

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE July 13, 2017 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held in the FSA Building Conference Room, Benson Minnesota July 13, 2017.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT: None

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 President – Dale Schlieman

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

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

Drill Usage: There have been 29 users this spring. Both are at the tree building getting some repairs done and cleaned out. Need to get the old Haybuster drill from Rick's place.

Tree Building: Andy presented some drawings of proposed building. Also had some bids for the different sizes. After some discussion, it was decided to go out to the site and look at possibilities.

Soil Health Field Day: Set for July 15th at the Gerald Swenson farm. There are two speakers lined up. Also have plans to go out in the field to do some soil tests. Lunch will be served after. Chippewa River Watershed is taking care of the details and we are helping where needed.

Operational Agreement & Cooperative Working Agreement: We received 2 different agreements from NRCS. One is just the agreement to work together, the other is to figure out computer seats. They pay for Sheri's but we have to prove that Andy does work that helps NRCS. Each seat they have figured costs about \$4000 per year. Andy and Sheri will be working on both of these and submitting them to NRCS.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Weimerskirch to approve both the agreements with NRCS.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Tom Orr Hours: He has been paid for all his leave and hours that he had built up. He is now totally paid out.

Water Festival will be held September 15th this year. We will be moving tables after the September 14th meeting for this.

New Business:

Area 2 Meeting: Will be held September 6th at the Minnewaska House or Lakeside in Glenwood. Swift is in charge of setting up the meal. Sheri will check on meal prices and go with the most reasonable one.

Swift County Fair: We will have nitrates testing brochures to hand out. We will be doing the testing on August 30th here in the office. Also we are going to have a coloring contest. Pay out for the first three places. Each will receive \$10.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to holding the coloring test and pay winners \$10.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Pictometry Online Agreement: We have received the agreement from Swift County GIS for the use of the aerial maps. These are used a lot in the office. Price is again \$500 per year.

Motion was made by Schuerman seconded by Ahrndt to approve paying for the Pictometry Agreement.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Steve Thayer State Cost Share Contract 2016-01: Steve has decided to cancel the State Cost Share Contract 2016-01 for the amount of \$5916.75. Contract location Hayes Section 33. This was for sediment basin and outlet.

Buffer Cost Share Agreement: This agreement is for the amount of \$60,000. BWSR suggests \$300 per acre for buffers. We need to set policy prior to starting to fund this grant. It is an option instead of CRP. Can be used for structures if needed up to 75%.

Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Weimerskirch to approve both the agreements with BWSR for State Buffer Cost Share for \$60,000.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Barb Zeroth – Acting DC for NRCS:

- EQIP – Friday August 18th deadline
- CSP - 8 apps that need to be ranked before the deadline.
- NRCS staff hours in this office are now 7:30 – 4:00
- Last day for Barb is July 14th.

District Technician – Andy Albertsen:

- Buffer Task force – landowner may file for an extension prior to November 1, 2017 if they cannot get buffer installed before the deadline. This only gives an extension to July 1, 2018. This must be filled out prior to the deadline.
- PdT TAC/1W1P – reported on progress with these projects. Held 1st planning meeting with 20 people from county and state government.
- Bus tour is scheduled for Sept 13.

Pheasants Forever – Gemma Kleinschmidt

- WRP – 18 practices to monitor in Swift & Stevens Counties
- CRP- No change, taking offers but not approving yet
- Helped other counties get caught up on their CRP contracts.
- CREP - Have had 3-4 interested people
- RIM – 51 site inspections need to be done by September 27, 2017.

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 August 15th at 8:00 am.

APPROVED:

DATE

SECRETARY