

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE February 11, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota, on February 11, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

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

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.

Introduction of the Board members to Gemma Kleinschmidt, our new PF Biologist who replaced Will Clayton.

Old Business:

District Capacity Grant: We received the signed agreement with BWSR for the District Capacity Grant and can now start spending the funds. Sheri will be checking on iPads and GPS for the buffer person.

Side by Side: After discussion it was decided to purchase an Arctic Cat side by side from Gofasters Powersports for the amount of \$10,278.95. This is a new holdover to be used for the buffer person and will come from the money we received for the buffer grant.

Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Schuerman to approve purchase of the side by side for the amount of \$10,278.95

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Pickup: Looked at different bids for a new ¾ ton pickup for the buffer person to use as well as for moving the Districts drills to farm sites. We had quotes from 3 different dealers in the area.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve purchase of pickup from Nolan Baker Ford

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Enclosed Trailer: The need for a trailer to haul the side by side was looked into. We received an information book from Dahlberg trailer in Willmar. After much discussion it was decided to order the alum 7 x 12' trailer from them.

Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Gronseth to approve purchase of an enclosed trailer from Dahlberg Trailer in Willmar.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

District Manager: Last month Mike Jorgenson asked to meet with us regarding the possibility of sharing a District Manager. He was going to attend this meeting but had a conflict on his calendar, so he is requesting to come to the March meeting.

New Business:

Technician Position: Andrew Albertson has accepted the position and will be starting sometime in May after he graduates. Sheri will be sending him the necessary paper work to get him up and running.

Buffer Law: Governor Dayton has changed the buffer requirements from the DNR. He has instructed them to not inventory the private ditches. We will be waiting for further instructions concerning this.

Farm Bill Biologist – Gemma Kleinschmidt: Has taken over the position of PF and will be working on CRP contracts with FSA and landowners.

NRCS – Randy Schmiesing:

- 1026 - To date there are 4 requests to be completed.
- EQIP – There has been 13 applications.
- CRP – Gemma will be doing CRP conservation plans as new applications come in.

Farm Bill – Tom Orr:

- 4 weed reports left to get back from townships and cities for their yearend report.
- Tree sales are beginning to pick up.
- Weed cooperative agreement with Pope County has been extended for two more years.
- Possible pit closure by Lake Oliver for cost share funds.

Drill Repairs: Clint is working on repairs on the drill. It needs bearings, disks and tires. He will make the necessary repairs.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to Schuerman to make the necessary repairs on the drill.

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Financial Report:

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried

Chairman Dale Schlieman adjourned the meeting at 10:00.

Next meeting is scheduled for **March 10th** at 8:00 am.

APPROVED: _____
DATE

SECRETARY