

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES FROM THE **June 9, 2022** BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held at the Swift USDA Building, Benson Minnesota June 9, 2022.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Vice President - Mark Weimerskirch  
Secretary – Carl Ahrndt  
Treasurer – Orvin Gronseth

**ABSENT:** President – Dale Schlieman, P & I – Scott Olson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sheri Gades SWCD, Andy Albertsen SWCD, Dalton Herrboldt SWCD, Ed Pederson County Commissioner, Micayla Lakey PdT River.

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 Secretary Report and the Agenda.**

**Affirmative: All      Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

**Outstanding Conservationist 2022** – Had a few suggestions for who has been doing projects or enrolled in NRCS programs to get an idea on who we should have as our Outstanding Conservationist for this year. Will do more checking on this.

**Ag Weather Station** – Received quotes and they have come in at around \$10,000 per unit. PdT would reimburse us for the cost.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Gronseth to proceed with purchase of the weather station.**

**Affirmative: All      Motion carried.**

**Local Work Group** –We are planning to hold it after our July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. We will be doing a breakfast again at Ambush Park. Passed a draft of the agenda for the meeting.

**Area 2 Meeting** – Will be held June 16<sup>th</sup> in Alexandria at the Public Works building so let Sheri know if you are attending so we can get everyone registered.

**Resolutions** – This was to allow incentive payments to come out of cost share and local capacity funds. Currently they cannot come from those funds. Cost share would have to be a statute change by the Legislature to enable this. Local capacity would not need a statute change. This resolution needs to pass our Board to move on to the Area 2 meeting for consideration.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve the Erosion Control & Water Management Program Policy & Local Capacity policy to allow incentive payments from Cost Share & Local Capacity Grants.**

**Affirmative: All      Motion carried.**

Resolution to Increase Erosion Control & Water Management Program funding and create a work group to revise the allocation formula. Increase Cost Share funding and re evaluate current funding. This comes from the general fund, which now is 1.2 million and would like to raise it to 2.4 million. This needs to pass our Board to move on to the Area 2 meeting for consideration.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Gronseth to approve the resolution to increase the Erosion Control & Water Management Program funding.**

**Affirmative: All      Motion carried.**

**Island** – Dropped off all the information we had in the office to the County Attorney to look over. After she is done, we can look at our options.

**Legislative Update** – SWCD aid did not get passed. It is in the tax bill which did not get voted on.

**MACDE Grant** – We will receive the grant of \$743.38 for the purchase of a GoPro for educational use. We need to sign the grant.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve accepting and signing the MACDE Grant for the purchase of the GoPro camera.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**New Business:**

**Micayla Lakey, PdT Coordinator** – Presented a short overview of the work being done through the PdT and what funding is still available.

**Poster Contest** – We have posters from the KMS school to judge after the meeting. Also do we want to give prizes for the 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place? It was discussed giving \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the winners.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Gronseth to awarding prizes of \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**CREP Outreach 2023 Grant Agreement** – This grant partially funds the PF position. The amount is \$18,220. This is pass through money for us.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve accepting and signing CREP Outreach Grant Agreement.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**NRCS – Brett Carlson: None**

**Pheasants Forever Biologist – Gemma Kleinschmidt:**

- Working on CRP enrollments
- Doing field checks

**District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt:**

- Drills are starting to be moved around
- Working on maintenance of the drills and fabric machine
- Did 10 tree plantings.
- Discussed increasing the mobility charge maybe for next year.
- Asking the Board to take more than 10 days off in a month for a trip.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded by Gronseth to approve Dalton taking the time off for his trip.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**District Manager – Andy Albertsen:**

- PdT Watershed Association still has project money is available.
- Chippewa River TAC meeting today.
- Upper MN steering meeting was held yesterday but was unable to attend.
- Irrigation RCPP sign up is from May 5 through June 17. Letter will be mailed to 168 landowners and spoke to 13 individuals that showed interest.
- WCTSA Lead Contact meeting – capacity grant agreements sent out late July or early August WCTSA hired a new technician.
- Swift County Pasture & Feedlot Workshop will be held July 12<sup>th</sup> in Benson from 10:30 – 12:00.
- WCA – Meeting tomorrow to review the new Bio – Energy site for wetland impacts.
- Truck detailing news to be replaced.
- Leadership Conference – Will be held in Sioux Falls Aug 16 – 17. Registration is \$110 and Hotel is 107.60.

**Motion was made by Gronseth seconded by Ahrndt to approve accepting and signing CREP Outreach Grant Agreement.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

**Commissioner – Ed Pederson:**

- Filings have closed on May 31 for the upcoming elections. The County people are running unopposed, and Larry Mahoney is running for the position currently held by Joe Fox, who did not file for reelection.
- Basement remodel is almost completed.

**Financial Reports:**

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

**Motion was made by Ahrndt seconded Gronseth by to approve financial report.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried.**

Next meeting is scheduled for **July 14th 2022** at 8:00 am.

Local Work Group to follow.

**APPROVED:**

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**DATE**

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**SECRETARY**