCOB. Total cost is \$28,924.75. We will be cos sharing 75% \$21,691.31.

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Gronseth to approve cost share contract #2023-LC-03 for Marvel Thompson for 75% which is \$21,691.31.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Tim Koosman Cost Share Contract: Cost share contract #76-02-23-WBIF located in Fairfield Sec 31. This is a grade stabilization project. Cost is \$39,899 and we will be doing 75% which is \$29,924.25.

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve cost share contract #76-02-23-WBIF for Tim Koosman grade stabilization project for 75% \$29,924.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

2025 Preliminary Budget: Passed out info sheets on actuals and budget for 2025. Discussed where the money will come from & what is spent.

Motion was made by Weimerskirch and seconded by Golden to approve the preliminary budget for 2025.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

MASWCD Elections: Open for nominations for the state association. Elections will be at the State Convention December 2-4. There are 9-10 resolutions on the table right now.

Pomme de Terre Contract for Services: Received the contract for the 2025WBIF Grant with no changes.

Motion was made by Weimerskirch and seconded by Olson to approve signing the 2025 contract for services.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Clean Water Funds AIG Grant: This is to meet education and outreach needs. It would be a staff person shared by Kandiyohi, Chippewa, and Swift. The deadline is the end of August to complete application. The grant would run from middle of 2025 through 2027.

Motion was made by Gronseth and seconded by Golden to approve participating in the grant with the other counties for a staff person.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Soil Health Delivery Agreement & Workplan: This is a grant for \$100,000. There has been interest in cost share, but we are out of funds without applying for this grant. We are looking to have the Board give Andy authorization to sign the grant and work plan. This way we can get the funds before the September meeting.

Motion was made by Olson and seconded by Gronseth to approve having Andy sign the grant when it comes so we can get the funds before the September meeting.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Reports:

NRCS – Jon Smith:

- Working on CRP contracts.

District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt:

- Doing well monitoring in August.
- Moving drills around as needed.
- Working on RIM letters
- Starting to do inspections.

Soil Health – Cadence Larson:

- Attended trainings in St Paul and Alexandria
- Contacting landowners with contracts.
- Getting fair materials ready.

District Manager – Andy Albertsen:

- Chippewa River – TAC meeting today. Hoping to get funds for next spring's projects.
- Upper MN – Funds have been awarded. Planning for funds to be available for fall.
- Nature Dy schedules have been finalized and letters sent for donations. September 20th at Ambush Park.
- Mike Thompson funding discussion. This project would clean out all remaining cost share funds and we would not be charging staff time to it. It is located in Camp Lake Sec 12.
- Co-operative Weed Management received \$15,000 from BWSR. Pope SWCD is the fiscal agent.
- Created cost share flyers for structural and non-structural practices. These describe the process for applying for cost share.

County Commissioner Ed Pederson:

- Next Tuesday are the Primary elections.
- Talked about mailing ballots and the Commissioner race.
- Wind and solar concerns.

Financial Reports:

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the financial reports.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for **September 12, 2024**, at 8:00 am.

APPROVED: _____
DATE

SECRETARY